

## PARLIAMENTS AND BILLS OF RIGHTS:

### How can parliaments adapt their forms and practices to the new era of Bills of Rights?

Conference sponsored by Parliamentary Studies Centre (PSC) and the Centre for  
International and Public Law (CIPL), ANU

Main Committee Room  
Parliament House, Canberra  
Friday 24 April, 2009

**Aim:** To look beyond the arguments over the pros and cons of Bills of Rights and to report on ways that Parliaments can learn to live with Bills/Charters of Rights by reforming their own institutional rules and procedures to strengthen their legislative roles and responsibilities.

**9am: Welcome**

Prof John Uhr (PSC) and Prof Donald R. Rothwell (CIPL)

**9.15am Session One**

**Overview: Types of Bills and Charters of Rights, and Impacts on Parliaments**

Prof George Williams, Law, UNSW

Prof Brian Galligan, Politics, University of Melbourne

**10.00am–11.00am Session Two**

**International Experience: Canada; United Kingdom; New Zealand; and Europe**

Canada: Prof James Allan, Law, University of Queensland

NZ: Prof Richard Mulgan, Crawford School of Economics and Government, ANU

Europe: Prof Simon Bronitt, National Europe Centre, ANU

**11.00am–11.15am Coffee Break**

**11.15am–12.30pm Session Three**

**Australian Experience: ACT; Victoria; and Commonwealth?**

Prof Hilary Charlesworth, Law, ANU, on the ACT

Prof Brian Costar, Politics, Swinburne University, on Victoria

Sen Hon. George Brandis SC, Shadow Attorney-General, on the Commonwealth

**12.30pm: Close**

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The views expressed in this seminar are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian National University.