



Luxembourg, 25 September 2019

Press and Information

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## **CELEBRATION OF THE 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE GENERAL COURT**

### *The General Court in the Digital Age*

A ceremony took place today at the Court of Justice of the European Union to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of the General Court of the European Union. The first members of that court, setup by the Council Decision of 24 October 1988, had taken up their duties on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 1989.

A commemorative colloquium was held with the theme "The General Court of the European Union in the Digital Age" in the presence of numerous representatives of European, national and international institutions, as well as law professors, judges, lawyers and lawyers from all the Member States. The colloquium was opened with the speeches of Mr. Marc Jaeger, President of the General Court, Mr. José Luis da Cruz Vilaça, first President of the General Court and Ms. Sam Tanson, Minister of Culture, Housing and Justice of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

The colloquium was organized around two themes: "Accessible justice" and "Efficient and Quality Justice", and ended with a concluding speech by Mr. Koen Lenaerts, President of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

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### **COLLOQUIUM PROGRAM**

#### **« Accessible Justice »**

Chairperson : M. da Cruz Vilaça

Panel A : **«Digital technology and the strengthening of access to the courts»**

Speakers :

M. Luis María Díez-Picazo Giménez, President of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chamber of the Supreme Court of Spain

M. Frank Montag, Lawyer

Mme Tiina Astola, Director General for Justice and Consumers at the European Commission

Panel B : **«Digital technology and the improvement of judicial information»**

Speakers :

M. Villem Lapimaa, President of the Tallinn Court of Appeal

M. Theofilos Margellos, President of the Board of Appeal, EUIPO

Mme Christiane Féral-Schuhl, Lawyer, President of the National Council of Bars of France

**«Efficient and quality justice»**

Chairperson : M. Bo Vesterdorf, former President of the General Court of the European Union

Panel A : **«Digital technology and the efficiency of internal processes»**

Speakers :

M. Yves Poullet, Professor at the University of Namur

M. Wolfgang Kirchhoff, Judge of the Federal Court of Germany

M. Antonio Corbo, Judge of the Court of Cassation of Italy

Panel B : **«Digital technology and the quality of judicial decisions»**

Speakers :

M. Bruno Lasserre, Vice-President of the Council of State of France

M. Frank Clarke, Chief Justice of Ireland

M. Guido Raimondi, former President of the European Court of Human Rights

M. Ranko Pelicarić, Vice-President of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)

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