



Meeting of Judges of the Member States at the Court of Justice of the European Union

The Meeting of judges took place at the Court of Justice from 18 to 20 November 2018.

This annual meeting of judges from the Member States, which first took place in 1968, is an opportunity, as underlined by the President of the Court, Mr Koen Lenaerts, in his welcome speech, to reinforce “*the mutual trust which characterises relations between national courts but also between the Court of Justice and national courts, [and which] can [...] only exist between organisations with a mutual understanding*”.

Over two days, the 155 participating national judges, from all 28 Member States, and Members of the Court of Justice, have held open discussions about the preliminary ruling procedure, chaired by Mr Lenaerts. The majority of the leading Court of Justice cases have been delivered via this mechanism, which creates a direct dialogue between the national courts and the Court of Justice.

The second session, chaired by the Vice President of the Court, Mrs Rosario Silva de Lapuerta, was devoted to the application of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. Following this, a number of working sessions, led jointly by Members of the Court of Justice and national judges, were organised to allow participants to share their knowledge and experience on subjects such as asylum and immigration, judicial cooperation in civil matters (The recast Brussels I and Brussels II Regulations), and the fight against abuse of rights (in relation to tax matters, consumer law and posted workers).

The meeting was followed by a session dedicated to the latest case law of the General Court and finally the participants attended a hearing before the Grand Chamber of the Court of Justice.

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