

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW Seminar Series

CIL

13 April 2010, Tuesday, 3.30 PM to 5.00 PM
NUS Bukit Timah Campus, Block B, Level 4, Seminar Room 4-1

THE PROLIFERATION OF INTERNATIONAL COURTS AND TRIBUNALS: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

SPEAKER



Dr Chester Brown

Dr Chester Brown is Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Sydney, a Barrister, and a Door Tenant at Essex Court Chambers, London. His research interests are in public international law, international investment law, international arbitration, and international dispute settlement. He previously served as Assistant Legal Adviser at the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London, where he participated in the negotiation of bilateral investment treaties, and was involved in representing the United Kingdom and the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs in international, foreign and domestic litigation. Prior to this, he was a Senior Associate at Clifford Chance LLP, London, where he advised on, and acted in, commercial and investment treaty claims governed by the UNCITRAL, ICSID, ICC, LCIA, and AAA/ICDR Arbitration Rules. He is the author of *A Common Law of International Adjudication* (OUP, 2007), which has been awarded the American Society of International Law's Certificate of Merit. He is a graduate of the Universities of Melbourne, Oxford and Cambridge.

INTRODUCTION

The proliferation of international courts and tribunals is a phenomenon which has seen the increasing judicialisation of the settlement of international disputes. This has brought with it many benefits, but it has also created potential difficulties. These include the possible fragmentation of international law, and the creation of overlapping jurisdictions among different international tribunals.

This seminar will explore these issues, and consider whether proliferation poses dangers for public international law. It will also examine another issue highlighted by proliferation, being the development of common approaches among international courts and tribunals on issues of procedure and remedies, which might be termed the emergence of a "common law of international adjudication". Possible reasons for this will be identified, along with limitations to the harmonisation of international judicial practice on these issues.

The seminar will conclude by noting that this development has significant practical and theoretical implications for the international legal order, as can be seen in a number of live cases.

FREE ADMISSION Please register your interest to attend by calling or emailing Ms Geraldine Ng at (65) 65166842 / cilnwfq@nus.edu.sg

ABOUT THE CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW (CIL)

The Centre for International Law (CIL) is based at the Bukit Timah campus of the National University of Singapore. CIL's mission is to enable Singapore and the Asia-Pacific region to play a more significant role in the promotion and development of international law and policy. The Centre's aim is to become the region's intellectual hub and thought leader for research on and teaching of international law and policy. The Director of CIL is Associate Professor Robert C Beckman and the Deputy Director is Dr Navin Raj. For more information, please visit the CIL website at <http://www.cil.nus.edu.sg> or email: cil.info@nus.edu.sg