

ANU Centre for European Studies &
Centre for International and Public Law

New Constitutional Review in France: How Does the French Constitution Finally Speak to its People – or Does It?

Speaker: Dr Marie-Luce Paris-Dobozy
Chair: Dr Matthew Zagor

Friday 1 April 2011, 1:00pm – 2:00pm

A major constitutional reform took place in France in July 2008 aimed at modernizing the institutions of the Fifth Republic. One of the main goals of the reform is 'to confer a new right to the citizen' even before purging the constitutional order of unconstitutional statutes. But it has also the ambitious, somehow ambiguous goal, of reintroducing the prevalence of the constitutional norm by making it a legal basis for claim in court. The Constitution, and the rights and freedoms it refers to, are now part of the French litigation landscape. This has caused several problems at both the adoption and implementation stages, especially when it comes to the operation of other established principles and mechanisms at the domestic and European levels. This seminar will look at the new constitutional review in the complex context of French and European law. An assessment of the new procedure will also be made through a comparison with the Australian constitutional context.

Dr. Marie-Luce Paris received her legal education at University Paris II Panthéon-Assas and joined University College Dublin School of Law in 2000 to teach in, and later direct, the French law programmes of the School. She is currently the School Director of International Relations. Her research areas are in European and comparative constitutional law with a focus on the reception of European norms into the national legal order. She has published in *The Yearbook of European Law*, *The European Journal of Legal Education* and *The German Law Journal*, is a regular speaker at international conferences, and was the national rapporteur for the International Congress on Comparative Law (Washington, 2010). Marie-Luce is currently a visiting fellow at the ANU Centre for European Studies.



Venue: ANU Centre for European Studies, [1 Liversidge Street \(Bldg 67C\)](#), Canberra

RSVP: europe@anu.edu.au by 12:00pm Wednesday 30 March 2011

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