

Call for papers

Constitutional Courts and Electoral Integrity. Navigating Challenges, Shaping Prospects

24th September 2025

First workshop of the Jean Monnet Module
Promoting and Strengthening EU Values (ProStEUVA)

In recent times, alarms over threats to the integrity of electoral processes have multiplied, extending even to so-called consolidated democracies. According to data collected by the Electoral Integrity Project in 2024, indicators related to the integrity of the electoral environment continue to be among the most problematic - particularly regarding campaign financing and the protection of voter information rights.

These issues came to the forefront following a high-profile ruling by the Constitutional Court of Romania that annulled the results of the first round of a presidential election. The decision was grounded in serious violations of fair information standards, the use of hybrid warfare tactics, illicit political funding, and the manipulative use of digital technologies for disinformation.

In this context, courts - and especially constitutional courts - are increasingly called upon to act as electoral watchdogs, ensuring the fairness of electoral procedures in the face of challenges related to electoral malpractices. This function fits within a growing involvement of constitutional and supreme courts in countering democratic backsliding and strengthening democratic values.

As part of the **Jean Monnet Module “Promoting and Strengthening EU Values”** (<https://prosteuva.jus.unipi.it/>) - coordinated by Professor Angioletta Sperti (Democracy Hub Chair of the Circle-U Alliance at the University of Pisa) - the Department of Law at the University of Pisa is pleased to announce the workshop titled:

“Constitutional Courts and Electoral Integrity. Navigating Challenges, Shaping Prospects”

to be held in Pisa, Palazzo Boileau, Via Santa Maria, 85 on **24th September 2025**.

A dedicated session of the workshop will spotlight the voices of emerging scholars (PhD candidates, post-doctoral researchers) from different backgrounds. We welcome papers that explore issues of justice—particularly constitutional justice—and the challenges of safeguarding legality, democratic principles, and combating electoral disinformation.

HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL:

PhD candidates and post-doctoral researchers interested in participating are invited to submit a short abstract to:

prosteuva@jus.unipi.it

by **June 30, 2025**.



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Proposals must be submitted in English and include:

- name of the Author
- affiliation
- contact information
- title of the abstract
- text of the abstract (no longer than 5,000 characters, including spaces)
- short curriculum

The scientific committee of ProStEUVA will select up to 10 papers. Priority will be given to proposals submitted by PhD students and post-doctoral researchers from **Circle U. universities**. Selected Authors will be notified **by July 5, 2025**, and will be asked to confirm their participation to the workshop. The ten authors will present their paper during the Roundtable, to be held in the second session of the workshop (afternoon of 24th September). The organisers will offer them accommodation in Pisa for two nights and meals on the day of the conference (The expenses for additional nights of accommodation, travel, or meals will need to be covered personally).

The proceedings will be published in an open-access journal following the event.