

EnAJUS 2019

Panel 1: Constitutional Courts: Safeguards of Democracy?

Constitutions of the last half-century have generally attributed to constitutional courts a heavy burden: the responsibility to safeguard democracy against itself and protect the core dignitarian promises of the constitutional project. Several constitutional courts have acquired an extraordinary protagonism within democratic politics, playing the role of an ultimate arbiter of deep social and political controversies. Liberal democracies, many contend, are under threat by the rise of populist and authoritarian leaders. This panel will try to address the contemporary challenges of constitutional courts vis-a-vis the current trend of democratic recession by describing and comparing judicial experiences in different parts of the world.

Presenters

- **Janaína Penalva**, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Brasilia. Bachelor of Laws from the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Master and Doctor of Laws from the University of Brasilia, Postgraduate in Law and Bioethics from the University of Barcelona, Spain.
- **Jane Reis Gonçalves Pereira**, Professor of Constitutional Law at the Law School of the State of Rio de Janeiro (UERJ) and Federal Judge. PhD in 2008 2008 Published by UERJ and Master in Constitutional Law and State Theory by PUC-RJ.
- **Patrícia Perrone Campos Mello**, Professor of Constitutional Law of the University Center of Brasília (UniCEUB). Professor of Social Rights and Public Policies of the Master's and Doctoral Program of UniCEUB. PhD and Master in Law from the State University of Rio de Janeiro (UERJ).

Convenor

- **Conrado Hübner Mendes**, Phd in Law from University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and PhD in Political Sciences from University of São Paulo, Brazil. Assistant Professor in the *Department of Public Law at University of São Paulo (USP, Brazil)*.