

Bingham Centre Events

Short Course The Rule of Law: From Principles to Practice

6 CPD hours

Date:	Wednesday 5 April 2017
Location:	British Institute of International and Comparative Law Charles Clore House, 17 Russell Square, London WC1B 5JP
Course Lead:	Justine Stefanelli, Maurice Wohl Associate Senior Research Fellow in European Law

About the course

The rule of law has universal relevance for all involved in the law, justice system and legal policy. This innovative course introduces participants to using the rule of law as a practical tool for legal work in a wide range of areas both within the UK and internationally. When you attend, you will explore the different elements of the rule of law in concrete terms, thinking about how rule of law principles apply in a variety of areas, and discovering how to draw on the rule of law as an invaluable principle and framework. It will be conducted as interactive discussions, with case studies and practical examples, as applied learning.

The Bingham Centre's leading rule of law experts deliver the sessions that are aimed not only at those in legal practice, but also NGO staff and academics who work on law reform and legal policy.

Why take this course?

Do you engage with and seek to influence law reform and policy in the UK or internationally? Have you confronted issues of governance gaps and globalisation, development, or corruption in your work?

Do you work in private legal practice, for government, with corporations, with civil society or in any other role where issues of the rule of law arise?

How can something as important and also as abstract as the rule of law be measured?

The Bingham Centre's Rule of Law Course will help you with these challenges and more.

Testimonials from past course attendees

"Fine intro to the rule of law key issues"

"Very well designed and delivered with clear materials"

"Excellent. Really interesting content"

Course topics

The April course will address what the rule of law means in practice through five topical issues:

- **Enemies or Champions? Judges, the Lord Chancellor and the Rule of Law;**
 - Last year, after an exceptional attack on the judiciary by a London newspaper, a controversy arose about the role of the Lord Chancellor in defending judges and protecting judicial independence. What is the role of the Lord Chancellor? What does the rule of law demand in relation to judges – how much criticism is legitimate? How should criticism be addressed and by whom?
- **Executive Orders in the US: What are they exactly?**
 - From his very first day in office, President Trump signed executive orders intended to change government in the USA in significant ways. Court battles have followed. This session will explore what executive orders are, what the extent of the US President's power is to use them and what they mean for the rule of law. Henry VIII clauses give the executive in the UK somewhat similar powers. So, we can ask similar questions in the UK and other countries which still permit such clauses.
- **Reforming judicial appointments in the UK and the Commonwealth: Promises and Pitfalls;**
 - Many Commonwealth jurisdictions, including the UK, have adopted more transparent and inclusive processes for appointing judges, such as appointment commissions and sometimes a greater role for civil society. Will these reforms address 21st century challenges like the need for judicial diversity and danger of politicising courts?
- **China and the rule of law**
 - China says it is improving the rule of law. Many outsiders and some Chinese lawyers remain sceptical. What is happening and what is the appropriate response by the rest of the world?
- **Of weights and measures: Efficiency and quality measures in Europe**
 - The goal of 'access to justice' embodies the rule of law in the UN Agenda on Sustainable Development adopted in September 2015. The implementation of the Agenda places a strong emphasis on the need to measure progress towards the realization of the goals. We will use a dynamic database, available on the internet, to explore the efficiency and quality of justice in European judicial systems and to gain insight into the complexity of measuring justice and the success of legal reform processes.

Teaching arrangements

Teaching will be seminar style with an emphasis on class discussion and applied learning.

All sessions will be taught in English. If you are not a native English speaker, you will need to have experience of studying in English at university level or to have achieved an appropriate score in the International Language Testing System (IELTS) or an equivalent programme.

CPD Equivalent

Participating in this course provides the equivalent of **6 CPD hours**.

Fees and applying

The course fee is £235 (incl. VAT) and covers:

- Tuition and course materials
- Refreshments (tea/coffee/water) during sessions plus sandwiches during the lunch breaks
- Certificate of completion (hardcopy and electronic version).

Booking deadline: 17th March 2017 (Places are limited. Early booking is advised).

Group Booking Discount

- A 15% discount applies if four or more people from the same company register.
- A 10% discount applies to those participants booking places for both the Rule of Law and PIL short courses.
- A 30% discount will apply to third sector organisations booking two or more places.
- A 30% discount is available to those who attended the course [Introduction to the Rule of Law](#) in Oct 2016.

To book using the group booking discounts please contact eventsregistration@biicl.org

Book online at www.biicl.org/rolcourse2017

Or

Email: eventsregistration@biicl.org



@BinghamCentre#ruleoflaw2017