

PEPP Poland Report

The PEPP class of 2024/2025 regathered in Poland for the second PEPP week from January 13th to January 17th 2025. Starting at the Silesian University in Katowice – a vibrant city symbolizing Poland’s future – interesting lectures and workshops covering the areas of ESG compliance of companies (*Jacek Zralek*), civil liability and data protection (*Monika Jagielska*), fashion law (*Marlena Jankowska*), and cross-border conversion and division of companies (*Piotr Pionior*, *Mateusz Żaba*) awaited the PEPPers.

The first half of the week in Katowice also gave the group the opportunity to work on solving the problem of the digitalization of courts, an issue which is also being tackled by the Polish Ministry of Justice (*Aneta Domagalska-Wiewiórowska*), as well as being educated on the old mining town’s and Silesia’s history with visits to Nikiszowiec and Muzeum Śląskie. A distinct highlight of the time in Katowice was definitely the Q&A-session with the advocate general in the European Court of Justice Professor *Maciej Szpunar* and the following presentation on the latest CJEU reform (*Krzysztof Pacula*).

The second half of the week continued with the PEPPers themselves presenting their work in progress which entailed fruitful discussions and valuable input for their dissertations. Arriving at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow – the city in which Poland’s history can truly be felt – the PEPPers followed *Kopernikus’* footsteps through the Museum Collegium Maius. The lectures in Krakow, however, were anything but concerned with the historic past: questions about inheriting social media accounts (*Wojciech Bańczyk*), and the “Greening” of consumer law (*Katarzyna Południak-Gierz*) were answered, the use case of digital goods as securities (*Kacper Górniak*, *Kamil Wielgus*) was discussed, and the legal framework of the supply of digital content and services (*Marlena Pecyna*, *Wojciech Dybka*) was explored. The PEPPers lively discussed the legal personhood of rivers (*Michał Kućka*), and the psychological harm that is potentially related to the use of AI (*Przemysław Pałka*).

In their leisure time, the PEPPers discussed the lectures, their research, and counted the dragons all over Krakow during an engaging city tour. At the end of the week their ways parted once more, with some PEPPers returning to their respective *alma maters’*, and others using the opportunity to visit the concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau before going back home.

Many thanks are extended to the hosting universities and colleagues who organized this truly amazing stay in Poland! The PEPPers are already looking forward to coming back together in Leuven in March.