



The German Marshall Fund and The Proteus Fund invite you to join

Judge Monika Frackowiak of Poland

**Maciej Nowicki, President of the Polish Helsinki
Foundation for Human Rights**

**Immigration Judges summarily fired without
cause, including Shira Levine, Kyra Lilien, Elisa
Brasil and Ila Deiss joined by Dana Leigh Marks
(ret.)**

**Melissa Hooper, GMF Senior Fellow and Head of
the Rule of Law Action Network**
for

**Lessons from Poland for US Judges on Defending the
Rule of Law**

on
October 14, 2025
2:30pm-4:00pm

at
The Local Economy
6028 College Ave
Oakland, CA 94618

The repression and harassment facing US judges and lawyers – including the summary firing of dozens of immigration judges without cause – are unprecedented in modern American history. But these actions echo autocratic attacks on Polish judges and rule of law from 2015 to 2023. The German Marshall Fund and The Proteus Fund will host Polish Judge Monika Frackowiak and civil rights lawyer and rule of law expert Maciej Nowicki in conversation with several immigration judges who were summarily fired without cause: Shira Levine, Kyra Lilien, Ila Deiss, and Elisa Brasil, joined by retired immigration judge and community leader Dana Leigh Marks. Recently, more than 125 of a total of 700 immigration judges were summarily fired without cause. The group will discuss how Polish judges and lawyers stood up to eight years of attacks by the former Polish government, how the firing of immigration judges impacts our communities, and how we might – like the Polish visitors – mobilize Americans in support of equal treatment, due process, and free courts.

To attend, kindly RSVP to ssiemek@gmfus.org