

## Constitutional challenges to judicial power in the post-socialist legal systems of Central and Eastern Europe

This presentation examines the fundamental problems of the judicial system in Central and Eastern European countries, in particular in Hungary. It analyses the question of how each country has developed institutional solutions to the well-known aspects of judicial independence and accountability in its reforms. It also analyses how organisational independence has come under attack and how the judiciary has tried to resist it. Despite the shared history of the Soviet bloc and the common features of the subsequent regime change, the Central and Eastern European countries are today characterised by a diversity of institutional arrangements. Apart from this diversity, the main common feature is that, despite regular reforms, the relationship between independence and accountability remains problematic in these countries. The reforms suggest that the need, or even the compulsion, to settle the relationship between independence and accountability is important in power-sharing debates.