



CIPL 2015 seminar series – *Tuesday Talks*

Does law constrain the external exercise of public power?

The Centre for International and Public Law – in partnership with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Attorney-General's Department – is delighted to be running the 2015 seminar series – *Tuesday Talks*.

Covering a range of contemporary and topical public and international law issues, the 2015 seminar series will feature speakers from the public sector and academia, to provide a forum to share expertise in public and international law with the Canberra legal community.

Tuesday 18 August 2015 12.15 – 1.15 pm

Professor Campbell McLachlan QC Victoria University of Wellington

Attorney-General's Department 4 National Circuit, Barton



How, if at all, does the law in Anglo-Commonwealth legal systems effectively constrain the external exercise of public power? Drawing upon ground-breaking research for his new book *Foreign Relations Law* (Cambridge UP, 2014), McLachlan argues that foreign relations can no longer be seen as a zone of non-law, where the executive has a free hand. Rather he shows how both Parliament and the courts have traced new principles that allocate jurisdiction and determine applicable law in cases that concern the public power of states.

In this seminar, he will discuss in particular how Australian courts have made a distinctive contribution to this field. By taking a fresh and sometimes critical look at inherited doctrines, they have begun working out the implications of the distribution of powers within the Constitution for the exercise of the foreign relations power. In the process, they have been increasingly willing to subject exercises of Australian executive power abroad to legal regulation. McLachlan will show that the Australian approach has begun to have a real impact on judicial thought in this controversial area in other states.

Campbell McLachlan is Professor of Law at Victoria University of Wellington. He is a New Zealand Law Foundation International Research Fellow and sometime Visiting Fellow at All Souls College Oxford and at New York University Law School. He has been President of the Australian and New Zealand Society of International Law and taught at The Hague Academy of International Law. He is an associate member of Essex Court Chambers (London) and Bankside Chambers (Auckland & Singapore).

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

Presented by

Centre for International
& Public Law

ANU College of
Law

RSVP online by COB Friday 14 August at:

[law.anu.edu.au/events/anu-college-law/
cipl-2015-seminar-series-tuesday-talks-3](http://law.anu.edu.au/events/anu-college-law/cipl-2015-seminar-series-tuesday-talks-3)

T 02 6125 1096

The CIPL 2015 seminar series is a free event and open to the public

