



CONSTITUTION SEMINARS

CONSTITUTIONALISM AND RULE OF LAW IN DIVIDED SOCIETIES

THE HAGUE, FRIDAY 12 JULY 2013

IDEA – TILBURG LAW SCHOOL

From Fiji to South Sudan, from Tunisia to Nepal, we are experiencing a heightened wave of constitution making activity around the world, mostly in countries divided by different visions for the country. Almost universally, these new constitutions are accompanied by calls for the rule of law.

The first International IDEA – Tilburg Law School Constitutions Seminar Series, brings together scholars and practitioners to stimulate discussion around the role constitutions and rule of law can play in uniting, or dividing, societies.

12.15pm: Welcome and Light Lunch

1pm: Opening: Sumit Bisarya, Senior Project Manager, Constitution Building Processes, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

1.15pm The impact of constitution-building processes in uniting (or dividing) divided societies, and how do politics and culture strengthen the rule of law and constitutional endurance?

Professor Tom Ginsburg. Leo Spitz Professor of International Law, Ludwig and Hilde Wolf Research Scholar and Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago. Co-founder and Co-Director, Comparative Constitutions Project

1.45pm Constitutionalism and the Rule of law in small and established democracies: Belgium and The Netherlands

Professor Maurice Adams, Vfund Professor of Democratic Governance and Rule of Law. Professor of General Jurisprudence, Tilburg Law School.

2.15pm The importance of local ownership in legal reform processes, and the role of the international community in assuring local ownership.

William T. Loris, former Director General of the International Development Law Organization, current Program Director of the Loyola University Chicago LL.M Program on Rule of Law for Development

2.45pm Closing remarks: Ernst M.H. Hirsch Ballin, former Minister of Justice of the Netherlands, Professor of Dutch and European Constitutional Law, Tilburg University, and also Professor of Human Rights Law, University of Amsterdam

Moderator: Dr. Roelof Haveman, Policy Advisor for Rule of Law, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

3pm Discussion

4pm Informal Reception

Location: International IDEA Hague Office. Passage, 31. Third floor.

Space is limited so only confirmed guests will be assured a seat.

To confirm your attendance please RSVP to: i.rybarczyk@idea.int