



OÑATI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF LAW
—
OÑATIKO LEGE-SOZIOLOGIAKO
NAZIOARTEKO ERAKUNDEA
—
INSTITUTO INTERNACIONAL
DE SOCIOLOGÍA JURÍDICA DE OÑATI



Uniwersytet
Wrocławski

WORKSHOP ON

Academia in the Era of Culture Wars: University Ethos and Academic Freedom of Expression

16-17 APRIL 2026

COORDINATOR Mateusz Wojtanowski (University of Wrocław)

MEETING ROOM Provincial Archives of Gipuzkoa - ground floor
[Geolocation of the Historical Archives from the Antia Residence and passing through the Old University building](#)

Programme

Wednesday 15th April 2026

Arrival
21:00 Welcome dinner for the participants
[Oñatiko Batzokia Jatetxea - Street: Foruen Enparantza, 9]

Thursday 16th April 2026

08:30 – 09:30 **Registration and opening**

08:30 – 09:00 Registration
09:00 – 09:30 **Welcome, introduction by organizers and participants**
Camilo Umaña, IISL Scientific Director
Leire Kortabarria, IISL Publications officer
Mateusz Wojtanowski, coordinator

09:30 – 10:30 **Session I: Academia in the Face of the Rule of Law Crisis**
Moderator and discussant: Lucian Bojin (West University of Timisoara)

09:30 – 10:00 **We Will Never Go Back to the Cave: The Fierce Defense of Rule of Law**
Ahmet Ulvi Turkbag
Istanbul Medipol University

10:00 – 10:30 **Common Sense and Academic Discourse: The Case of Article 142 of the Brazilian Constitution**
Nestor Castilho Gomes
Universidade da Região de Joinville

10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00 – 12:30 **Session II: Empirical and Comparative Insights on Academic Expression**
Moderator and discussant: Juan Felipe Parra Rosas (Universidad de los Andes)

11:00 – 11:30 **Culture Wars and Academic Freedom: Reframing Conflicts over Freedom of Expression in Poland**
Michał Paździora
University of Wrocław

11:30 – 12:00 **To Speak or Not to Speak? Academic Freedom in Comparative Perspective**
Alexandra Mercescu
West University of Timisoara

12:00 – 12:30 **Social media as a platform for legal education and the presence of academic lawyers**
Agata Dąbrowska
University of Łódź



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Thursday 16th April 2026

12:45 – 14:30 **Lunch break** [*Cantina Zaporej*]

14:30 – 15:30 **Session III: Academia Amid Political Polarization**
Moderator and discussant: Ferenc Hammer (Eötvös Loránd University, Mesh - Academia Without Border)

14:30 – 15:00 **Interpretation and Politics: On Academic Freedom and Responsibility in the Times of Cancel Culture**
Jolanta Sawicka
Center of Legal Education and Social Theory in Wrocław

15:00 – 15:30 **Will academia become a victim of the culture wars in politics?**
Lucian Bojin
West University of Timisoara

15:30 – 15:45 **Coffee break**

15:45 – 16:50 **Session IV: The Mission and Virtues of Academia**
Moderator and discussant: Alexandra Mercescu (West University of Timisoara)

15:45 – 16:20 **Academic Freedom and Epistemic Freedom: Barriers and Opportunities in the Context of Structural Epistemic Injustice** [online]
Nadire Özdemir and Gülriz Uygur
Ankara University

16:20 – 16:50 **Revisiting Wonder as a Part of the Academic Ethos**
Urszula Lisowska
University of Wrocław

Friday 17th April 2026

09:30 – 10:35 **Session I: The Place of Academia in Politico-Legal Culture**
Moderator and discussant: Filip Cyuńczyk (SWPS University in Warsaw)

09:30 – 10:05 **The Politicization of the University: A Threat to Freedom of Thought and Academic Integrity**
Inés García-Barrachina and Aniceto Masferrer
University of Valencia

10:05 – 10:35 **The Impure Science of Law: Constitutional Scholars in a Democracy** [online]
Jan Komárek
Charles University

10:35 – 10:50 **Coffee break**



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Friday 17th April 2026

10:50 – 12:20 **Session II: Judicialization of Academic Standards?**

Moderator and discussant: Jolanta Sawicka (Center of Legal Education and Social Theory in Wrocław)

10:50 – 11:20 **Professional Correctness, Interpretive Communities, and the Limits of Academic Expression: Stanley Fish and Culture Wars**

Jakub Łakomy
University of Wrocław

11:20 – 11:50 **When Historical Interpretation Becomes a Judicial Matter**

Filip Cyuńczyk
SWPS University in Warsaw

11:50 – 12:20 **What is an academic teacher allowed to say and how can we know it? On the idea of an academic teacher's speech test**

Paweł Jabłoński
University of Wrocław

12:35 – 14:30 **Lunch break** [*Cantina Zapore*]

14:30 – 15:30 **Session III: Academics Under Pressure**

Moderator and discussant: Ahmet Ulvi Turkgag (Istanbul Medipol University)

14:30 – 15:00 **Mapping the invisible: Changing landscapes of silence in academia**

Ferenc Hammer
Eötvös Loránd University, Mesh - Academia Without Border

15:00 – 15:30 **Smear Campaigns and Other Chilling Measures Against Academics: Beyond Legal Remedies**

Mohor Fajdiga
University of Ljubljana

15:30 – 15:45 **Coffee break**

15:45 – 16:55 **Session IV: The Place of Academia in Politico-Legal Culture II**

Moderator and discussant: Mohor Fajdiga (University of Ljubljana)

15:45 – 16:15 **Why is the Dialogical Role of Academics in Times of Cultural Wars Worth Recommending?**

Przemysław Kaczmarek
University of Wrocław

16:15 – 16:45 **The Relationship Between Academic Ethos and Liberal Democracy Through the Lens of Richard Rorty**

Mateusz Wojtanowski
University of Wrocław

16:45 **Workshop closure**

Each participant is allocated a 30-minute time slot, comprising up to 15 minutes for the presentation and a minimum of 15 minutes for discussion. In the case of presentations delivered by two speakers, the slot is extended by an additional 5 minutes.

The role of the discussant entails being designated to deliver the first commentary on all presentations in the panel during the discussion, thereby opening and setting the tone of the debate, after which other participants join in and the authors respond to the discussion as a whole.