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# Press Notice

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## European judges arrive for exchange of ideas and insights

Three European judges yesterday began a packed two-week agenda which will see them introduced to a range of UK judicial institutions as part of a programme aimed at fostering closer relations between the Supreme Courts of member states of the European Union.

Lord Phillips, President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, welcomed the three senior judges to the Court on Parliament Square, where their visit will be centred.

The visiting judges are **Dr Gábor Miklós Molnár**, Judge at the Supreme Court of Hungary Criminal Department and the appointed EU consultant to the Criminal Department; **Dr Georg E Kodek**, Judge at the Austrian Supreme Court, Professor of Civil and Commercial Law at the Vienna School of Economics and Business Administration; and **Dr Livia Doina Stanciu**, President of the High Court of Cassation and Justice of Romania.

They will spend time sitting in on appeal hearings being heard at the Supreme Court over the next two weeks, and will also visit Westminster Magistrate's Court, the Old Bailey and the Court of Appeal. They will also meet with representatives of the Office of Judicial Complaints and the Judicial Appointment Commission.

Lord Phillips said: "It is a great pleasure to be able to welcome three distinguished European judges to the Supreme Court. I am sure that just as our guests will learn a lot from their introduction to some of the UK's most senior courts, we too hope to gain some helpful insights into their approach to challenges that we have in common. Judges in Europe have much to learn from each other and we welcome the opportunity that this exchange provides."

The exchange programme is organised and paid for by the Secretariat of the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Courts of the European Union in co-operation with the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union. The Network of the Presidents provides a network through which European institutions are given an opportunity to request the opinions of Supreme Courts, and helps encourage stronger relations

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between the Courts by encouraging discussion and the exchange of ideas. The members gather for colloquiums to discuss matters of common interest. The Association of the Councils similarly provides a discussion forum for senior figures in administrative courts to share good practice across the Union.

**Ends**

**A photograph of the visiting judges is available on request from the contact below:**

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