Teaching and Researching International Law in Asia

Session 1: Where are we now?

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[Outdated] Personal Reflections

- **The Vision of Law**
  - A heavily guarded territory and professional identity
  - Law as a problem solving ‘tool’
  - A colonial ‘gift’

- **The Limits of Critical Approaches**
  - Europe as the standard reference point
[Outdated] Personal Reflections

☐ Challenges
  – Resources
  – Community
  – (Academic) culture
  – Lack of adequate mentoring
  – Institutional structure
[Outdated] Personal Reflections

- **Opportunities**
  - Challenge-driven resilience and competitiveness
  - Unique Third World experience and worldviews
  - Increasing opportunities at the regional and international level
  - Technology and knowledge sharing
Current Trends in the North

- Increasing relevance of Third World perspectives
- ‘We have our TWAIL guy’ syndrome
- Research impact & ODA
- Teaching: more and more student centric pedagogy
- The wrong turn: commodification and ‘value for money’ phenomenon

How should ‘we’ engage and respond?
New Challenges for the South

- Profit Making Ventures / Economic Sustainability
- Penetration of IFIs in Higher Education
- Market-oriented Higher Education
- Institutional Autonomy Under Attack
Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP)

- Promoting academic innovation;
- Building institutional capacity;
- Raising the connectivity capacity of the higher education sector;
- Establishment of quality assurance mechanisms.
International Collaboration

- **Research Funding**
  - Global Challenges Fund

- **PhD Research Funding**
  - Distance learning

- **Collaborative Curriculum Development**
  - Formal and informal networking
[More Important] Local/Regional Collaboration

☐ Build

☐ Lead

☐ Share