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Bingham Centre to launch Global Rule of Law Exchange with support from Jones Day

LONDON, 9 DECEMBER 2014 – London-based independent research institute, the Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law, today announced the development of a creative new partnership with global law firm, Jones Day.

The partnership will see the launch in early 2015 of the Global Rule of Law Exchange (The Exchange), a programme of international events, research and other activities.

The Exchange will promote the rule of law around the world and will include seminars in the US and Europe, an annual conference in a developing country, and an annual round table and lecture with a US university. The Exchange will focus on development and the rule of law, encouraging debate and practical outcomes. It will generate a series of research papers published on its own website.

Topics likely to be covered by the Exchange will include;

- The relationship between rule of law, investment, growth and empowerment of the excluded;
- Combatting corruption and ways to establish good governance;
- Access to justice within national and international financial and other institutions;
- Emerging practices and approaches to monitoring and evaluation of rule of law projects, including in terms of sustainable development and law reform;
- Relations between formal and informal legal systems.

The exchange will be managed by a Senior Research Fellow based at the Bingham Centre in London. The position is currently being recruited. Jones Day will be the Bingham Centre's global partner on this initiative. Further, the Jones Day Foundation will be providing funding, initially for a three-year period.

Sir Jeffrey Jowell KCMG QC, Director of the Bingham Centre, welcomed this new initiative, saying, *"This partnership with Jones Day significantly extends our capacity and international reach. The combination of activities facilitated by Jones Day and the Jones Day Foundation will help us to study and promote the rule of law where the need is greatest in the interest of good government, development and individual empowerment"*.

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"If globalization is to be the force for human development that we all hope it will be, the advancement of the rule of law must be at the center," said Stephen J. Brogan, Managing Partner of Jones Day. "Jones Day has long had a strong commitment to the development of the rule of law in countries around the globe. In the last few years alone, we have made concerted efforts to assist in promoting the rule of law in China, and South and Southeast Asia, with the establishment of a Chair Professorship for Globalization and Rule of Law with Peking University, a Professorship of Commercial Law at Singapore Management University, and commercial law workshops in Myanmar, among other things. We have similarly worked with governments in Africa and Haiti on promoting the rule of law, with initiatives on mining law and policy; advice to the Libyan Constitutional Commission on mechanisms for resolving deadlocks in constitutional negotiation; and training for judges, prosecutors, and police officers in Liberia in the handling of human-trafficking cases. We are excited to share our experience and join forces with the Bingham Centre to expand the authentic advancement of the rule of law around the world."

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FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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NOTES TO EDITOR:

1. **The Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law** was launched in December 2010 to honour the work and career of Lord Bingham of Cornhill, a great judge and passionate advocate of the rule of law. It is the only international centre of excellence solely dedicated to the study, promotion and enhancement of the rule of law worldwide. It does this by:
 - Defining the rule of law as a universal and practical concept
 - Highlighting threats to the rule of law
 - Promoting high quality studies and training and supporting capacity-building on the rule of law
 - Demonstrating how the rule of law upholds respect for human dignity and enhances economic development and political stability.

The Centre is a constituent part of the British Institute for International and Comparative Law (BIICL), the foremost independent research and discussion body of its kind in the UK. (Registered Charity No. 209425, Company Registration 615025).

2. **Jones Day** is a global law firm with 41 offices in major centres of business and finance throughout the world. Its unique governance system fosters an unparalleled level of integration and contributes to its perennial ranking as among the best in the world in client service. Jones Day provides significant legal representation for almost half of the Fortune 500, Fortune Global 500, and FT Global 500.