

Virtual Gender Lecture

"THE AMBIVALENT PARITY - THE CONSTITUTION AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS"

17 February 2021, 12:30-13:30

Abstract

The presentation aims at discussing women's condition within the Italian Constitutional State. A first section of the presentation will be devoted to the analysis of the Italian constitutional framework on women's rights with the purpose of disclosing the constitutional rights that are most likely to be at stake when women's rights under scrutiny. Moving from the principle of equality and non-discrimination, the presentation will investigate the constitutional responses to areas where women are involved, ranging from the family, the labor market, political representation at the national, regional and local level, the right to health and to self-determination in reproductive choices.

The second section will look at how the above mentioned constitutional rights have been interpreted and applied over the years. The approach will be a case-by-case analysis, examining each aspect from a national and supranational perspective. The presentation will look at the origin of gender discrimination in ancient times, where women were considered inferior to men and excluded from the public sphere. The investigation will then go on by examining women's public participation in the political, economic sphere as well as in the judiciary system and more broadly in the labor market. At the outset, the presentation will aim to unveil the current status of women's rights in the constitutional system without omitting to take into proper consideration the ineludible contributions of supranational jurisdictions.

Biography of the speaker



Marilisa D'Amico is Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Milan, School of Law, Department of Italian and Supranational Public Law.

She is Vice Rector for Legality, Transparency and Equality of Rights, University of Milan. She is also currently Chair Holder and Academic coordinator of the Jean Monnet Chair Program, "European Fundamental Rights and Women's Rights (EFRiWoR)".

She teaches Constitutional Law, Women's Rights within the Constitutional State and Constitutional Justice. She is scientific coordinator of several specialized courses in the fields of fundamental rights, at the University of Milan and, specially, of a specialized course on violence against women.

She is a lawyer registered in the register of lawyers of Milan. As a lawyer, she represented many NGOs and individuals before the Italian Constitutional Court, the European Court of Human Rights and the European Committee of Social Rights in the fields of women's fundamental rights and anti-discrimination-law as well as before the Italian administrative judges in the field of women's political representation.

As Professor of Constitutional Law and Constitutional Justice, she has always investigated issues on constitutional justice, fundamental rights and their system of protection, especially with regard to the most discriminated categories.

She is the author of several articles and monographs, among which: "Il difficile cammino della democrazia paritaria", Giappichelli, Turin, 2011; "I diritti contesi. Problematiche attuali del costituzionalismo", FrancoAngeli, Milan, 2016; "Una parità ambigua. Costituzione e diritti delle donne", Raffaello Cortina Editore, Milan, 2020.

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