



A conference hosted by the Constitutions, Riobots and
Technology Group
Constitutional Law Association

Outline



	Paper 7: 'Compliance with International Law: Stuck in Unilateral Sanctions or Developing UK Approach?' by Dr Nkem Adeleye, Senior Lecturer in Law, University of Worcester.
12:30	Paper 8: 'Brexit, Sovereignty and the Rule of Law' by Dr Daniel O'Brien, University of Exeter.
	Paper 9: 'The International Law of the Senedd' by Dr Stuart Wallace, University of Leeds.
13:30	Paper 4 (JL1005) chaired by Felicity Miles, Lecturer in Law, University of Worcester.
14:30	Paper 10: 'International Law and the Rule of Law' by Dr Daniel O'Brien, University of Exeter. Paper 11: 'International Law and the Senedd' by Sara Moran, Senedd Cymru / Welsh Parliament. Question of Competence' by Dr Erin Ferguson, University of Aberdeen.
	Panel 5 (JL1005) chaired by Danielle Hector-Jones, Lecturer in Law, University of Worcester.
	4: 'Is the ECJ a Barrier to Parliamentary Sovereignty or Protection of Our Rights?' by Mrs Kelly Bowes, University of Worcester.
15:30	5: 'The Law of Treaty Withdrawal and its application in the United Kingdom: In Search of a Synthesis' by Dr Frederick Cowell, Birkbeck College, University of London.
16:50	Closing Remarks (JL1005) Dr Michael Lane, Lecturer in Law, University of Worcester
17:00	Conference End

Papers

1. *The Distinction of Dualism: A Critical Analysis of the UK Constitutional Order* by Nicholson, Durham Law School.

principle, but in fact creates two separate effective zones within. First, we contend that dualism provides

around the direct effects – one in such effects (whether by treaty obligation or failing to account for) significant grey spaces between the various divisions internal/internal/justiciable/non-justiciable; effective/non-effective – which it and we argue that dualism emphasises. A dual law system seeks to preserve both distinction between

account for the significant body of hybrid norms in the UK constitution – that is,

are better understood as co-governed domestic and international legal orders. Third, so far as the dualist principle does not – for the reason that post-incorporation legitimacy challenges persist – guarantee the constitutional stability that its

from the reception of international norms into the domestic legal order. At best, the enforcement mechanism will occasion destabilisation of the relationship between the UK's domestic and international legal orders. At worst, it

2. *UK Constitutional Dualism: A Critical Analysis* by Dr Lewis Graham, University of Cambridge.

local enforceability. So much is true; however, this does not mean that international law has no effect at the domestic level whatsoever, although the

adopted a position which is on the whole resistant to the influence of

only under quite rare circumstances. Thin links together with a more general

current UKSC judges appear to endorse a more rigid and conservative conception of duilem compared to their predecessors.

² ‘Common law jurisdictional hooks to assess compliance with unincorporated associations’ by Mr Gabriel Tan and Mr Daniel Wong, *Journal of Oxford Domestic Law*.

seen as reasserting an uncompromising defence of dualism. The Supreme Court

Government has breached an unincorporated international treaty, when so finding, it was stated that the principle that an unincorporated treaty does not "form part of the law of the land" is a "basic principle of our constitutional law". Yet, in two high profile decisions following SC – Friends of the Earth v SSIT [2022] EWCA Civ 14 and EOG v SSHD [2022] EWCA Civ 207, the Court of Appeal have held that it considered that this public law principle of common law to

unincorporated international treaties is permissible ("common law jurisdictional back"). In EGC it was specifically considered that such an analysis is not precluded by SC. This paper critically assesses the use of common law jurisdictional back for unincorporated international treaties. It argues that the 'internationalist' line in the EGC is misplaced because it is incompatible with First, an international treaty does not have to be ratified by legislation. It is not incorporated into the law by legislation. Second, the executive has no power to alter domestic law. It argues that both these propositions are breached by the that such an approach is incompatible with the principles of dualism.

4. 'Distinguishing Permissible from Impermissible Legal Use of Unratified Treaties: Beyond Dualism' by Dr Joanna Bell, University of Oxford.

existing conflicts arising from an interpretation of a provision or what unincorporated treaty provisions in local reasoning. When faced with this question, judges commonly reach for a common set of ideas. The UK legal

convergence with the US) that results in lower compliance? Or the development of a British approach rooted perhaps in the view that compliance is important but independent? Different forms of unilateralism affect the UN's compliance; dubious? To evaluate these questions, this paper will use several unilateral sanctions regimes as case studies, including thematic and geographic regimes to

test whether unilaterality can be justified.

8. *Unilateralism and the Right to Protect: intervention by any means* Prof. Christian Henderson, University of Sussex

NATO's intervention in Kosovo in 1999. The notion of it being lawful and legitimate in certain circumstances has found its way into debates in various discourses and the most relevant aspects have this might be reconciled with the current position of international law, its future impact upon international law,

exception of the United Kingdom which has claimed its existence both in the context of the doctrine of Responsibility to Protect and other measures. This paper explores the UK's relationship with the doctrine of humanitarian intervention, including the recent intervention in Libya, and considers the prospects for a new development of UK government policy, its legal strategy and how it might claim that such a right exists *lex lata* given its seemingly isolated position.

9. *of Leeds*

International protection of the ECDL by the European Union. Right to Protect: certain rights, responsibilities and obligations of states vis-à-vis their own populations. The report makes a strict critique of existing European Union law and its declaration of incompatibility with the ECDL. It also makes recommendations for a new EU Directive on the Right to Protect.

the Joint Committee on Privacy and Data Protection, which has been established to consider the implications of the proposed legislation on the rights of individuals.

looks at how violations are remedied after a declaration of incompatibility has

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torture, rape, enslavement, and terror? An ordinary reading of Section 124(d) of the Torture Ban Act 103-236 and Section 507(A) leaves no room for interpretation. The 3 of the Serious Crimes in 103-236 make it clear that the United States will not accept any excuse for those Acts would be inadequate, this paper advances an argument which cuts the place of international law in the United

Having advanced its argument the paper suggests reasons for confusion in those interactions between the judiciary and the OJD in practice.

13. *The ECHPR's position against Brexit: does it limit UK sovereignty? What is at stake in the EU referendum similar concerning the ECHPR's position against Brexit?*

It was long considered that the UK's membership of the European Union (EU) limited UK domestic Sovereignty and that Brexit signifies a return to

EU referendum similar concept.

and result no need for the ECHPR. Although this article

was co-written with Labour friend Professor David Zaret, who is still in government, there is still potential for an exit from the Council of Europe in the UK's future because of these sovereignty concerns. Thus, this paper

examines the implications of the UK leaving the EU on the ECHPR. It also considers whether the UK's commitment to the ECHPR remains as strong as that of the EU. The focus for critical discussion will be on limitations presented by the enacting UK legislation (the

Court of Human Rights). The paper will conclude by exploring whether there are any changes that could be made to the HRA in order to reduce any interferences with Sovereignty and, ultimately, whether these changes are needed when putting this into the context of protecting human rights.

clear: '[...] just as we will promote the rule of law domestically, so we will seek to assert international law and the role of law in the international system. We will support the Foreign Secretary in all his efforts.'

of international law and their role of law for the prosperity and security of all. This is not to say that there is no tension between the two. There is. The relationship between domestic and international law. But to what extent does the United Kingdom's position in its negotiations with Brexit and the rule of law? The *Chagos Islands* legal dispute is a case-in-point. The United Kingdom government has chosen to ignore the International Court of Justice's Advisory Opinion and the subsequent UN General Assembly resolution.

Indeed, with the United Kingdom's Ambassadors to the United Nations, criticised the fact that the International Court of Justice gave an advisory opinion on 'advisory opinions may indeed from time to time concern rights in international law but that does not change the fact that they are not legally binding.'

Court of

Constitutional law in the United Kingdom has traditionally been a hybrid of common law and of colonialism. This the United Kingdom ignored and could be seen as thumbing its nose at the international community.

Other important examples include the *Brexit Bill* and the original United Kingdom Internal Markets Bill. During a parliamentary debate on the United Kingdom Internal Markets Bill, it was argued that 'the Bill, if enacted [the Bill], would establish a new set of rules for the market, separate from those of the European Union and its institutions.'

15. 'The Law of Treaties Withdrewal and its application in the United Kingdom: In Search of a Synthesis' by Dr Frederick Cowell, Birkbeck College, University of London

Constitutional law in the United Kingdom has traditionally placed processes relating to international treaties in the hands of the executive. Whilst there has been considerable political pressure and reform of the process surrounding the treaties, until *R(Miller) v The Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union* the approach to the process did not withdraw from the executive as much attention. This paper analyses the approach in UK constitutional law to treaty withdrawal and assesses how this interacts with the law of treaty.

from other jurisdictional international instruments such as the convention on the Responsibility
process, it is shown how treaty withdrawal is not the inverse of treaty ratification
and should not be treated as such in domestic law. The final section of this paper
assesses how the decision to denounce a treaty on the international plane is
~~and in the example of the House of Commons and the interpretation~~

f treaty withdrawal, exploring the
implications of possible withdrawal from the European Convention on Human

~~the different components of rights which could be of relevance in future withdrawals.
Treaty withdrawal is a concept that has been developed in international law, and is described in the analysis of the convention on the Responsibility of States for
withdrawal in the UK constitutional context.~~