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## **‘Support for the Most Vulnerable – Equal Recognition of Legal Capacity of Persons with Severe Disabilities’**

A JOB TALK BY

**János Fiala-Butora**

**June 15, 2017, Thursday, at 12:00 p.m. | room 302, Nádor u. 13**

**Abstract:** Article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) mandates that supported decision-making replaces guardianship and other forms of restrictions of legal capacity. One of the most difficult questions of the Convention concerns whether persons with severe disabilities (such as persons with profound intellectual disabilities, or persons in a persistent vegetative state) can benefit from supported decision-making, and how they can exercise their legal capacity on an equal basis with others. My presentation will propose a legal framework that maximizes decision-making autonomy by incorporating persons with severe disabilities in a support framework.

**János Fiala-Butora** is the graduate of the human rights LLM program of CEU Legal Studies '04 and of Harvard Law School, S.J.D. '16. As a human rights lawyer, he actively consults with governments on their human rights laws and policies, advises a number of Council of Europe and UN bodies, and has brought landmark litigation before international courts. He serves as the Director of the Central European Program of the Harvard Law School Project on Disability (HPOD), and is currently a Harvard University Frederick Sheldon Research Fellow hosted by the Legal Studies Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. In his research he focuses on international human rights mechanisms, rights of persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities and refugees.