

Crises and Development – The Impact of Multiple Crises on the Evolution of EU Law

11 April 2024 13:00

Venue: Aula Magna

Honourable Minister for European Union Affairs, Your Excellency, Ambassador of Belgium to Hungary, Your Spectability, Dean of the Faculty of Law of ELTE, and Dear Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you as the rector of Eötvös Loránd University hosting the conference *Crises and Development – The Impact of Multiple Crises on the Evolution of EU Law*.

Twenty years ago, Hungary joined the European Union, which opened a new chapter in our history. It is almost beyond belief that since then a generation has grown up for whom this is a natural, self-evident fact. However, I clearly remember that day and the thoughts I had back then. Apart from the romantic views and optimistic expectations, the EU accession and EU membership have offered Hungary excellent opportunities for socio-economic modernisation and catching up with developed countries.

Nevertheless, throughout its history, the European Union has faced numerous crises that have tested its resilience and adaptability. From economic downturns to migration challenges, every crisis has profoundly shaped the EU's legal framework.

Due to these challenges, the EU has demonstrated its capability of expansion and transformation, contributing to the development of a more complex and closer union.

Let's think not only of the past but also look forward while engaging in conversations and debates over the coming days. Let's explore how the EU can maintain its growth and thrive in the face of adversity, and how its legal framework can be strengthened to overcome the complicated problems of our time. I am hopeful that the present conference will serve as a platform for reflection, innovative ideas, and collaboration.

I would like to thank his Spectability, the Dean of the Faculty of Law and his colleagues for organising this event and thank you all for making the time to attend the conference held in honour of this festive occasion. I wish you quality professional discussions as well as a productive and useful time!