

NEOLAIA
TRANSFORMING REGIONS FOR AN INCLUSIVE EUROPE

NEOLAIA Law Network
First Annual Conference 2025

**THE COMMON
CONSTITUTIONAL
TRADITIONS IN
THE EUROPEAN UNION**
Their Content and Legal Value

Ed. Karin Blad & Magnus Kristoffersson

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THE COMMON CONSTITUTIONAL TRADITIONS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

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EDITORS

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iUSTUS
FÖRLAG

© Författarna och Iustus Förlag AB, Uppsala 2026
Upplaga 1:1
ISBN 978-91-7737-342-1
Produktion: eddy.se ab, Visby 2026
Omslag: John Persson
Förlagets adress: Box 1994, 751 49 Uppsala
Telefon: 018-65 03 30
Webbadress: www.iustus.se, e-post: kundtjanst@iustus.se
Printed by Eurographic Group, Poland 2026

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Preface

When we look back at the days of 19 and 20 May 2025, what we remember most vividly is not the conference programme or the academic presentations, but the faces. The colleagues from across Europe who arrived in Örebro, many meeting each other for the first time after months of correspondence and planning. The conversations that continued long after the sessions had ended. The sense that something meaningful was being built together.

This book exists because of the collective effort of so many people that it feels almost impossible to do justice to them all. Behind every conference there are countless hours of preparation, coordination, and problem-solving that remain invisible to those who attend. There are colleagues who volunteered their time without being asked, administrative staff who went far beyond their formal responsibilities, and researchers who believed in this project from the very beginning when it was still just an idea sketched out on paper.

We are deeply grateful to everyone at Örebro University, and our partner universities, who contributed to making the first annual NEOLAiA Law Network summer conference a reality. To our colleagues at the partner universities who travelled from near and far, and who trusted us with their research and their time. To the early-career researchers who brought fresh perspectives and reminded us why academic collaboration matters. And to everyone who, in ways large and small, helped create an atmosphere of genuine intellectual exchange and collegiality.

Our warmest thanks go to all the contributors to this volume. Without their willingness to share their research, to engage with comments and suggestions, and to meet the deadlines we set for them, this anthology would not have been possible. Their scholarship speaks for itself in the pages that follow, but we also wish to acknowledge the generosity and collegiality with which they approached this project.

Preface

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to those whose generous support made both the conference and the publication of this volume possible. Professor Eleonor Kristoffersson, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Dimitri Beeckmann, and Ida Andersson Norrie, Internationalisation Strategist at Örebro University, provided essential funding and institutional backing without which this project could not have been realised. Their belief in the value of international legal cooperation and their commitment to the NEOLAiA Law Network has been decisive. We are also deeply grateful to Professor Pasquale Pistone for his invaluable academic advisory support, which helped shape the scholarly direction of this endeavour.

This anthology is, in a very real sense, a collective achievement. It belongs to everyone who participated in those two days in May, and to the broader community of legal scholars across Europe who share our conviction that cooperation across borders makes us all better researchers. We hope that this is only the first of many volumes to emerge from the NEOLAiA Law Network, and that the friendships and collaborations begun in Örebro will continue to flourish in the years to come.

Örebro, 31 January 2026

Karin Blad and Magnus Kristoffersson