

# EU Migration and Asylum Pact – Legal and Political Aspects of Implementation Preparations

23-24 April 2026

Mykolas Romeris university, LAB, Didlaukio St. 55, Vilnius

## DAY 1 THURSDAY

10.00 – 10.20 **Opening:** -Dr. Eglė Malinauskienė, Vice-Rector for Research, Mykolas Romeris University  
-Mr. Martynas Dobrovolskis, Vice-Minister of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania  
-Mr. Mantas Svečiulis, Advisor to the Minister of Interior of the Republic of Lithuania

10.20 – 11.00 **Key note “Provocative thoughts about the new asylum law in the EU”**  
Prof. Philippe DeBruycker, Institute for European Studies, Université Libre de Bruxelles, founder and coordinator of the Odysseus Network on Immigration and Asylum in Europe (Belgium)  
**Q&A session**

11.00 – 11.20 **Challenges of implementation**  
Indrė Gasperė, Director, Migration Department (Lithuania)

11.20 – 12.30 **Panel I. New concepts in EU migration and asylum law: how to implement?**  
Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dovilė Gailiūtė-Janušonė, Mykolas Romeris University

- “Screening and related concepts: repetition of questionable practices at different level or autonomous meaning?” Prof. Lyra Jakulevičienė, MRU (Lithuania)
- “The pre-entry screening: a pre-status procedure between crisis and normalisation” Francesca Rondine, University of Naples l’Orientale (Italy) (O)
- “Is the EU Migration and Asylum Pact at All Effective in Times of Crises? The Cases of Hybrid Attack through Irregular Migration” Prof. Raimundas Kalesnykas, Turība University (Latvia) (O)
- “New concepts of the European Pact on Asylum and Migration and their impact on human rights: towards a functional reconfiguration of the right to asylum” Antonio Tirso Ester Sánchez, The University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain) (O)

12.30 – 13.30 **Break**

13.30 – 14.40 **Panel II. Return and externalization policies**  
Moderator: Prof. Katažyna Bogdzevič, Mykolas Romeris University

- “Externalization of Returnees, Return Hubs and Human Rights, Detention of Returnees in Member States and Third States” Prof. Emeritus Ulrike Brandl, Universität Salzburg (Austria)
- “The External Components in the new EU Comprehensive Approach to Migration and Asylum” Assoc. Prof. Deyana Marcheva, New Bulgarian University (Bulgaria)
- “Diluting the Connection Requirement: Safe Third Country Reform and Externalization in EU Asylum Law” Fernando Abans, Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo (Spain) (O)
- “Externalizing Mobility Governance: The EU Migration and Asylum Pact and Its Implications for Countries of Origin – Evidence from Ethiopia” Assist. Prof. Sebsib Hadis, Wollo University Dessie (Ethiopia) (O)

14.40 – 15.50 **Panel III. Migration, Politics and Policies**

Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Laurynas Biekša, Mykolas Romeris University

- “The New Pact on Migration and Asylum: Policy innovation or an outcome of anti-immigrant attitudes?” *Assoc. Prof. Ildiko Otova, New Bulgarian University (Bulgaria)*
- “Automated-Decision Making at EU Borders: Reconciling Efficiency with Human Rights under the New Asylum and Migration Pact” *Aleena T. Sabu, Independent Scholar (India) (O)*
- “Artificial Intelligence in Asylum Screening: could emerging uses of AI in asylum decision-making under the Pact enhance efficiency, or will it institutionalize bias and automation of exclusion?” *Ola-Olorun Oluwanimilo, Thomas Adewumi University (Nigeria) (O)*
- “Populism, Electoral Politics and the EU Migration and Asylum Pact: The Influence of Alternative für Deutschland on German Migration Law” *Amit Kumar Sharma, Jawaharlal Nehru University (India) (O)*

15.50 – 16.10 **Break**

16.10 – 17.10 **Panel IV. Integration, regularization and special protection schemes**

- “European Migration Policies after the 2024 Pact: Between Regulatory Harmonization and Social Integration” *María Victoria Ojeda, Dr. Mercedes Castellano, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain)*
- “Regularisation and the Structural Limits of the EU Migration and Asylum Pact: Latin American and Caribbean Communities in Spain” *Marina Aragão Santos, Migration Policy Institute (O)*
- “The EU Asylum and Migration Pact and the Temporary Protection for Ukrainians: Basic Approaches” *Olga Nosova, MRU (Lithuania)*

17.10 – 17.20 **Summary and closing of the day**

**DAY 2 FRIDAY**

9.30 – 11.00 **Panel V. Other themes related to the EU asylum and migration policies**

Moderator: Prof. Emeritus Ulrike Brandl, Universität Salzburg

- “The EU Migration and Asylum Pact and the Rise of Non-Entry Fiction: Turkish Asylum Seekers in Germany” *Zekiye Gürün-Ücem, PhD Researcher, Justus Liebig University Giessen (Germany) (O)*
- “The Non-Entry Fiction and the Right to Asylum: A Charter Analysis of the EU Migration Pact” *Eranda Kandegama, Turība University (Latvia) (O)*
- “The EU Pact on Migration and Asylum and Its Implications for Albania’s EU Integration” *Andrea Mazelliu, Ledja Mitllari, University of New York Tirana (Albania) (O)*
- “From ‘Reception’ to ‘Integration’. Digital Education Technologies and the Right to Language Learning for Refugees in EU” *Prof. Dr. Alivisos Sofos, Angelos Athanasopoulos, University of the Aegean (Greece)*
- Migrant saviours or criminals? An approximation to the criminalisation of solidarity in the European Union, *Jorge Irizar, College of Europe (Belgium) (O)*

**Q&A session**

**End of Conference**

(O) – presentation will be delivered online