

2024/25
GRADUATION
ceremony

2025/26
ACADEMIC YEAR
inauguration

Scuola Grande San Giovanni Evangelista, Venice
21 September 2025, 16.00 - 18.30

MASTER OF CEREMONY

Elisabetta Noli

MUSICIANS

ArTime Quartet

Beatrice De Stefani (violino)
Arianna Pasoli (violino)
Sabina Bakholdina (viola)
Elena Borgo (violoncello)

16.00 Start of the Ceremony

Music by the ArTime Quartet

Tommaso Albinoni: Concerto per archi in la minore op. 5 n. 7

16.05 Welcome Addresses

Manfred Nowak, Secretary General of the Global Campus of Human Rights

Elina Pirjatanniemi, Vice-President of the Global Campus of Human Rights

Orla Ní Cheallacháin, EMA Programme Director

Diego Vecchiato, Scuola Grande di San Giovanni Evangelista

16.30 Keynote Speeches

Oleksandra Matviichuk, Ukrainian Human Rights Activist

Artūrs Kučs, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights

Micha Ramakers, Deputy Head of Unit at the European Commission

17.00 Music by ArTime Quartet

Antonio Vivaldi: Concerto per due violini op. 3 n. 8

17.10 Presentation of the EMA Alumni Award 2024

Introduced by Diego Naranjo, President of the EMA Alumni Association and presented by George Ulrich, Academic Director of the Global Campus of Human Rights.

The 2025 award goes to Thomas Coombes, and consists of a glass sculpture entitled *Collective Memory* generously donated by artist Koen Vanmechelen and Fondazione Berengo.

17.20 Presentation of the Annual Joint Sports, Arts and Peace Award

Introduced by Davide Giorgi, President of the Paralympics Committee of Veneto, and awarded to the paralympic athlete Francesca Tarantello.

17.30 Address by Student Representatives

Vitória Assis & Dhruv Maroo

17.40 Awarding of Diplomas to the EMA Graduates of 2024/25

Introduced by Judit Villena Rodó, EMA Fellow, and EMA Professors

18.10 Awards of the EMA Programme

Introduced by Thérèse Murphy, Chairperson of the EMA Programme

18.20 Inauguration of EMA 2025/26

Introduced by the Professors of the EMA Universities

18.25 Music by ArTime Quartet

Ludwig van Beethoven: Ode to Joy

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Oleksandra Matviichuk is a Ukrainian human rights activist and director of the Centre for Civil Liberties. Together with her organisation, in 2022, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, Right Livelihood Award and the European Parliament's Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought.

Artūrs Kučs is a Latvian human rights expert and, since 2024, a judge of the European Court of Human Rights. He is an alumnus of the EMA Programme from 2002 and was National Director for Latvia of the EMA Programme for almost two decades.

Micha Ramakers is the Deputy Head of Unit "Gender Equality, Human Rights and Democratic Governance" at the European Commission's Directorate-General on International Partnerships (DG INTPA). DG INTPA is a long-standing partner and main supporter of the Global Campus.

INAUGURATION OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/26

Bearing in mind the principles of the International Law of Human Rights and in the spirit of inter-university co-operation, we declare open the academic year 2025/26 of the European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation.