In the wake of financial and sovereign debt crises, the European Central Bank (ECB) has taken far-reaching and at times rather unconventional measures to safeguard the Eurozone’s economy and the single currency underlying it. Expressing its intention to do whatever it takes to intervene when markets fail, it managed to keep the economy going through desperate times. When taking action in this context, the ECB does not operate in a legal vacuum. As an institution of the European Union, it is part and parcel of the EU legal order and the fundamental principles underlying it. In practice, however, it appears that the fundamental principles of EU law – including principles of good governance – are applied in an increasingly flexible way. Yet, to what extent can EU fundamental principles be stretched to accommodate for European Central Bank initiatives? Is the legal framework originally designed for the ECB still adapted to the new functions of the ECB, for instance in banking supervision? Is the Court of Justice relying on a particular theoretical framework that does not apply to other EU institutions when judging the ECB’s monetary policy? Looking back and forward on the role of the ECB in the EU legal order, the purpose of this conference is to debate those questions and to offer a tentative answer to them.

12.30 – 13.00: Registration and coffee
13.00 – 13.05: Welcome – Prof. dr. Bert Keirsbilck (Campus dean)
13.05 – 13.15: The aims of the workshop – Prof. dr. Wim Decock (KU Leuven/ULiège) and Prof. dr. Pieter Van Cleynenbreugel (ULiège)
13.15 – 14.45: Panel 1: The institutional functioning of the European Central Bank
   - Panel chair: Prof. dr. Franklin Dehousse (ULiège)
   - Prof. dr. Fabian Amtenbrink (Erasmus University Rotterdam): General overview of the ECB’s legal status and independence
   - Dr. Tatyana Filipova (ECB legal service): Accountability, reporting and access to documents
   - Discussant: Prof. dr. Pieter Van Cleynenbreugel (ULiège)
14.45 – 15.30: Panel 2: The single supervisory mechanism and the European Central Bank
   - Panel chair: Prof. dr. Veerle Colaert (KU Leuven)
   - Prof. dr. Robby Houben (University of Antwerp): The Single Supervisory Mechanism and its limits
   - Discussants: Mr Philippe Lefèvre (Head Legal Service, National Bank of Belgium)
     Mr Tom Boedts (General Counsel, Febelfin)
15.30 – 16.00: Break
16.00 – 17.40: Panel 3: The role of the European Central Bank in economic and monetary policy
   - Panel chair: Prof. dr. Marc Bourgeois (ULiège)
   - Prof. dr. Wouter Devroe (KU Leuven – Maastricht University): The ECB before the EU Courts – new challenges?
   - Drs. Paul Dermine (Maastricht University): Economic governance and budgetary surveillance after Pringle – the economic/monetary policy distinctions
   - Vestert Borger LLM (Leiden University): Monetary policy and ECB discretion in the wake of Gauweiler
   - Discussant: Dr. Werner Vandenbruwaene (University of Antwerp)
17.40 – 18.00: General conclusions – Em. Prof. dr. Jean Victor Louis (ULB)
Lawyers, academics, legal counsel, economic advisers, tax specialists, financial experts, Febelfin, bankers, ...

- Certified by IAB / IBR / BIBF
- All participants receive attestation

**Tuesday 12th of December 2017** from 13.00 till 18.00 (registration of the participants starts at 12.30)

KU Leuven - Campus Brussel – Class 6306
Stormstraat 2
1000 Brussel

You will receive more information when we confirm the attendance.

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