



CEEMC 2022 (Budapest)

Best Speaker Report (Tamari Kiknadze, Free University of Tbilisi)

I was invited to an internship at the General Court of the European Union as a result of having won the Professor William Cornish Best Speaker Prize at the CEEMC 2022 in Budapest, as part of a team which represented the Free University of Tbilisi.

The CEEMC was a truly exceptional and transformative experience that left an indelible mark on my understanding of European law, legal proceedings, and the workings of a crucial judicial institution. From the privilege of observing court hearings to engaging in insightful conversations, attending thought-provoking lectures, and delving into the court's library, every moment was a source of profound learning and inspiration.



The opportunity to witness the court hearings under the guidance of Judge Krystyna Kowalik-Bańczyk was a unique window into the practical application of legal theory. Observing attorneys presenting their arguments and judges meticulously examining complex legal issues highlighted the strategic thinking and precision required in the legal profession. The gravity of the proceedings and the high level of expertise displayed by all parties involved were a testament to the dedication and professionalism of the legal community.



The tour of the court premises provided not just a physical glimpse into the institution, but also a deeper understanding of its historical significance and its role in shaping European jurisprudence. Learning about landmark cases and pivotal decisions that had far-reaching impacts on European law helped me appreciate the institution's enduring contributions. Walking through the court's halls and chambers, each with its distinct historical context, further emphasized the gravity of the work undertaken within those walls. Experiencing the court's library was an incredible journey in itself. The vast collection of legal literature and resources, coupled with the ambiance of scholarly pursuit, was awe-inspiring.

The library, with its shelves lined with legal tomes and references from various jurisdictions, underscored the institution's commitment to scholarly research and informed decision-making. Navigating through its treasure trove of knowledge was akin to taking a voyage through the annals of legal history. A conversation with CJEU Judge Jan Passer was an unexpected privilege that provided unique insights into the inner workings of the court and the journey of a seasoned judge. His personal anecdotes and reflections on the evolution of European law were both informative and enlightening. Engaging in dialogue with him allowed me to understand the practical nuances of being a judge and the multifaceted nature of judicial decision-making.



Attending a lecture on the extraterritorial application of EU competition law was a fitting complement to the issues I had encountered during my studies. The lecture's clear exposition of intricate concepts and its focus on real-world scenarios bridged the gap between academic theory and practical application. This experience not only enriched my understanding of competition law but also expanded my horizons in terms of legal thinking and interpretation.

I am deeply grateful for the collaboration between the Court and the [British Law Centre](#) (“BLC”) that made this enriching experience possible. The dedication of both institutions to providing students with exposure to such immersive and educational opportunities speaks volumes about their commitment to nurturing future legal professionals. In conclusion, my week at the General Court was a revelation that extended well beyond the confines of a classroom. The combination of witnessing actual court proceedings, engaging in conversations with distinguished judges, exploring the court's library, and delving into pertinent legal topics was an invaluable and holistic learning journey. This experience has left me with a renewed sense of purpose, a greater appreciation for the complexities of European law, and a deep gratitude for the institutions that enabled me to partake in this extraordinary week.

I was also awarded a free-of-charge place on the BLC’s [Diploma in English Law & Legal Skills](#) (“DELLS”) as part of my prize. The experience of studying a range of substantive law modules and practical legal skills was incredible and I would highly recommend it to anyone who wishes to expand their horizons or polish their legal skills.

Both the BLC and the CEEMC offered concrete proof that it is possible to expand your legal knowledge & skills whilst making contact with some wonderful people and having fun at the same time. I highly recommend you to participate in both!

