INTERNATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION, VICTORIAN CHAPTER

News Bulletin

President's Report

By Kelly Forbes

It's a pleasure to welcome you to the March edition of the International Law Association, Victorian Chapter News Bulletin. This is our first edition of 2014.

Our Chapter has been very busy with the preparations for the 2014 Public International Law Moot Competition. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Victorian Chapter to particularly thank Fiona Lander, our moot coordinator, who has been doing an outstanding job organising this exciting event and our sponsors: Herbert Smith Freehills, Melbourne Law School, Hein Online and the ILA (Australia). For more details please see page 8 of this News Bulletin.

The Chapter has also been brainstorming ideas for future events this year. If you would like to assist us in the organisation of any events or you have ideas for other events or activities you think the ILA Vic should become involved in please contact our secretary, Georgina Wu: georginawu@gmail.com.

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http://www.ila.org.au/

International Economic Law Update
Beyond Bali, 'Justified Morality' and Seals

By Kyle Dickson-Smith FCIArb[1]

This update reports on the outcome and relevance of the Bali Ministerial Conference, and an interesting issue of whether a state can appropriately balance trade restrictions with its right to regulate for animal welfare.

Beyond Bali - Did the Bali Package Pack a Punch?

The Bali Ministerial Conference has come and gone. On 7 December 2013 a deal was struck which has arguably been touted as an achievement by some, but dismissed as too little, too late by others.

This deal is the first World Trade Organization (WTO) agreement since the WTO was created in 1995. It is not the broad liberalisation accord originally promised for the Round.

Rather, it is a modest agreement, producing a 'trade facilitation' multilateral agreement, which could raise annual global output by $400USD billion (by reducing trade costs). But it does include making customs procedures simpler, more transparent and more efficient. There is also a political commitment to maintain low export subsidies, enhance food security in developing countries and improve market access for cotton products in least developed countries. However, the package does leave out two critical goals. Most importantly, it excludes the difficult topics of farm trade and intellectual property.

So, has the departure from the WTO's previous all-or-nothing approach to making an immense agreement − approved by all 159 members − worked? Did the recent approach of cherry-picking select issues from the broader Doha Round negotiations prove to be effective step to completing the Doha Round? The answer is both 'yes' and 'no'.

[1] Kyle Dickson-Smith *FCIArb.*, is an international lawyer and arbitration counsel at Appleton & Associates International Lawyers, who specialises in trade law and investment treaty disputes, such as those under the NAFTA. The views expressed in this article are those of Kyle Dickson-Smith and are not attributable to Appleton & Associates. See www.kyledickson-smith.com

'Justified Morality' in Protecting Seals

Last November, the panel established under the WTO's dispute settlement system issued its report in the *EC – Seal Products*[2] dispute, the case involving a 2009 European Commission regulation that bans the import and sale of seal products in all European Union member states**.** Norway and Canada claimed that the ban unfairly discriminated against their industries compared to the market access enjoyed by Greenland, as well as two EU members, Sweden and Finland. The EU argued that the particular hunting methods applied by Canada and Norway were inhumane.

While the 'public morals' justification for restricting international trade has been applied by previous WTO panels, this is the first time one has grappled with a state's expression of beliefs in the context of animal welfare.

An important question arising from the dispute is whether the law provides adequate policy space to WTO member states in regulating trade-based policies concerning animal welfare. While the law does cater for these beliefs to be implemented differently among various societies and cultures,[3] the ultimate question is whether the panel provided an adequate and predictable framework of law, such that the public moral exception is not applied in an abusive manner.

The panel determined that the EU seal regime restricted international trade, yet it agreed with the EU that the prohibition was necessary for the protection of 'public morals' under art 2.2 of the WTO's *Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade* ('TBT').[4] As such, the EU ban was legitimated because the law addressed moral concerns about the welfare of seals. In coming to that conclusion, the panel found that the seal regime was 'not more trade restrictive than necessary'.[5]

However, the panel rejected the Canadian and Norwegian proposals for alternatives to the EU regime. These included implementing certification programs rooted in animal welfare standards.

Interestingly, while the panel found that the EU regime was necessary for the protection of public morals under art 2.2 of the TBT, it rejected the EU's public morals defence under art XX (a), which concerns the protection of public morals, of the *General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade* ('GATT').[6] However, the panel based its

[2] Panel Report, *European Communities – Measures Prohibiting the Importation and Marketing of Seal Products*, WT/DS400/R and WT/DS401/R (Nov 25, 2013).

[3] See, eg, Robert Howse and Joanna Langille, 'Permitting Pluralism: The Seal Products Dispute and Why the WTO Should Accept Trade Restrictions Justified by Noninstrumental Moral Values' (2012) 37 *Yale Journal of International Law* 368.

[4] Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, opened for signature 15 April 1994, 1867 UNTS 3 (entered into force 1 January 1995) annex 1A ('Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade') ('TBT Agreement').

[5] Panel Report, above n 2.

[6] Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, opened for signature 15 April 1994, 1867 UNTS 3 (entered into force 1 January 1995) annex 1A ('General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994') ('GATT).

finding under the GATT on their determination that the regime was not applied in an arbitrary or discriminatory manner (the chapeau of GATT XX). The panel also found that the EU failed to demonstrate that the EU seal regime was necessary to protect animal life or health.[7]

Has the panel decision unveiled a moral grounds defence that in the future could be abused for a host of other products to justify protectionist member states upsetting trade flows? While the panel endorsed the EU's seal ban on the basis of public morals, it balanced the EU's public moral policy of protecting seals with the feasibility of less trade-restrictive alternatives (under the TBT Agreement) and a determination of whether it policy was applied in a non-discriminatory manner (under the GATT).

There will be further examination of this decision by the Appellate Body. In late January, Norway and Canada filed an appeal, arguing that their proposals for alternatives to the EU regime would have provided less-trade-restrictive ways of addressing EU concerns over inhumane seal hunting.[8] Shortly afterwards, the EU filed a cross-appeal.[9] A report is likely to be issued in April, one month after the 2014 seal hunt has commenced.

[7] Namely, under art XX (b) of the GATT ('necessary to protect … animal … life or health'). The panel also concluded that the Inuit/indigenous community exception violates the most favoured nation obligation of the GATT because an advantage was granted by the EU to seal products originating in Greenland (specifically, its Inuit population), which was not accorded to Canada's like products: (WT DS400/R: <www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/cases_e/ds400_e.htm>; (WT DS401/R: <www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/cases_e/ds401_e.htm>.

The editor's blog roll of recent commentary on topical international legal issues

By Bronwen Ewens

Lawfare http://www.lawfareblog.com

Published by the not-for-profit Lawfare Institute in conjunction with the Brookings Institution, this blog covers the intersection between US national security and US law. Examples of subjects include cybersecurity, Guantánamo habeas litigation, targeted killing, biosecurity, and universal jurisdiction. Recent commentary has covered the ICJ's decision on provisional measures in the case that Timor-Leste has brought against Australia as well as Russia's international legal justifications for its military incursion into Ukraine. Topical and professional, this blog is highly recommended.

EJIL: *Talk!* http://www.ejiltalk.org

Published by Oxford University Press, this is the blog of the *European Journal of International* Law. It favours articles which look at an 'incident' or a 'decision of a Tribunal' with a view to exploring their wider systemic meaning and retaining their interest and relevance in years to come. Contributions are short and incisive yet well-researched. Recent articles include 'Crimea and the Limits of International Law' by Nico Krisch and 'International Arbitration: Heating Up or Under pressure?' by Christian Tams.

BIMCO's Recognition of the Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration

By Captain Francis Lansakara LLM
Master Mariner, Marine Consultant

Introduction

The Baltic and International Maritime Council ('BIMCO') is a shipping association with headquarters in Denmark which provides a range of services to the global shipping and maritime community, including ship owners, operators, managers, charters, salvers, brokers and agents. The association's main objective is to facilitate the commercial operations of its membership by developing standard contracts and clauses, and providing quality information advice and education. BIMCO promotes fair business practices, free trade and open access to markets, and is a strong advocate for the harmonisation and standardisation of all shipping related activity.

Accredited as a nongovernmental organisation ('NGO') with many UN agencies and other international regulatory entities, it actively promotes the application of internationally agreed regulatory instruments. Its agreement with the Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration ('SCMA') in November 2012 to include SCMA as one of its centres for maritime arbitration makes Singapore the third country to obtain this recognition − the other centres are in London and New York. The dispute resolution clause under SCMA was introduced in November 2012 for use in BIMCO documents agreements and forms.

Arbitration or Mediation – the Choice

Among the many hundreds of standard clauses it has developed under various contractual documents, BIMCO has established a standard dispute resolution clause that provides for arbitration combined with a mediation option. The clause contains three specific choices of jurisdictions for arbitration. These are:

1. Arbitration in London with English law to apply

2. Arbitration in New York with US law to apply

3. Arbitration in Singapore under SCMA rules with English or Singaporean law to apply.

There is also an optional dispute resolution clause which can be used under any other circumstances other than the above. Accordingly, the law and place of arbitration can be mutually agreed.

English Law and its Validity

The BIMCO dispute resolution clause which stipulates arbitration in Singapore states that that the dispute in question shall be governed by Singaporean or English law, as chosen by the parties. In the event that they have not made a selection, English law will automatically be chosen. In deciding whether the parties should select English law or Singaporean law, consideration must be given to how English maritime law is applied in Singapore. Singapore's *Application of English Law Act 1994*[10] ('the Enactment Act') states to what extent English statutory provisions or common law apply. For example, in the case of a marine insurance contract which is governed by English law pursuant to the *Marine Insurance Act 1906*,[11] the statute in its entirety is implemented into Singaporean law via the Enactment Act. Consequently, it makes no difference whether English or Singaporean law is selected. The best advice to parties about selecting Singaporean or English law is to consider their requirements in each case, rather than a specific measure. One also may take into account that Singapore has developed its own maritime case law which is applied in English courts as well.[12]

Singapore's International Arbitration Act

Regardless of which law governs the contract, Chapter 143A of Singapore's *International Arbitration Act 2002*[13] has overriding effect. Therefore, one cannot assume that if English law has been selected that the relevant chapter of this Act is not applicable and that instead the UK's *Arbitration Act 1996*[14] will be applied. The Singaporean Act covers procedural issues with respect to arbitration in Singapore rather than contract law. Lawyers should note that both the Singapore *International Arbitration Act* and the UK *International Arbitration Act* are based on model law principles since both jurisdictions are signatories to the UNCITRAL Model Law.[15] However, where the BIMCO dispute resolution clause with SCMA arbitration is selected by the parties to the arbitration, that procedure can only be governed by Singapore's *International Arbitration Act 2002*.

SCMA Rules - the Overriding Effect

Another exclusive provision under the BIMCO dispute resolution clause is that the arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with SCMA's Arbitration Rules. Unlike the first provision, where we discussed having a choice in selecting English law or Singaporean law, the only SCMA rules are applied in the conduct of

[10] *Enactment of English Law Act 1994* (Singapore) c 7A.
[11] *Marine Insurance Act 1906* (UK) 8 Edw. 7.
[12] *Marina Offshore v China Insurance (The 'Marina Iris') [2006] 4 SLR 689 (Court of Appeal).*

[13] *International Arbitration Act 2002* (Singapore), c 143A.
[14] *Arbitration Act 1996* (UK).
[15] UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration (1985) with amendments as adopted in 2006.

the arbitration. Any deviation will be outside the scope of the BIMCO dispute resolution clause and so the clause will not have its full effect. The exclusions include the rules of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre ('SIAC'), the International Chamber of Commerce ('ICC'), the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre ('HKIAC'), the London Court of International Arbitration ('LCIA') − indeed, any institution except the SCMA.

Apparent Conflict between SCMA Rules and BIMCO Clause

Conflicts between the SCMA rules and the BIMCO dispute resolution clause could arise as, according to the BIMCO clause, if the parties fail to select the law governing the contract, this will automatically be English law. However, under the SCMA rules such a dispute is to be resolved by applying conflict of laws principles. While both methods may be applicable to the parties, they will not necessarily arrive at the same answer. The argument could be made that the parties' choice of the law to govern the contract overrides the SCMA Rules because these do, in fact, contain provisions giving priority to the parties' choice. Specifically, Rule 21 on Applicable Law states:

> '[t]he Tribunal shall apply the law designated by the parties as applicable to the substance of the dispute. Failing such designation by the parties the tribunal shall apply the conflict of law principles to determine which particular law shall govern the contract. Failing such designation by the parties, the Tribunal shall apply the law determined by the conflict of laws rules which it considers applicable.[16]

Conclusion

BIMCO's inclusion of SCMA as one of its centres has been welcomed by the industry. For parties to local shipping communities using BIMCO documents this latest move will reduce their legal costs by a respectable margin. The caution lies in the fact that the clause and its efficiency to the industry are yet to be tested, as well as in the jurisdictional issues. Parties in the maritime industry should consider proper advice from their P&I clubs or counsel before inserting the clause.

[16] Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration, *SCMA Arbitration Rules*, 2013.

Public International Law Moot 2014

By Fiona Lander, Victorian Chapter of the ILA (Australian Branch)

In July 2013 Trina Malone, then President of the Victorian Chapter of the ILA, asked me to be involved with the 2014 Public International Law Moot. I jumped at the chance. Having been a member of Corrs Chambers Westgarth's Grand Final team in 2013 – unluckily, just missing out on taking away the honours on the night, after a valiant fight against Herbert Smith Freehill's excellent mooting team – I was very keen to join the team that had put together such a great mooting competition.

Now, having worked with our terrific Moot committee since September, I am pleased to report that 2014's Moot is shaping up to be just as successful as the inaugural event.

This year sees a change in the Moot's structure: based on feedback from last years' competitors, it has been decided that a semi-final round will be held this year, to enable the four best teams from the preliminaries to battle it out for a grand final spot. The 2014 problem is yet to be released, but will deal broadly with issues concerning self-determination and the use of force.

We are also looking forward to hosting another stellar grand final adjudication panel line-up, with Justice Debbie Mortimer of the Federal Court and the Honourable Catherine Branson confirmed as judges.

Justice Mortimer was appointed to the Federal Court in July 2013, based in Melbourne. Before her appointment, she was a member of the Victorian Bar and was appointed Senior Counsel in 2003. At the bar, Justice Mortimer's practice was principally in public law, anti-discrimination and extradition law. Justice Mortimer has also had a substantial public interest practice, and has received a number of awards in respect of her pro bono work, including the 2011 Law Council of Australia President's Medal, the Victorian Bar's Pro Bono Perpetual Trophy and the Australian Human Rights Commission Law Award.

The Hon Catherine Branson is the immediate past President of the Australian Human Rights Commission ('AHRC'), and is currently an Adjunct Professor at Adelaide Law School. Before working at the AHRC, Ms Branson was a successful barrister and judge. She took silk in 1992 and was appointed to the Federal Court in 1994. Her principal areas of practice included administrative law (including discrimination law) and commercial law. She also is a past President of the Australian Institute for Judicial Administration, a former member of the Board of Management of International Development Law Organisation, a member of the International Association of Judges, a member of the International Association of Refugee Law Judges and convenor of the latter association's Human Rights Nexus Working Party.

Registrations for the Moot have already started flooding in, and we hope to have more teams competing than in the past.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of our principal sponsor, Herbert Smith Freehills, which has generously agreed to partner with us to run the competition again in 2014. We are also grateful for the in-kind support of The University of Melbourne, where the preliminary rounds of the moot will again be hosted this year.

International Law Events and Conferences

By Bronwen Ewens

IXth World Congress of Constitutional Law 2014 - Constitutional Challenges: Global and Local

University of Oslo, 16-20 June 2014.

The Congresses, which are held every fourth year, are the most important events for the members of the International Association of Constitutional Law ('IACL').

The IACL aims to provide a forum in which constitutionalists from all parts of the world can begin to understand each other's systems, explain and reflect on their own, and engage in fruitful comparison.

Registration closes on 1 April 2014.

Law, Justice, and the Security Gap

London School of Economics & Political Science, 21 June 2014

The term 'security gap' refers to the gap between national and international security capabilities, largely based on conventional military forces, and the reality of the everyday experience of insecurity in different parts of the world.

This conference will examine the relationship of law, justice, and in/security at the current juncture by focusing on two broad themes: a) Is the international legal regime adapting to address the 'security gap' and how effectively? b) What is the role of novel legal instruments, such as international justice and transitional justice, in relation to the 'security gap'?

On Twitter?

Stay up to date with international law news by following the Australian Chapter's new International Law Association Twitter Account.

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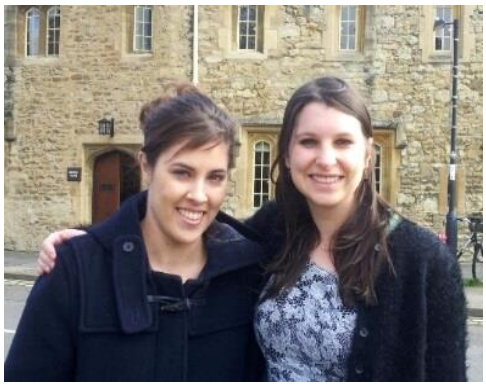
Interview – Katie Allan and Steph Batsakis



Katie Allan and Steph Batsakis

The University of Oxford's Bachelor of Civil Law ('BCL'), as many know, is the most highly regarded taught masters-level qualification in the common law world, reserved only for the very highest-achieving law students. However, it is not restricted to newly-minted JDs or LLBs – practising lawyers can take a year off to challenge their intellects as never before, and there can be advantages to postponing the BCL. Here, two Australians, Katie Allan and Stephanie Batsakis, discuss the advantages and disadvantages of reading for the BCL as a career break and as a new graduate with News Bulletin editor Bronwen Ewens.

Katie Allan holds an LLB and a BA in International Relations from Bond University. She was also a Hansard Scholar at the London School of Economics. Most recently, she has worked at Ashurst Australia, specialising in native title, mining and petroleum law.

Katie Allan: 'The name of the Bachelor of Civil Law gives the game away. It is not a Bachelor's degree. It's not civil. It's not Civil Law. And sometimes, it's not even law: it's history, politics, philosophy, sociology and economics. In other words, the BCL and Oxford, whilst steeped in history and tradition, are much more than what they seem – the skills and content we learn are at the cutting edge of legal practice and the ideas shared push at the boundaries of our theoretical understandings of the law. The result is an experience that all students of the law – from law students to established practitioners – can throw themselves into.

'People come to BCL along different roads. Amongst the Australian students this year, many have spent years in legal practice whilst others have come straight from university. As Steph sets out, there will be advantages and disadvantages to timing this adventure; some relate to time spent in practice or being a student, others are simply more personal.

'My road to the BCL was quite different to Steph's. Before coming to Oxford, I had worked as a judge's associate for a year and had practised as an Energy and Resources lawyer, working mainly in native title and cultural heritage. The decision to take a leave of absence and come to Oxford for a year, particularly when you are at the beginning of your career, is certainly is not an easy one. It is not really a disadvantage, but it does change the nature of the decision to do further study. After graduating, having a 'full-time life' becomes a much broader concept.

'To leave for a year is not just leaving behind family and friends, but professional relationships, perhaps career opportunities,

possibly some financial security, and you are in some way relinquishing that certainty which comes with (finally) having done the same thing, in the same city, for at least a few years. It may be that some years are more 'right', considering all these factors. With the benefit of hindsight, if you are in practice, remaining flexible about timing is important. Once you make the decision that you would like to do further study, it may be that it is a year (or two or three!) before this comes to fruition.

'Having decided this was the right time, I was then faced with thinking like a student again! As Steph outlines, there are probably distinct advantages to coming to the BCL straight after a law degree. I agree this was a challenge, although sometimes stressful late nights and deadlines are certainly experiences from practice which will hold you in good stead (to the final year law students reading this – yes, nothing changes!). Whilst writing essays, trawling through readings in-depth (as opposed to the quick skim to find the answer you're looking for) and memorising are skills that need to be found again, the biggest challenge for me has been reawakening my ability to focus on what the law should be, rather than what it is. In the BCL, knowledge is taken as a given – what you need to succeed are informed opinions about what you think of this knowledge. In many respects, practice demands you put opinions and values, however well informed or articulated they may be, aside.

'However, it is difficult to see this challenge as a disadvantage. A significant motivation for me in deciding to come to Oxford was to take a year out to explore broader ideas and values in the law. This reveals a key advantage of doing the BCL, or any Master's study, after a few years in practice. You have seen the way law works, and does not work, and how in practice it affects business, communities and individuals. For me, this meant coming to the BCL with a clear focus of what ideas I wanted to explore. Whilst I never felt pressure to study matters related to my work (and in any case, the intricacies of the *Native Title Act* have not yet arrived in Oxford!), I certainly knew I wanted to study the interplay between international standards and domestic law and between human rights and property rights. As there are over 30 courses to choose from, you can easily tailor your experience to questions which may have been sparked by practice. Having said that, people coming from practice have also decided to use the BCL to either completely change direction, or explore new ideas with the kind of intellectual freedom Steph mentions.

Steph Batsakis obtained a JD from The University of Melbourne in 2013, and also holds a BA from Melbourne. She hopes to practise in commercial litigation, human rights law and public law.

Steph Batsakis: 'I am currently half-way through reading for the BCL and 2014 marks my seventh year of university in a row. My experience has so far shown that there are both advantages and disadvantages to reading for the BCL immediately after my qualifying law degree.

'To begin with, I have noticed many advantages to studying the BCL straight from the JD. First of all, unlike Katie's

experience, I am still in the 'mode of studying' and am very much used to the exercise of reading cases, writing essays and remembering information for exams. I have actually found that the immense workload of the BCL has caused me to work even more efficiently than I did in the JD so I can make a dent in the reading list! I am also used to the solitary nature of studying, which can be contrasted to the experience of working in an office or other team environment. Another advantage is the freshness of my substantive knowledge: the subjects I have chosen are mostly extensions upon subjects I studied in the JD, and I have found it extremely useful to have the basics of commercial remedies or questions of jurisdiction at the International Court of Justice still in my mind. A further advantage is that, having not yet commenced employment, I have had no pressure to study what my employers would like me to study, and so I have been able to treat the BCL as a purely intellectual endeavour. Although, as Katie says, this may depend on your employer. This freedom to develop both my academic capacity and confidence under the rigour of this degree will surely assist me to become a better lawyer by the time I start practice.

'There are also some notable disadvantages to reading for the BCL without having practised first. The biggest is probably that it is tiring to study seven years at university in a row! It's hard to see your friends graduate while you have the most difficult year still to come. Also, I've heard that a commonly perceived disadvantage is that, without yet having chosen my specialisation as a lawyer, I can't use this Master's degree to further that specialisation. Actually, I believe the opposite: the BCL has been a way for me to flesh out what I'm truly interested in.

'A very real disadvantage, however, relates to Katie's point about her ability to handle the stress and pressure of the BCL having come from a high-pressure solicitor job. The BCL has been a step up in intensity from the JD and so I've sometimes struggled to deal with the pressure. Practising as a solicitor also trains you at distilling information to the important points, communicating in a direct and succinct manner and understanding how the law works in practice. All these skills are invaluable in the BCL and, having not yet practised, I haven't had the chance to develop them to the same extent. That means I've felt a little out of my depth when I'm in tutorials with practising lawyers. At the same time, the BCL and practice are mutually reinforcing in the sense that I'll now develop these skills in the BCL and be able to use them in practice.

'Half-way through the BCL is a good time for reflection. It has been challenging, both in terms of the work demanded and the intellectual creativity required, and I'm really glad I decided to undertake the BCL following the JD.

Katie sums up for both Australians

'Of course, the Oxford experience is much more than the BCL. And the BCL experience is much more than the courses you do. A year to think big thoughts, develop friendships with people from all over the world, row on the Isis, attend speeches by world leaders and be surrounded by 900 years of history, is something both graduates and practitioners can throw themselves into.'

Calls for Papers

The research project '**Architecture of Postnational Rulemaking**' is being carried out by the Amsterdam Center for European Law and Governance, the Amsterdam Center for International Law and the Center for the Study of European Contract Law – all part of the University of Amsterdam. The project has issued a call for papers for a workshop on "**Transnational Standards in the Domestic Legal Order: Authority and Legitimacy**", to be held on 24 October 2014. The deadline for the submission of proposal (500 words maximum) is **18 May 2014**. The sponsoring organisations will cover the speakers' travelling and accommodation expenses.

The research project explores those processes of rulemaking that take place 'below the radar' of traditional legal doctrine from the point of view of three different legal disciplines, **public international law, European public law and European private law.**

The Legitimate Role(s) of Human Rights Courts in Environmental Disputes: The Center of Excellence PluriCourts at the **University of Oslo**, Faculty of Law, is organising an international symposium on **the legitimate role(s) of Human Rights courts and tribunal in adjudicating environmental disputes** in Oslo, **8 and 9 September 2014**. The list of experts invited to speak at the symposium includes Dan Magraw, President Emeritus, Center for International Environmental Law, John Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies; Judge Margarette May Macaulay, Inter-American Court of Human Rights; and Judge Hellen Keller, European Court of Human Rights.

The deadline for the submission of abstracts for papers is **1 May**. Please see: www.internationallawobserver.eu/2014/03/02/call-for-papers-the-legitimate-roles-of-human-rights-courts-in-environmental-disputes/

Want to contribute?

To contribute articles, opinion pieces, interesting cases or events and opportunities please contact the editor, Bronwen Ewens, at bcewens@gmail.com