



The Court marks the 50th anniversary of the judgment in *Van Gend en Loos*

A conference will be held on 13 May 2013 at the Court of Justice to commemorate the delivery of the judgment establishing the principle of direct effect of European Union law

On 5 February 1963, the Court of Justice delivered its judgment in *Van Gend en Loos*, in response to a request for a preliminary ruling from a Netherlands tribunal (the Tariefcommissie). The case in the main proceedings had been brought by the transport company Van Gend en Loos, which, when importing goods from Germany into the Netherlands, was required to pay customs duties which it considered to be contrary to the rules of the EEC Treaty prohibiting Member States from increasing customs duties in their mutual commercial dealings.

By its judgment, the Court established one of the fundamental principles of European Union law: direct effect.

On 13 May 2013, a day of reflection will take place at the Court of Justice, organised by a committee chaired by President of Chamber A. Tizzano and composed of Advocate General J. Kokott and Judge S. Prechal, which will examine the content of that judgment, its effects, impact and perspectives. The conference, the working languages of which will be French and English, will bring together representatives from across the legal professions and the academic world.

Those wishing to take part in this event may register their interest with the Court, up to 8 March 2013, by completing the [form](#) available on the www.curia.europa.eu site, where more detailed information is also available.

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