Merkel’s Monopoly: Talk and Discussion on the German Federal Election

Hosted by The Goethe-Institut Australia

The Goethe-Institut Australia is delighted to invite you to a lecture followed by an open discussion about the upcoming German federal election 2013.

While Australia’s first female prime minister was unceremoniously dumped, Germany’s first female chancellor appears set to win a third term in the September Bundestag elections. But what of the opposition parties, the Social Democrats, the Greens, the Left and the two newcomers, the Pirates and the Alternative für Deutschland?

Following an introduction by Andrew Beattie (European Studies at the UNSW), internationally renowned US-based political expert Andrei Markovits (Professor of Comparative Politics and German Studies at the University of Michigan) will survey the German political landscape, with particular focus on the German left and especially the Greens, who in 2013 are celebrating the 30 years of Bundestag representation.

When: Wednesday 21 August, 6:30pm
Where: Goethe-Institut Sydney, 90 Ocean Street, Woollahra NSW 2025
Language: English
RSVP: Sabina Scholz - info@sydney.goethe.org

Government and International Relations Colloquium Series
University of Sydney

Thursday 22 August 2013
Party Leadership Selection: Trends and Implications
Professor William Cross, Carleton University

A cross-national investigation of the methods by which political parties select their leaders with a focus on the implications of different selection methods in terms of the competitiveness of the contests, the longevity of leaders, the types of leaders chosen and the nature of leadership contestation. This paper places the Australian parties’ experience in a comparative perspective.

William Cross is the Hon. Dick and Ruth Bell Chair for the Study of Canadian Parliamentary Democracy in the Department of Political Science at Carleton University. Dr. Cross is a student of Canadian and comparative political institutions and his work emphasises the connections between civil society and political parties and legislatures. His recent work includes studies of party leadership selection, intra party organization and youth participation in politics. Dr. Cross’ writing has appeared in many of the top-rated political science journals and his recent books include The Challenges of Intra-Party Democracy (Oxford University Press 2013) and Politics at the Centre: The Selection and Removal of Party Leaders in the Anglo Parliamentary Democracies (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012). The latter of which received the 2013 Donald Smiley Prize from the Canadian Political Science Association. Since 2000, he has served as director of the Canadian Democratic Audit and in 2004-05, he was Director of Research for the New Brunswick Commission on Legislative Democracy.

When: Thursday 22 August, 2013, 4 -5pm
Where: Darlington Centre Boardroom, Darlington Centre, City Road, University of Sydney
Information: More information can be found here
A long tradition of political constitutionalism deployed is constitutive of the meaning of the constitutional distinction between ‘constituent’ and ‘constituted’ power. The articulation in tension of the two poles of this distinction informed the meaning of constitutionalism as holding together the political and the legal, democracy and rights. My intention is to discuss the importance of the dimension of the ‘constituent’ for the institutional achievement that is constitutionalism as well as the effects and the expression of its undercutting (typically the thinking of ‘proportionality’) under conditions of globalisation.

Emilios Christodoulidis has been Professor of Legal Theory at Glasgow University Law School since 2006. Prior to that he taught at the University of Edinburgh. He holds degrees from the Universities of Athens (LLB) and Edinburgh (LLM, PhD). His interests lie mainly in the area of the philosophy and sociology of law and in constitutional theory.

He is author of many articles on constitutional theory, democratic theory, critical legal theory, and transitional justice, and his book Law and Reflexive Politics won the European Award for Legal Theory in 1996 and the 1998 Society of Legal Scholars (SLS) Prize for ‘Outstanding Legal Scholarship’. He was visiting Professor at the Faculty of Law in Antwerp in 2008, and was a fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies in Nantes in 2011. He is editor of the ’Edinburgh/Glasgow Law and Society series’ (Ashgate Publishing), and is on the editorial board of Social & Legal Studies and Law & Critique. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the IVR (International Association for Legal and Social Philosophy).

---

The good news from Tehran is that Hassan Rouhani, the recently elected new president of Iran, has opted for a cabinet of experienced technocrats. Many of those confirmed last week were people who were purged or isolated during Mahmoud Armadi-Nejad’s confrontational regime.

His ministers, now gone, failed to address the economic turmoil created by United Nations sanctions, and the hardships these caused have led to growing public dissent. Iran, increasingly isolated because of global opposition to its nuclear program, is also unpopular in Europe because of its support for Hezbollah and for Syria’s president, Bashir Al Assad, although it is supported by Russia in the latter cause.

Mr Rouhani has already pleased the West with the appointment of Mohammad Javad Zarif, a veteran diplomat and former ambassador to the UN, as his foreign minister. Even better is his brief to move Iran’s foreign policy from “radicalism” to “moderation and wisdom”. Fluent in English, with a doctorate in international affairs from the University of Denver, Dr Zarif is no pushover, but can be expected to conduct upcoming talks with six major powers in a more positive manner than his predecessor.

---

Iran’s New Cabinet Offers Hope of Conciliation
Dr Naser Ghobadzadeh, University of Sydney

The good news from Tehran is that Hassan Rouhani, the recently elected new president of Iran, has opted for a cabinet of experienced technocrats. Many of those confirmed last week were people who were purged or isolated during Mahmoud Armadi-Nejad’s confrontational regime.

His ministers, now gone, failed to address the economic turmoil created by United Nations sanctions, and the hardships these caused have led to growing public dissent. Iran, increasingly isolated because of global opposition to its nuclear program, is also unpopular in Europe because of its support for Hezbollah and for Syria’s president, Bashir Al Assad, although it is supported by Russia in the latter cause.

Mr Rouhani has already pleased the West with the appointment of Mohammad Javad Zarif, a veteran diplomat and former ambassador to the UN, as his foreign minister. Even better is his brief to move Iran’s foreign policy from "radicalism" to "moderation and wisdom". Fluent in English, with a doctorate in international affairs from the University of Denver, Dr Zarif is no pushover, but can be expected to conduct upcoming talks with six major powers in a more positive manner than his predecessor.

Naser Ghobadzadeh is an associate with the Institute for Democracy and Human Rights at the University of Sydney. He completed his PhD on political Islam and the state in Iran at the university. He has worked as editor-in-chief of the foreign policy service at the Iranian Students’ News Agency, communication officer with the United Nations Development Program and head of the Information Resource Centre, UNICEF office in Tehran. His book A Study of People’s Divergence from Ruling Systems scrutinises value changes and their impact on Iran’s politico-religious mosaic.

---

When: Tuesday 27 August 2013, 5:30 - 6pm
Where: Dean’s Board Room, 2nd Floor, University of New South Wales Law School
Cost: Free (RSVP Required)
Papers and RSVP: Papers for the presentations are available from Martin Krygier, m.krygier@unsw.edu.au

---

Iran’s New Cabinet Offers Hope of Conciliation
Dr Naser Ghobadzadeh, University of Sydney

The good news from Tehran is that Hassan Rouhani, the recently elected new president of Iran, has opted for a cabinet of experienced technocrats. Many of those confirmed last week were people who were purged or isolated during Mahmoud Armadi-Nejad’s confrontational regime.

His ministers, now gone, failed to address the economic turmoil created by United Nations sanctions, and the hardships these caused have led to growing public dissent. Iran, increasingly isolated because of global opposition to its nuclear program, is also unpopular in Europe because of its support for Hezbollah and for Syria’s president, Bashir Al Assad, although it is supported by Russia in the latter cause.

Mr Rouhani has already pleased the West with the appointment of Mohammad Javad Zarif, a veteran diplomat and former ambassador to the UN, as his foreign minister. Even better is his brief to move Iran’s foreign policy from “radicalism” to “moderation and wisdom”. Fluent in English, with a doctorate in international affairs from the University of Denver, Dr Zarif is no pushover, but can be expected to conduct upcoming talks with six major powers in a more positive manner than his predecessor.

Naser Ghobadzadeh is an associate with the Institute for Democracy and Human Rights at the University of Sydney. He completed his PhD on political Islam and the state in Iran at the university. He has worked as editor-in-chief of the foreign policy service at the Iranian Students’ News Agency, communication officer with the United Nations Development Program and head of the Information Resource Centre, UNICEF office in Tehran. His book A Study of People’s Divergence from Ruling Systems scrutinises value changes and their impact on Iran’s politico-religious mosaic.

When: Tuesday 27 August 2013, 6pm
Where: The Glover Cottages, 124 Kent Street, Sydney
(located adjacent to the Kent St Fire Station)
Cost: AIJA members $15.00; Senior/student members: $10.00, Visitors $25; Student Visitors $15
RSVP: RSVP online here or by email
Globalisation and World Sovereignty: Perpetual Peace in the Twenty-First Century
Professor Ramón Tamames, Autonomous University of Madrid

There are many challenges facing humanity these days than ever before. There is an escalating need to get a world order in place that would ensure a lasting global peace. Globalisation has revealed a perhaps more pressing need to work in unity to guarantee a better world. The international community has a duty to continue to promote global trade, and at the same time address the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, environmental deterioration and eradication of poverty.

The talk will be in English and moderated by Professor John Keane, Director of the Institute for Democracy and Human Rights, University of Sydney.

Professor Ramón Tamames is a Spanish politician and economist. He is also Professor of Economic Structure at the Autonomous University of Madrid, and Jean Monet in the European Union, member of the Club of Rome, and the Royal Academy of Moral and Political Sciences of Spain. In 2012 he was elected member of the Spanish Royal Academy of Moral and Political Sciences. He is also the Trade Commissioner and State Economist for the Spanish Government at the Ministry for Economy of Spain. In March 1992, he was appointed Jean Monnet Chair by the European Community.

When: Wednesday 28 August 2013, 6 - 7:30pm
Where: General Lecture Theatre, The Quadrangle Building, Univeristy of Sydney
Cost: Free (RSVP Required)
RSVP: More information and RSVP can be found here.

2013 Wheelwright Memorial Lecture
The Growing Power of Illegitimate Authority
Susan George, Transnational Institute

Susan George holds honorary doctorates from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and the Universidad Nacional de Educacion a Distancia of Madrid as well as the first “Outstanding Public Scholar Award” of the International Political Economy section of the International Studies Association. She is one of TNI’s most renowned fellows for her long-term and ground-breaking analysis of global issues. She is author of fourteen widely translated books and her areas of interests include European Union reform; European trade policy; Debt and International Financial Institutions; Alternatives to Corporate Globalisation; Currency Transaction Tax; Food Security; International Trade.

Susan George is a longtime political and social activist and has been a public voice on a wide array of global issues including global inequality, corporate globalisation, food insecurity, tax and debt. She describes her work as

“The job of the responsible social scientist is first to uncover these forces [of wealth, power and control], to write about them clearly, without jargon... and finally..to take an advocacy position in favour of the disadvantaged, the underdogs, the victims of injustice.”

The Ted Wheelwright Memorial Lecture is presented by the Department of Political Economy in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Sydney. It is named in honour of one of the greatest contributors to the field of political economy in Australia, Edward Lawrence Wheelwright (1921 to 2007), who was instrumental in the development of the breakaway political economy program at the University of Sydney, as well as being an influential critic of global capitalism and orthodox economics.

When: Thursday 29 August 2013, Refreshments from 5:15pm, lecture from 6pm
Where: Eastern Avenue Auditorium, University of Sydney
Cost: FREE (RSVP Required)
Registration: https://www.facebook.com/events/145450575652345/permalink/155963601267709/
JSI Roundtable: The Migration of Proportionality across the World
Hosted by Sydney Law School

This discussion explores the migration of proportionality across practices of adjudication of human and constitutional rights with the aim of illuminating an answer to the question whether that migration is justified. It will begin with a presentation by Dr Bernal-Pulido, which proceeds in an introduction and two parts. The introduction explains the main concerns arising from the migration of proportionality. The first part accounts for the spread of proportionality across the world. On the basis of an analysis of the particular reasons behind those migrations, the second part argues for a justification common to them, namely, that proportionality is normatively necessary for the adjudication of constitutional rights. Professor Alec Stone Sweet will then respond. The session will conclude with an open discussion.

Speakers:

Dr Carlos Bernal-Pulido is a Senior Lecturer at Macquarie Law School. He has research interests in the fields of jurisprudence, comparative constitutional law and constitutional theory. He has published widely in all these fields in seven different languages. He is currently writing a book on proportionality and socio-economic constitutional rights.


When: Thursday 29th August 2013, 6 - 7:30pm
Where: Faculty Common Room, Level 4, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney
Cost: FREE (registration essential)
RSVPs: Click here to register

Book Launch of Regulating International Students’ Wellbeing
Gaby Ramia, Simon Marginson & Erlenawati Sawir

Hosted by Gleebooks
Launched by Professor Geoff Gallop, University of Sydney

Cross-border education is a fast growing and diverse global market, but little is known about how international students actually live.

Using international and cross-country comparative analysis, this book explores how governments influence international student welfare, and how students shape their own opportunities. As well as formal regulation by government, ‘informal regulation’ through students’ family, friendship and co-student networks proves vital to the overseas experience.

Regulating international students’ wellbeing will be of interest to international students, student representative bodies, education policy makers and administrators, as well as civil servants and policy makers in international organisations. Students and researchers of international and comparative social policy will be drawn into its focus on a little understood but vulnerable global population.

You are invited to join the authors and their guests for drinks and nibbles after the launch.

When: Thursday 29 August 2013, from 6:30pm
Where: Gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road, Glebe
Cost: FREE (RSVP Required)
Registration and Information: Please email or call 02 9660 2333
Politics in the Pub

Politics in the Pub is a program of speakers and discussions centring around the broad theme of politics. The convenors describe themselves as ‘people who characterise ourselves as “left” and “democratic” who have established a left politico-cultural focus in Sydney to promote cross fertilisation and discussion.’

Friday 30 August 2013
Rudd’s Shameless New Refugee Policy - Dumping Boat People on PNG
Speakers:
The Hon. John Dowd QC AO, International Commission Jurists
Tony Kevin, Diplomat and Author of A Certain Maritime Incident: The Sinking of the SIEVX

Friday 6 September 2013
Misogyny and Sexism In Australia: Is It Getting Worse and Why?
Speakers:
Eva Cox, Professorial Fellow at UTS
Kate Gleeson, Macquarie University

Friday 13 September 2013
Assange and Wikileaks: Significance to Australian Politics
Speakers:
Dr Alison Broinowski, candidate for Wikileaks Party

Friday 20 September 2013
O’Farrell’s Unprecedented Cuts to the Public Sector
Speakers:
Anne Gardner, Public Service Association
Chris Stone, Centre of Policy Development

Friday 27 September 2013
Whither Democracy in Egypt?
Speakers:
Dr Noah Bassil, Macquarie University
Amro Ali, University of Sydney

When: 6pm - 7:45pm (dinner afterwards in nearby restaurant)
Where: The Gaelic Club, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills (across from Chalmer St exit and Devonshire St. tunnel at Central Station)
Cost: FREE (no RSVP required)
More Information: www.politicsinthepub.org.au. Enquires to Charles Bradley - odl Bradley@pacific.net.au

IDHR Lunchtime Seminar Series
University of Sydney

Wednesday 4 September 2013
Rethinking Migrants Rights?
Associate Professor Nicola Piper, Director, Masters of Human Rights and Democratisation

The increasing mobility of individuals over international borders has prompted the need for greater cooperation by states on regulating global migration. Such efforts have so far been mainly based on the normative interpretations (as well as practices relating to them) of migration that equates human mobility with the need to control population movements and borders with the view to migration’s potential for economic development in countries of origin and destination. Migrant rights activists, by contrast, have criticized the dominant approaches to global management of migration by drawing attention to numerous abuses migrants are subjected to at all stages of the migration process. By generating and mobilizing new interpretations of rights, these activists have questioned the limits of citizenship and human rights and have put forward claims that transcend conventional or mainstream understandings of these rights.

Nicola Piper joined the Department of Sociology at the University of Sydney as Associate Professor in July 2012, taking up the Directorship of the Masters of Human Rights and Democratisation in January 2013. She is affiliated Senior Research Fellow at the Arnold Bergstraesser Institute at Freiburg University, Germany, external advisor on migration research at the UN Research Institute for Social Development, Geneva, as well as co-founder and Vice President of the Global Migration Policy Associates. Her primary research fields revolve around rights-based governance of international migration, migrant rights activism and labour rights as human rights. Geographically, most of her work focuses on Asia but she has also conducted fieldwork in Latin America and Europe.

Where: Room 316, Edward Ford Building (building next to RC Mills)
Registration: idhr@sydney.edu.au

For more information on the IDHR Lunchtime Seminar Series, please visit our website
The Blindspot Of Public Sphere Theory: The Role Of Expressive Culture
Professor Jostein Gripsrud, University of Bergen
Co-Hosted by The Institute for Democracy and Human Rights and Media@Sydney

How can we think about identities in the wake of feminist critiques of identity and identity politics? In *Identities and Freedom*, Allison Weir rethinks conceptions of individual and collective identities in relation to freedom. Drawing on Taylor and Foucault, Butler, Zerilli, Mahmood, Mohanty, Young, and others, Weir develops a complex and nuanced account of identities that takes seriously the ways in which identity categories are bound up with power relations, processes of subjection and exclusion, yet argues that identities are also sources of important values, and of freedom, for they are shaped and sustained by relations of interdependence and solidarity. Moving out of the paradox of identity and freedom requires understanding identities as effects of multiple contesting relations of power and relations of interdependence.

Reviews
"This is a terrific book, one that stakes out an original and distinctive position in some well-worn debates, and that brings together diverse bodies of theory in an insightful and productive way. It is a real gem. It offers substantial new insights into how feminist theorists can go on in the wake of the relentless critique of the notion of identity. The book will make a significant contribution to ongoing debates in feminist theory over the vexed question of identity – a question that is absolutely central to feminist theory, and has been so for at least the last twenty years."

Amy Allen, Department of Philosophy, Dartmouth College

Theoretical work on the public sphere has almost completely concentrated on the political part of it. Even book-length contributions where “culture” is in the title have not dealt with the role of expressive culture and discourses about and around that, but been about culture in the anthropological or ethnological sense. This is lamentable not only because the literary or cultural public sphere was the very beginning of the modern public sphere, but also because today’s actually existing public spheres are marked by quite obvious close relations between expressive culture and a variety of key democratic functions.

This presentation will discuss the implications of and possible remedies for this weakness in public sphere theory and point to historical and current examples of how expressive culture has politically relevant impacts and implications that need to be addressed. Expressive culture is evidently involved in a variety of ways in public discourses dealing with this situation, contributing to understandings of it and promoting political attitudes and actions. On the other hand, the cultural public sphere also offers possibilities for a retreat from politics and socio-cultural engagement, where differences in terms of engagement vs retreat are structured along lines of already established social divisions. This presentation is aimed at opening a discussion on these and related matters.

Jostein Gripsrud

Jostein Gripsrud is Professor of Media Studies at the University of Bergen, Norway. He has published extensively on a variety of topics in media and cultural studies. On the subject of television, he has published *The Dynasty Years: Hollywood Television and Critical Media Studies* (Routledge, 1995) and a number of articles, some of which have appeared in anthologies he edited or co-edited: *Television and Common Knowledge* (Routledge, 1999), *Media, Markets & Public Spheres: European Media at the Crossroads* (Intellect, 2010) and *Relocating Television: Television in the Digital Context* (Routledge, 2010). He has also co-published articles on cultural sociology (e.g., “Changing Relations: Class, education and cultural capital”, in *Poetics*, vol 39 (2011), pp 507-529) and published articles as well as co-edited and contributed to anthologies on public sphere theory: *The Idea of the Public Sphere* (Lexington Books, 2010) and *The Public Sphere vol I-IV* (Sage, 2011) (forthcoming, 2014, with Genevieve LeBaron).

When: Tuesday 10 September 2013, 12:30 - 2pm
Where: Wooley Common Room, John Woolley Building, University of Sydney
Cost: FREE (RSVP Required)
Registration: idhr@sydney.edu.au
How The Westies Won
Co-Hosted by The Griffith REVIEW and Sydney Ideas

It has been ten years since Australia's leading quarterly journal of ideas and analysis, Griffith REVIEW, published its first edition, Insecurity in the New World Order. To help celebrate the tenth anniversary edition, Now We Are Ten, join Juliane Schultz, the founding editor of Griffith REVIEW, as she leads a discussion with journalist Kathy Marks, UWS Chancellor Peter Shergold, and Australia’s Race Discrimination Commissioner, Tim Soutphommasane on How the Westies Won.

Western Sydney will be a key battleground in this year’s federal election, but its significance goes far beyond that. As Australia’s most ethnically diverse region, it offers a glimpse of how radically Australian society is changing – and a foretaste of how the rest of the country will look in decades to come. It is also where a new cultural identity for Australia is being forged, based on the suburbs and the rich blend of people who call them home. The “New West”, with its growing regional pride and its increasingly prosperous and well educated residents, is set to absorb much of the country’s population growth in the coming years. How can we best understand this complex and fascinating region?

SPEAKERS:
Julianne Schultz is the founding editor of Griffith REVIEW. She is on the boards of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and Grattan Institute. She is the chair of the Australian Film Television and Radio School, the Queensland Design Council and the reference group on the National Cultural Policy, and on advisory committees with a focus on education, media and Indigenous issues. She has been a judge of the Miles Franklin Award, Myer Foundation Fellowships and Walkley Awards. She is the author of Reviving the Fourth Estate: Democracy, accountability and the media (1998), Steel City Blues (1985) and the librettos Black River and Going into Shadows.

Kathy Marks is The Independent’s Asia-Pacific correspondent, reporting on major stories in Australia and around the region. In Australia, she has contributed to publications including The Monthly, Good Weekend and Griffith REVIEW. Her book on the Pitcairn child abuse case, Pitcairn: Paradise Lost (2008) won the Ned Kelly prize for true crime-writing and was shortlisted for the CAL Waverley Library Award for Literature. Her most recent essay, 'How the Westies won: Wandering through Australia’s heartland', is published in Griffith REVIEW: Now We Are Ten.

Tim Soutphommasane has recently been appointed Australia’s Race Discrimination Commissioner. He has worked with the Institute for Human Rights and Democracy at the University of Sydney and his research interests as a political philosopher include patriotism, multiculturalism, citizenship and social democracy. His publications include Don’t Go Back To Where You Came From (2012), The Virtuous Citizen (2012), All That’s Left (co-editor, 2010) and Reclaiming Patriotism (2009). He is a fellow of Per Capita and St James Ethics Centre, and a chief investigator on an ARC Linkage project studying the history of Anzac Day.

Peter Shergold was the Secretary of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the nation’s most senior public servant from from 2003-2008. Today he is the Chancellor of the University of Western Sydney and a member of the Parramatta Partnership Forum. He serves on a wide range of private, government and community sector boards. He also continues to write on how it might be possible to transform public administration in Australia.

When: Wednesday 11 September 2013, 6 - 7:30pm
Where: Law School Foyer, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney
Cost: FREE (RSVP Required)
Registration: http://sydney.edu.au/sydney_ideas/lectures/2013/griffith_review_how_the_westies_won.shtml

Government and International Relations Colloquium Series
University of Sydney

Thursday 12 September 2013
Much Ado about Everything? The Israeli Strategy Against Iran’s Nuclear Program
Professor Gill Merom, University of Sydney

Thursday 26 September 2013
Human Rights as Way of Life
Dr Alex Lefebvre, University of Sydney

More information can be found at:
In recent decades, new judicial bodies have emerged specialising in human rights, international criminal law and world trade, yet there are none specialising in international environmental law. Instead, it has fallen to international courts and tribunals of broader jurisdiction, including the International Court of Justice and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea as well as ad hoc tribunals such as the Court of Arbitration in Pakistan/India (Kishenganga), to adapt to the growth of international litigation on environmental matters. This lecture will discuss how they have adapted in the past, including the International Court’s flirtation with an Environmental Chamber, and how they might adapt in future. The parameters of their success have been shaped by the need for states to prove direct injury and by respect for territorial sovereignty as a basis for regulation. The challenges of jurisdiction, standing and procedure posed by environmental disputes have been a source of considerable difficulty.

James Crawford AC SC, FBA is Whewell Professor of International Law, and concurrently Research Professor of Law, Latrobe University. He was the first Australian member of the United Nations International Law Commission and in that capacity was responsible for the ILC’s work on the International Criminal Court (1994) and for the second reading of the ILC Articles on State Responsibility (2001). In addition to scholarly work on statehood, collective rights, investment law and international responsibility, he has appeared in more than 40 cases before the International Court of Justice and other international tribunals, and is engaged as expert, counsel and arbitrator in international arbitration.

In 2012, he was awarded the Hudson Medal by the American Society of International Law. Recent work includes The International Law of Responsibility (co-edited, OUP, 2010), The Cambridge Companion to International Law (co-edited, CUP, 2012) and Brownlie’s Principles of Public International Law (editor, OUP, 2012).

When: Thursday 12 September 2013, 1 - 2:30pm
Where: Faculty Common Room, Level 4, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney
Cost: FREE (RSVP Required)

---

**Nuclear Energy: Too Hot To Handle?**

**Northside Forum**

**Speakers**

**Richard Broinowski**


Board member of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)

Former Australian Ambassador to Vietnam (83-85), South Korea (87-89) & Cuba (94-97).

**Tony Irwin**

Chairman of the Engineers Australia, Nuclear Engineering Panel.

Technical Director of SMR Nuclear Technology with 40 yrs experience with Nuclear Reactors.

Visiting Lecturer for the Master of Nuclear Science Course at the Aust. National University.

**Richard McNeall**

President of Environmentalists for Nuclear Energy.

Director of three Engineering businesses making significant contributions to reducing nuclear energy consumption.

When: Saturday 14 September 2013, 12:00 noon
Where: Upstairs Function Room, The Union Hotel, 271 Pacific Highway, North Sydney
Cost: FREE (Donations Welcome)
The War On Whistleblowers and their Publishers: Manning, Snowden and Assange
Hosted by The Sydney Opera House
Presented with the Assistance of Peter Kemp and Mary Kostakidis

US Journalist and activist Alexa O'Brien and Australian commentator Robert Manne will be joined by video conference with Wikileaks founder Julian Assange and Guardian Journalist Glenn Greenwald in a not to be missed panel discussion on stage at the Sydney Opera House - Sept 16.

Powerful governments are waging a war on whistleblowers and those involved in publishing their material. Edward Snowden has been granted temporary asylum in Russia, Bradley Manning has been convicted of espionage and is awaiting sentencing, and Julian Assange has been granted asylum by Ecuador but cannot step outside its London Embassy. It’s clear that the actions of whistleblowers and their publishers - ‘traitors’ as they are known to some - have come at a significant personal cost, and while the human drama of these stories is engrossing, the focus should be on the very real issues they’ve raised: surveillance, press freedom, privacy, secrecy, and accountability.

The roles of governments and corporations in the future of the internet, and their use and abuse of data, have been put under the global spotlight. In the wake of Manning, Snowden and Wikileaks, we finally have the scope to properly debate the need for government transparency and the trade-off between privacy and security.

If there is mass state spying on everyone, including all journalists, politicians and citizen’s private activities, can democracy still work? Can western civilization survive total surveillance? What does the war against whistleblowers tell us about the rule of law in a democracy? As we mull over these questions, the price of our knowledge is being paid by these individuals.

- Australian commentator Robert Mann is also Professor of Politics at La Trobe University
- Glenn Greenwald was the first to publish Edward Snowden's leaked documents
- Journalist and activist Alexa O'Brien, has produced the only available pre-trial transcripts of Bradley Manning's secret prosecution and continues to chronicle his sentencing
- Julian Assange still directs Wikileaks, an organisation under US investigation

When: Monday 16 September 2013, 8pm (please note the is no Q&A following the event)
Where: Sydney Opera House
Cost: General Public - $35, Members - $28
Registration: More information and tickets can be found here

Sydney Environment Institute Launch
Living in Changing Worlds
Professor Iain McCalman, University of Sydney

Join us for the launch of the Sydney Environment Institute, a collaborative network of environmental researchers working across the University’s many disciplines, that aims to investigate impacts and adaptive solutions to living in an epoch where humans have begun for the first time to influence the core forces of nature in dramatic ways.

The Institute will be launched with a lecture by Professor Iain McCalman, University of Sydney historian, who discuss three interconnected personal examples of having to adapt to cyclonically transforming environments. He will outline why he came to write his soon-to-be published Penguin book, The Reef - A Passionate History. This book explores how, since the time of Captain Cook, the greatest organic feature on the planet has been transformed both in our minds and in its physical substance from a ‘labyrinth of terror’ to an endangered global wonder. Secondly, he will illustrate some of the ways he has tried, as an academic and general author, to respond when writing this book to the wholly new publishing and communicative landscape generated by the digital revolution that is now exploding our traditional world of print.

Finally, he will sketch how and why he and social scientist Professor David Schlosberg and many distinguished University of Sydney colleagues have formed the Sydney Environment Institute.

Iain McCalman was born in Nyasaland in 1947, schooled in Zimbabwe and did his higher education in Australia. His last book, Darwin’s Armada (Penguin, 2009) won three prizes and was the basis of the TV series, Darwin’s Brave New World. He is a Fellow of three Learned Academies and is a former President of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. He was Director of the Humanities Research Centre, ANU, from 1995-2002 and won the inaugural Vice-Chancellor’s Prize at ANU for Teaching Excellence. He is a former Federation Fellow and currently a Research Professor in history at the University of Sydney and co-Director of the Sydney Environment Institute. His new book, The Reef – A Passionate History, from Captain Cook to Climate Change, will be published by Penguin

When: Tuesday 17 September 2013, 6 - 7:30pm
Where: Law School Foyer, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney
Cost: FREE (RSVP Required)
Foreign Policy Implications of Chinese Nationalism Revisited: the Strident Turn
Professor Suisheng Zhao, University of Denver

Co-Hosted by the China Studies Centre and Sydney Ideas

This talk revisits the debate about foreign policy implications of Chinese nationalism in the context of China’s increasingly confrontational and assertive behaviour in recent years. I argue that while the Chinese government made effective efforts to control popular nationalism and Chinese foreign policy was therefore not dictated by the emotional nationalistic rhetoric before 2008, it has become more willing to follow the popular nationalist calls to take confrontational position against the Western powers and adopt tougher measures in maritime territorial disputes with its neighbours. This strident turn is partially because the government is increasingly responsive to the public opinion, but more importantly because of the convergence of Chinese state nationalism and popular nationalism calling for a more muscular Chinese foreign policy. Enjoying an inflated sense of empowerment supported by its new quotient of wealth and military capacities and terrified of an uncertain future due to increasing social, economic and political tensions at home, the communist state has become more willing to play to the popular nationalist gallery in pursuing the so-called core national interests. These developments have complicated China’s diplomacy, creating a heated political environment to harden China’s foreign policy.

Professor Zhao is professor and Director of the Center for China-US Cooperation at Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver. A member of the Board of Governors of the US Committee of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific, a member of National Committee on US-China Relations, a Campbell National Fellow at Hoover Institution of Stanford University, and a Research Associate at the Fairbanks Center for East Asian Research in Harvard University, he is the founder and chief editor of the Journal of Contemporary China.

He is the author and editor of more than ten books, including recent publications: China’s Search for Energy Security: Domestic Sources and International Implications (2012); China and East Asian Regionalism: Economic and Security Cooperation and Institution-Building (2012), and In Search of China’s Development Model: Beyond the Beijing Consensus, (2011).

When: Tuesday 17 September 2013, 6 - 7:30pm
Where: LT 024, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney
Cost: FREE (registration essential)
RSVPS: Click here to register

IDHR Lunchtime Seminar Series
University of Sydney

Wednesday 25 September 2013

Human Rights as a Way of Life: On Bergson’s Political Philosophy
Dr Alex Lefebvre, Dept. of Philosophy

The work of Henri Bergson, the foremost French philosopher of the early twentieth century, is not usually explored for its political dimensions. Indeed, Bergson is best known for his writings on time, evolution, and creativity. This book concentrates instead on his political philosophy—and especially on his late masterpiece, The Two Sources of Morality and Religion—from which Alexandre Lefebvre develops an original approach to human rights.

We tend to think of human rights as the urgent international project of protecting all people everywhere from harm. Bergson shows us that human rights can also serve as a medium of personal transformation and self-care. For Bergson, the main purpose of human rights is to initiate all human beings into love. Forging connections between human rights scholarship and philosophy as self-care, Lefebvre uses human rights to channel the whole of Bergson’s philosophy.

Alexandre Lefebvre is a lecturer in the Department of Government and International Relations, and the Department of Philosophy, at the University of Sydney. His teaching and research interests are in political theory and the philosophy of human rights.

At present he is working on a project titled Human Rights and the Care of the Self. The goal of this research is to undertake a basic shift in perspective in how we view human rights. His guiding idea in this project is that human rights are not only a means to protect all people against serious legal, political and social abuse, but they are also a medium of self-care and personal transformation. The aim of his project is to analyse how human rights law, discourse, and practice serve to transform the whole of one’s life or way of being. Alex is author of Human Rights as a Way of Life: on Bergson’s Political Philosophy (Stanford University Press, 2013), The Image of Law: Deleuze, Bergson, Spinoza (Stanford University Press, 2008), and co-editor of Bergson, Politics, and Religion (Duke University Press, 2012).

Where: SSPS Boardroom, Room 148, RC Mills Building, University of Sydney
Registration: idhr@sydney.edu.au

For more information on the IDHR Lunchtime Seminar Series, please visit our website
A Call for Student Volunteers to Organise the Next Model Global Parliament

We are looking for graduate students in appropriate disciplines to help organise the next Model Global Parliament in Sydney, and recruit other participants. The MGP will take place either in September, to mark Global Interdependence Day, or October, to mark the Global Week of Action for a World Parliament. This will be a great experience, and look good on your CV!

A series of model global parliaments are being organised around Australia. The aims are:
- To give students practical experience in standing up and debating some of the vital issues concerning our global village
- To publicise the idea of democratic global governance

Two MGPs have already taken place in Melbourne, with great success, and a third one was held in Canberra on July 27th

What is a Model Global Parliament? The participants act out or simulate a democratically constituted global forum in a parliamentary setting, debating motions on how to deal with global issues and problems. The members are assigned to represent both geopolitical regions, and existing globally significant non-governmental networks to work together in identifying global problems and seeking practical and attainable solutions to them. We see it essentially as an educational platform for students to learn to think and talk together about global issues, using parliamentary procedures.

It is intended to enable students to explore new ways of addressing the evident gaps in democratic global governance arrangements and to present, contest and enact ideas about how to shape the future for the benefit of a better world for all living things.

If you are interested in helping to organise such an event, please contact Pera Wells or Andrea Booth.

Everything Political is an events newsletter designed to publicise details of all forthcoming research and public events in the field of politics, very broadly defined. The newsletter is not confined to events (co-)hosted by the University of Sydney; it hopes to include all interested parties who wish to publicise and promote politics-themed events. Everything Political will be published on the last Thursday of each month.

Everything Political is a new public service to all members of staff, and to interested publics outside the University. Its main purpose is to raise the level of visibility and co-operation among research and teaching staff interested in politics. The newsletter will enable people to plan their events in advance, so avoiding clashes and duplication.

Event Submission
Everything Political is an initiative of staff based at the University of Sydney, the University of Western Sydney and the University of New South Wales. It will be published on the last Thursday of each month. If you wish to submit details of an event for inclusion in the newsletter, please email: idhr@sydney.edu.au by the 17th of the month. We require the following information for every event:

- Brief summary of the event, including titles, speakers, relevant subject details and details of the sponsoring organisations
- When, where (maps included, where possible), cost and RSVP or further information details
- An image in JPEG, GIF or High Res format related to your event

Subscription
Please email your details including name, organisation (where applicable) and email address to idhr@sydney.edu.au