



Partial renewal of membership and entry into office of nine new Members of the Court of Justice

By decisions of 2 September 2020, 19 February 2021, 21 April 2021, 2 June 2021 and 7 July 2021, the representatives of the governments of the Member States of the European Union renewed the term of office of seven Judges of the Court of Justice, namely Mr Koen Lenaerts, Mr Lars Bay Larsen, Mr Siniša Rodin, Mr François Biltgen, Mr Eugene Regan, Mr Niilo Jääskinen and Ms Küllike Jürimäe, for the period from 7 October 2021 to 6 October 2027.

By decisions of 19 February 2021, 21 April 2021, 2 June 2021 and 7 July 2021, Ms Maria Lourdes Arastey Sahún, who replaces Ms Rosario Silva de Lapuerta, Mr Zoltán Csehi, who replaces Mr Endre Juhász, Ms Octavia Spineanu-Matei, who replaces Ms Camelia Toader, Mr Miroslav Gavalec, who replaces Mr Daniel Šváby, and Mr Dimitrios Gratsias, who replaces Mr Michail Vilaras, were appointed as Judges of the Court of Justice for the period from 7 October 2021 to 6 October 2027.

By decisions of 19 February 2021, 21 April 2021 and 7 July 2021, the representatives of the governments of the Member States of the European Union renewed the term of office of three Advocates General of the Court of Justice, namely Mr Manuel Campos Sánchez-Bordona, Mr Athanasios Rantos and Ms Juliane Kokott, for the period from 7 October 2021 to 6 October 2027.

By decisions of 21 April 2021, 7 July 2021 and 8 September 2021, Mr Anthony Michael Collins, who replaces Mr Gerard Hogan, was appointed as Advocate General of the Court of Justice for the period from 7 October 2021 to 6 October 2024, and Ms Laila Medina, who replaces Mr Henrik Saugmandsgaard Øe, Mr Nicholas Emiliou, who replaces Mr Michal Bobek, and Ms Tamara Čapeta, who replaces Mr Evgeni Tanchev, were appointed as Advocates General of the Court of Justice for the period from 7 October 2021 to 6 October 2027.

On the occasion of the departure from office of Ms Rosario Silva de Lapuerta, Mr Michail Vilaras, Mr Endre Juhász, Ms Camelia Toader, Mr Daniel Šváby, Mr Henrik Saugmandsgaard Øe, Mr Michal Bobek, Mr Evgeni Tanchev and Mr Gerard Hogan, on the one hand, and the taking of the oath and entry into office of the new Members of the institution, on the other, a formal sitting of the Court of Justice of the European Union will take place today.

The formal sitting will be broadcast live from 17:30 on the following site:
<http://c.connectedviews.com/01/LiveMeetings/cdj>

Presentation of the new Members

Maria Lourdes Arastey Sahún

Judge

Born in 1959 in Tarragona (Spain), Ms Maria Lourdes Arastey Sahún studied at the Universitat de Barcelona (University of Barcelona, Spain), where she obtained a law degree in 1983, before

taking professional judicial training at the Escuela Judicial (Judicial College, Spain) from 1984 to 1985.

She was appointed as a district judge at the Juzgado de Distrito de Sant Feliu de Llobregat (District Court of Sant Feliu de Llobregat, Spain) and the Juzgado de Distrito de Barcelona (District Court of Barcelona, Spain) from 1985 to 1989. In 1989, she was assigned to the Juzgado de lo Social No 7 de Barcelona (Social Court No 7 of Barcelona, Spain) for one year. She then joined the Social Division of the Tribunal Superior de Justicia de Cataluña (High Court of Justice of Catalonia, Spain) where she remained until 2009. She was appointed to the Tribunal Supremo (Supreme Court, Spain) as a judge in 2009. From 2013 to 2021, she was also a judge at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Administrative Tribunal (Brussels, Belgium).

In addition to her judicial career, Ms Lourdes Arastey Sahún was also involved in teaching. From 1998 to 2008, she was an associate professor in Employment and Social Security Law at the Universitat de Barcelona. She was also a lecturer at national judicial schools, in particular in Spain (on a regular basis), Bulgaria (2008) and Romania (2008), and at the Juan Carlos I School for Centroamerica and the Caribbean (2006). Ms Lourdes Arastey Sahún gave lectures and participated in seminars at numerous universities. She was also a member of several bodies operating, inter alia, in the fields of EU law, training and examination of the competence of judges, and alternative dispute resolution.

Ms Lourdes Arastey Sahún was appointed as a Judge at the Court of Justice on 7 October 2021.

Zoltán Csehi

Judge

Born in 1965 in Budapest (Hungary), Mr Zoltán Csehi was awarded a law degree from Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem (Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary) in 1990 and a Master of Laws degree from Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg (Ruprecht Karl University of Heidelberg, Germany) in 1991. He pursued doctoral studies at Eötvös Loránd University, and presented his thesis in law in 2004. He also graduated in history of art from Eötvös Loránd University in 1992.

He was admitted to the Budapest Bar and worked as a lawyer in Hungary from 1995 to 2016. In parallel with his activity as a lawyer, he was appointed as an arbitrator at the Pénz és Tőkepiaci Állandó Választottbíróság (Permanent Arbitration Court attached to the Hungarian Stock Exchange) and as an ad hoc arbitrator, from 2004 to 2016.

Additionally, Mr. Csehi taught law as an associate professor from 1991 to 2005, and as a full professor at Eötvös Loránd University from 2005 to 2016. He also lectured at the Pázmány Péter Katolikus Egyetem (Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Hungary), as Head of the Department of Commercial Law from 2007 to 2013, and as a professor from 2013 onwards. There he then took up the position of Head of the Department of Private and Commercial Law from 2013 to 2016, Research Professor of Private and Commercial Law from 2017 onwards, and Head of the Department of Civil Law in 2018. He has been a visiting professor at the Université catholique de Lyon (Catholic University of Lyon, France) since 2013.

Mr Csehi was appointed as a Judge at the General Court on 13 April 2016, where he served for five years before being appointed as a Judge at the Court of Justice on 7 October 2021.

Octavia Spineanu-Matei

Judge

Born in 1967 in Vălenii de Munte (Romania), Ms Octavia Spineanu-Matei obtained a law degree (merit diploma) from the Universitatea Alexandru Ioan Cuza din Iași (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Iași, Romania) in 1990 and a doctorate in law from the Academia de Poliție 'Alexandru Ioan Cuza' (Alexandru Ioan Cuza Police Academy, Romania) in 1999.

In 1991, she started her professional career as a judge at the Judecătoria sectorului 4 București (Court of First Instance, Sector 4, Bucharest, Romania) and served there until 1996. From 1996 to 1999, she was a judge at the Tribunalul București (District Court, Bucharest, Romania), where she was president of the civil section between 1997 and 1999. After having presided at the Curtea de Apel București (Court of Appeal, Bucharest, Romania) as a judge from 1999 to 2005, and as a president of the civil section from 1999 to 2003, she was appointed as a judge at the Înalta Curte de Casație și Justiție (High Court of Cassation and Justice of Romania) from 2006 to 2016.

From 2006 to 2016, Ms Spineanu-Matei was appointed as an External Member of the Enlarged Board of Appeal of the European Patent Office in Munich, Germany.

After 1997, she also dedicated herself to the training of Romanian magistrates and trainee judges as a trainer at the Institutul Național al Magistraturii (National Institute of the Magistracy, Romania), where she was also a member of the Scientific Council and, from 2011 to 2016, a director. She also served on the Board of Governors of the Școala Națională de Grefieri (National School for Registrars, Romania). From 2012 to 2016, she was a Board Member of the Doctoral School of the Universitatea din București (University of Bucharest, Romania). She co-authored several books and authored numerous articles in the field of law and she regularly spoke at national and international conferences.

Ms Spineanu-Matei was appointed as a Judge at the General Court on 19 September 2016. She served at the General Court for five years before being appointed as a Judge at the Court of Justice on 7 October 2021.

Miroslav Gavalec

Judge

Born in 1961 in Zlín (Czechoslovakia), Mr Miroslav Gavalec was first awarded a degree in mechanical engineering in the fields of heat engines and nuclear equipment at the České vysoké učení technické v Praze (Czech Technical University in Prague, Czechoslovakia), and held various positions in the nuclear industry from 1986 to 1991.

His interest in social sciences led him to study law at the Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave (Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia) from 1990 to 1995, where he was awarded a 'Magister' degree in law in 1995 and the title of Doctor of Laws (PhD) in 2010.

In 2001, he was appointed as a commercial and family judge and as an administrative judge at the Okresný súd Bratislava III (District Court, Bratislava III, Slovakia). He served there until 2005, when he joined the Najvyšší súd Slovenskej republiky (Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic), where he served first as a judge of the Administrative Division and, from 2009, as President of the First Chamber of the Administrative Division.

In parallel with his judicial career, Mr Gavalec established himself as a university lecturer. Between 2005 and 2011, he taught at the Institute of Economics and Management of the Paneurópska vysoká škola (Pan-European University, Slovakia). From 2006 to 2014 he lectured at the Institutes of Administrative Law and Private Law of the Paneurópska vysoká škola.

Mr Gavalec was a member of the European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment from 2005 to 2020, and a member of the European Association of Administrative Judges from 2006 to 2015.

Mr Gavalec was appointed as a Judge at the Court of Justice on 7 October 2021.

Dimitrios Gratsias

Judge

Born in 1957 in Athens (Greece), Mr Dimitrios Gratsias obtained his master's degree in law from the Ethniko kai Kapodistriako Panepistimio Athinón (National and Kapodistrian University of

Athens, Greece) in 1980 and a diplôme d'études approfondies (diploma of advanced studies, DEA) in public law from the université de Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne (University of Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne, France) in 1981. The following year, the Centre universitaire d'études communautaires et européennes (Université Paris I) (University Centre for Community and European Studies, University of Paris I, France) awarded him a diploma in Community law.

In 1985, Mr Gratsias began his professional career at the Symvoulío tis Epikrateias (Council of State, Greece) where he worked as a junior officer until 1992. He was subsequently appointed as a junior member in 1992 and then as a member in 2005. In addition to those functions he was appointed as a supplementary member of the Anotato Eidiko Dikastirio (Superior Special Court, Greece) for two years (1998-1999) and, in 2006, as a member of the Eidiko Dikastirio Agogon Kakodikias (Special Court for Actions against Judges, Greece) for one year. In 2008, he was a member of the Anotato Dikastiko Symvoulío Dioikitikis Dikaiosinis (Supreme Council for Administrative Justice, Greece). During the 2009-2010 judicial year, he was an inspector of administrative courts.

Between 1994 and 1996, Mr Gratsias joined the Court of Justice as a legal secretary in the cabinet of Advocate General Georges Cosmas.

Mr Gratsias was a Judge at the General Court between 25 October 2010 and 6 October 2021 where he also took on the functions of President of the Chamber for two successive terms, from 18 September 2013 to 30 September 2019. He was appointed Judge at the Court of Justice on 7 October 2021.

Anthony Michael Collins

Advocate General

Born 1960 in New Haven (USA), Anthony Michael Collins obtained a diploma in legal studies at Trinity College Dublin (Ireland) in 1984 and a Barrister-at-Law degree at the Honourable Society of King's Inns (Dublin) in 1986.

He pursued his professional career at the Bar of Ireland as a Barrister-at-Law from 1986 to 1990 and from 1997 to 2003 and, subsequently, as a Senior Counsel from 2003 to 2013. He temporarily interrupted his career as a Barrister-at-Law between 1990 and 1997 to work as a legal secretary at the Court of Justice of the European Communities for Judges Thomas Francis O'Higgins (from 1990 to 1991) and John L. Murray (from 1991 to 1997). He served as a member of the Permanent Delegation of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE) to the EU and EFTA Courts between 2006 and 2013. Since 2015, he has also been an Adjunct Professor of EU law at University College Cork (Ireland). He is the author of numerous publications and works on Irish administrative law and EU law.

Mr Collins was appointed as a Judge at the General Court on 16 September 2013 and was President of the Chamber at that court for two terms from 21 September 2016. He was appointed Advocate General at the Court of Justice on 7 October 2021.

Laila Medina

Advocate General

Born in 1971 in Jelgava (Latvia), Ms Laila Medina studied at the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (Malta) where she obtained a master's degree in international maritime law in 1995. One year later, the Latvijas Universitāte (University of Latvia) issued her with a qualifying certificate for the profession of lawyer. She was then awarded a master's degree in European law in 2002 at the Rīgas Juridiskā augstskola (Riga Graduate School of Law, Latvia).

In 1995, she joined the Latvian Ministry of Transport as Head of the Legal Division and Deputy Director of the Maritime Department. She served in that capacity until 2002, when she was appointed as Adviser to the Secretary of State for European Affairs at the Ministry.

From 2004 to 2005, Ms Medina held the position of Deputy Head of the European Affairs Office at the State Chancellery of the Republic of Latvia.

In 2005, she joined the Latvian Ministry of Justice as Director of the Policy Planning Department. From 2006, she was Deputy State Secretary for Sector Policy in the Ministry of Justice, then Deputy State Secretary for Legal Policy from 2009 to 2021.

Ms Medina's career also includes teaching activities. Between 1998 and 2006, she was a lecturer in European law and European institutional law at the Valsts administrācijas skola Valsts administrācijas skola (School of Public Administration, Latvia). In 2012, she provided training to judges and notaries on the Rome III Regulation. Finally, since 2008, she has been a board member of the Law Faculty of the Biznesa augstskola Turība ('Turība' Business School, Latvia).

Ms Medina was appointed as an Advocate General at the Court of Justice on 7 October 2021.

Nicholas Emiliou

Advocate General

Born in Famagusta (Cyprus), Mr Nicholas Emiliou studied at the Ethnikó ke Kapodistriakó Panepistímio Athinón (National and Capodistrian University of Athens, Greece) from which he graduated in law in 1986. He continued his studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science (London, UK) where he obtained an LL.M. in European law in 1987. In 1991, he was awarded a doctorate in law by University College London (UK).

He began his academic career at that university where he worked as a research associate from 1988 to 1991. He then took up teaching duties in EU law at the University of Southampton (UK) from 1991 to 1993, and then at Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London (UK) from 1993 to 1994. Between 1995 and 1997, he held the Jean Monnet Chair of European Integration at the University of Durham (UK). From 1994 to 1997, while carrying on those activities, Mr Emiliou was also an Honorary Senior Research Fellow at University College London, also acting as Special Adviser to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cyprus.

Between 1997 and 1998, he was Minister Plenipotentiary at the EU Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus and, from 1998 to 1999, Deputy Permanent Delegate of the Republic of Cyprus to the European Union.

From 1999 to 2002, Mr Emiliou was Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary of the Republic of Cyprus to Ireland.

Between 2002 and 2004, he was Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the Council of Europe and Representative of the Government of Cyprus in cases brought before the European Court of Human Rights. In 2004, he was appointed as Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the European Union and held that office until 2008.

Mr Emiliou was then appointed as Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus, a position which he held until 2012.

Between 2012 and 2017, he became Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations in New York, before returning to his role as Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the European Union from 2017 to 2021. He also served on the Panel of Arbitrators of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague (Netherlands) from 1995 to 2016.

Mr Emiliou was appointed as an Advocate General at the Court of Justice on 7 October 2021.

Tamara Čapeta

Advocate General

Born in 1967 in Zagreb (Croatia), Ms Tamara Čapeta began her law studies at the Sveučilište u Zagrebu (University of Zagreb, Croatia), from which she graduated in 1991. She pursued her studies at the College of Europe in Bruges (Belgium) where she was awarded a Master's degree in Advanced European Studies in 1993. Back at the Sveučilište u Zagrebu, she undertook a PhD and became a doctor of law in 2001.

Ms Čapeta began her professional career in 1992 as a civil servant within the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the Department for European Integration and the Department for UN Agencies with a seat in Europe. From 1994 to 1997 she conducted research on the European integration process at the Institut za razvoj i međunarodne odnose (Institute for Development and International Relations, Croatia).

She began her academic career in 1997 as a university assistant in the Department of Commercial Law and International Trade at the Faculty of Economics of the Sveučilište u Zagrebu. Since 2002, she has been a professor at the Faculty of Law of the Sveučilište u Zagrebu, where she was one of the founding members of the Department of European Public Law.

In 2013, Ms Čapeta was appointed Head of the Croatian Language Translation Unit at the Directorate-General for Multilingualism of the Court of Justice of the European Union, resuming her teaching activities at the Sveučilište u Zagrebu in 2014. From 2015 to 2021, she served as Head of the Department of European Public Law and as Director of the Postgraduate Programme in European Law there. In 2018, she founded the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, which is dedicated to research on the rule of law, and served as its coordinator from 2018 to 2021.

Ms Čapeta is the author of numerous publications in the field of EU law. She is the founder of an international journal on EU law, the only one in existence to date in Croatia, and was its editor-in-chief from 2010 to 2015. In parallel with her teaching activities at the Sveučilište u Zagrebu, she was Visiting scholar of EU Law at the Indiana University School of Law Exchange Program (United States) between 2005 and 2010, and then in 2016 at the University of Pittsburgh (United States) and at Zhōngguó Zhèngfǎ Dàxué (China University of Political Science and Law, China). She also teaches Croatian judges and civil servants as part of continuing professional development programmes on EU law organised by the Pravosuđna akademija (Judicial Academy, Croatia) and the Državna škola za javnu upravu (State School of Public Administration, Croatia).

In 2020, Ms Čapeta was appointed by a joint committee of the European Union to serve as a member of the arbitration panel under the UK Withdrawal Agreement, a role she ceased to occupy further to her appointment as Advocate General at the Court of Justice.

Ms Tamara Čapeta was appointed as Advocate General at the Court of Justice on 7 October 2021.

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