

The **Department of Law** at the **University of Cyprus** kindly invite you to a research seminar on

The Social Constitution of Europe in the National Courts: The Case of Cyprus

Wednesday, 24 March 2021 at 18:00-20:00

by Dr Zaphiro Tsitsiou

Chair: Associate Professor Aristotelis Constantinides

Abstract

The Eurozone crisis has prompted the institutionalisation of austerity through the new European economic governance, intensifying, in this way, the already existent collapse of social protections into the Union's market logic. The presentation will examine how European economic constitutionalism interferes with social-constitutional elements by placing the crisis-hit Cyprus at the heart of the particular thematisation. For the realisation of this task, the schema of the "many European constitutions" offered by Kaarlo Tuori and Klaus Tuori in the book "The Eurozone Crisis: A Constitutional Analysis" will be used as a methodological tool. The distinction between the Economic and the Social Constitutions of Europe will be employed to illuminate the two constitutions' relationships and interactions, while the consideration of the Republic of Cyprus' constitution will aim at the drawing of a picture that better reflects the wider European Social Constitution. The historical development of Cyprus' social-constitutional dimension will be considered, as well as domestic litigation on anti-crisis measures and relevant CJEU cases. The focus on the judicial protection of fundamental rights in the context of Cyprus' financial crisis will offer the possibility of tracing patterns between EU crisis law and the Social Constitution that are not common in all EU Member States. More importantly, however, contrary to Tuori and Tuori's belief that the power of the social-constitutional dimension is diminished due to its reliance on the Member States, the presentation will support that the Social Constitution of Europe finds relatively adequate protection from domestic courts, as they have proven to be attentive to the substantial content of domestic social and labour protections.

Speaker Bio

Zaphiro teaches at Alexander College and works as a research associate for the Intelligent Community Energy (ICE) project at the University of East Anglia. She received her PhD from the University of Glasgow in 2020, and her thesis examined the social-constitutional dimension of the Eurozone crisis by focusing on Cyprus and relevant litigation. She holds an LLM in Human Rights Law from the University of Nottingham and received her LLB from the University of Kent. Zaphiro is also a registered practising advocate in Cyprus.

Practical Details

Language: The seminar will be conducted in English.

Registration: Participation is open, but you must register [here](#) for individual access to the Zoom meeting.