

# COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

## Programme

(as of 18 February 2016)

### PUBLIC HEARING

#### **Taking Citizens' concerns seriously: broadening the scope of the EU Charter on Fundamental Rights (Article 51)?**

23 February 2016 - Room ASP A3G-2 - 9H00-12h30

**9h00-9h05: Introductory words** by PETI Chair Ms. Cecilia Wikström

**9h05-9h20:** Presentation of the **research study** commissioned by Policy Department C on "**The interpretation of Article 51 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights: the dilemma of stricter or broader application of the Charter to national measures**" by Professor Eleanor Spaventa, Chair in European Law, School of Law, Durham University, UK and author of the study

#### **FIRST PANEL: Protection of fundamental rights under the CFR and its article 51 - the viewpoint of academics and Member States**

*Moderator: Pál Csáky, MEP, Vice-Chair, Committee on Petitions*

**9h20-9h30:** Professor Elise Muir, Associate Professor of EU law, Maastricht University

*A reflection on the edges of the Charter of Fundamental Rights?*

**9h30 - 9h40:** Dr. Austin Bencini, Head of Department of Public Law, University of Malta

*(exact title tbc)*

**9h40 - 9h50:** András Jakab, Director of Institute for Legal Studies at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest; Schumpeter Fellow, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public law and International Law, Heidelberg, Germany

*The application of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights in purely domestic cases*

**9h50-10h00:** Professor Jean Paul Jacqué, Professor at University of Strasbourg and College of Europe

*The scope of the Charter of Fundamental Rights*

**10h00-10h25:** *Questions and answers*

#### **SECOND PANEL: Protection of fundamental rights - the judicial viewpoint at EU and Member-State level**

*Moderator: Professor Notis Marias, MEP, Committee on Petitions*

**10h25 - 10h40:** Professor Eleanor Sharpston, Advocate General, Court of Justice of the EU

*Widening the scope of the Charter: For and Against*

**10h40 - 10h55:** Justice Jiří Zemánek, Czech Constitutional Court (Ústavní Soud)

*The role of the European jurisprudence in consideration of national fundamental rights cases*

**10h55-11h05:** *Questions and answers*

### **THIRD PANEL: Protection of fundamental rights under the CFR and its article 51 from an institutional scope**

*Moderator: Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea, MEP, Committee on Petitions*

**11h05-11h20:** Ms. Louisa Klingvall, European Commission, DG Justice, Directorate C.1

*Protection of fundamental rights under the Charter of Fundamental rights and its article 51 – The European Commission perspective*

**11h20-11h35:** Representative of the LIBE Committee, European Parliament

*The Charter of fundamental rights and the Rule of law in the EU*

**11h35- 11h50:** Mr. Graham Smith, Member of the European Ombudsman's cabinet, Senior adviser

*The European Ombudsman's role in protecting the fundamental rights of EU citizens and residents*

**11h50-12h05:** Dr. Gabriel Toggenburg, Senior Legal Advisor, European Union Agency for

Fundamental Rights (FRA)

*Article 51: scope for hope or too tight a right? Accessing justice despite the Charter's limitations*

**12h05 - 12h25:** Debate

**12h25-12h30:** Concluding remarks by PETI Chair Ms Cecilia Wikström