New Appointments at the CJEU in Autumn 2026

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News

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In September and October 2026, several personnel changes took place at the Court of Justice and the General Court of the EU. This included the election of a new President and Vice-President of the General Court, the appointment of two new Judges to the General Court, and the appointment of a new Registrar at the Court of Justice.

- On 16 September 2026, the peers elected *Savvas Papasavvas* as President of the General Court. He succeeds *Marc van der Woude* who resigned from the position. *Papasavvas* is a Cypriot lawyer. He was appointed as a judge at the General Court in 2004 and was elected Vice-President of the Court on 27 September 2019, a position he held until his election as President. Prior to his career as a judge, he practised as a lawyer in Nicosia. He also lectured in constitutional law at the University of Cyprus. *Papasavvas*' term as President of the General Court ends on 31 August 2028.
- On 23 September 2026, following Mr. *Papasavvas'* election as President of the General Court, the Judges elected *Maria José Costeira* as Vice-President. She will serve for the remainder of the current term of office, until 31 August 2028. Appointed as a Judge at the General Court on 19 September 2016, *Costeira* served as President of Chamber from September 2019 until August 2025. Prior to her career at the General Court, she served at several courts in Portugal, including the Lisbon Commercial Court and the Coimbra Court of Appeal. From 2012 to 2016, she held leading positions in the Association of Portuguese Judges. She has also taught intellectual property, competition and commercial law at several Portuguese universities.
- On 30 September 2026, the representatives of the governments of the EU Member States appointed *Andria Buhagiar* from Malta and *Ivan Stoynev* from Bulgaria as Judges of the General Court. Their terms of office run from 5 October 2026 until 31 August 2031. A formal sitting to mark their taking of the oath and entry into office was held on 7 October 2026.
- On 8 October 2026, *Vittorio Di Bucci* took office as the new Registrar of the Court of Justice. Elected by the Judges and Advocates General of the Court on 8 September 2026, he will serve a six-year term, running until 7 October 2032. He succeeds *Alfredo Calot Escobar*, who had served as Registrar since October 2010 before resigning. *Di Bucci* studied law at the Universities of Turin and Nancy. He began his career at the Court of Justice in 1987 as a lawyer-linguist and subsequently served as a legal secretary. He also held various positions in the European Commission's Legal Service, specialising in competition law, state aid and business law. From June 2023 until October 2026, he served as Registrar of the General Court.

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