

Round Table: Freedom of Religion or Belief – Emerging Trends, Challenges and Agendas for Change

Prof W Cole Durham, Jr – United States

Cole Durham is Susa Young Gates University Professor of Law and Founding Director of the International Center for Law and Religion Studies (ICLRS), Brigham Young University. He is current President of the International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies (ICLARS), based in Milan, Italy. He is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, where he was a Note Editor of the *Harvard Law Review* and Managing Editor of the *Harvard International Law Journal*. He has been heavily involved in comparative law scholarship, with a special emphasis on comparative constitutional law. He served as the Secretary of the American Society of Comparative Law from 1989 to 1994. He is an Associate Member of the International Academy of Comparative Law in Paris and was from 1997 to 2013 a member of the Advisory Council on Freedom of Religion or Belief of the OSCE's Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. He served as a General Rapporteur for the topic "Religion and the Secular State" at the 18th International Congress of Comparative Law held in July 2010. He served in earlier years as Chair both of the Comparative Law Section and the Law and Religion Section of the American Association of Law Schools. He is a Co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Oxford Journal of Law and Religion*. Among major publications is the Brill *Encyclopedia of Law and Religion*, edited with Gerhard Robbers and Donlu Thayer (2016).



Prof Sir Malcolm D Evans KCMG OBE – United Kingdom

Malcolm D Evans, KCMG OBE, is Professor of Public International Law at the University of Bristol. He is a member and Chair of the UN Subcommittee for the Prevention of Torture (the SPT) and currently is Vice Chair of the Meeting of Chairs of UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies. He is also a member of the Foreign Secretary's Human Rights Advisory Group. From 2002–2012 he was a member of the OSCE ODIHR Advisory Council on the Freedom of Religion or Belief. He is currently General Editor of the *International and Comparative Law Quarterly* and Co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Oxford Journal of Law and Religion*. Major published works include: *Religious Liberty and International Law in Europe* (CUP 1997), *Preventing Torture* (OUP 1998), *Protecting Prisoners* (ed) (OUP 1999), *Combating Torture in Europe* (Council of Europe 2002), *Manual on the Wearing of Religious Symbols in Public Areas* (Council of Europe/Brill 2009), and *The Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture* (OUP 2011). He is also editor of *International Law* (OUP 3rd ed 2010) and *Blackstone's International Law Documents* (OUP 11th ed 2013). He was awarded a knighthood in the Queen's New Year Honours list December 31, 2015, recognised for 'exceptional and unparalleled contribution to the global fight against torture and other inhuman treatment and punishment and a consistently strong contribution to the promotion of religious liberty'.



Prof Robert P George – United States

Robert P George was from 2012-2016 Commissioner (and twice Chair) of the United States Commission for International Religious Freedom. He is McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence at Princeton University, where he lectures on constitutional interpretation, civil liberties and philosophy of law and serves as director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions. He is the Herbert W. Vaughan senior fellow of the Witherspoon Institute, a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution, and a Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School. A graduate of Swarthmore College, Harvard Divinity School, and Harvard Law School, he was a Judicial Fellow of the US Supreme Court and member of the President's Council on Bioethics and of the UNESCO's World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology. Among his many publications is *Making Men Moral: Civil Liberties and Public Morality* (OUP 1993), completed as a Visiting Fellow in Law at Oxford University, where he received a doctorate in Philosophy. Among many honors are the Becket Fund's Canterbury Medal, the Honorary Medal for the Defense of Human Rights of the Republic of Poland, the US Presidential Citizens Medal, the Sidney Hook Memorial Award of the National Association of Scholars, the Philip Merrill Award of the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, the Bradley Prize for Intellectual and Civic Achievement, and the Stanley Kelley, Jr. Teaching Award from Princeton's Department of Politics.



Prof Mark Hill QC – United Kingdom

Prof Mark Hill QC is a barrister specialising in ecclesiastical law and religious liberty. He has represented clients in the UK Supreme Court and the European Court of Human Rights. He is a recorder on the Midland Circuit (sitting in criminal, civil and family cases) and Deputy Judge of Upper Tribunal, Immigration and Asylum Chamber. He sits as judge in ecclesiastical courts of the Church of England and is Visiting Professor at Cardiff University's Centre for Law and Religion (United Kingdom), at University of Pretoria in South Africa, and at the Dickson Poon School of Law at King's College, London. Publications include *Magna Carta, Religion and the Rule of Law, Religion and Law in the United Kingdom, Religion and Discrimination Law in the European Union, Ecclesiastical Law, Religious Liberty and Human Rights, and English Canon Law*. He is a Consultant Editor of the *Ecclesiastical Law Journal* and a member of the Editorial Boards of the *Oxford Journal of Law and Religion* and the *Revista General de Derecho Canónico y Derecho Eclesiástico del Estado*. He is Ecumenical Fellow in Canon Law at the Venerable English College in Rome, and a former President of the European Consortium for Church and State Research. He is an accredited mediator, current co-chair, and a founder of BIMA, a charity which promotes faith-based mediation.



Elder Dallin H Oaks – United States

Elder Dallin H Oaks is a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Prior to his calling in 1984 he served as a member of the Utah State Supreme Court (1980-1984) and was Chairman of the Board of Directors of the US Public Broadcasting Service (1979-1984). He was 8th president of Brigham Young University (1971-1980). He holds a Juris Doctor's degree from the University of Chicago Law School, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Law Review*. He clerked for Chief Justice Earl Warren of the US Supreme Court and practiced law with Kirkland & Ellis in Chicago. From 1961 to 1971 he was professor at the University of Chicago Law School, serving as both associate dean and acting dean and as chairman of the University's Disciplinary Committee. He focused scholarly research on the writ of habeas corpus and the exclusionary rule and also taught and wrote in the fields of trust and estate law and gift taxation law. During his time in Chicago he also served as assistant state's attorney for Cook County, Illinois, as visiting professor at the University of Michigan Law School, as legal counsel to the Bill of Rights Committee of the Illinois Constitutional Convention, and as executive director of the American Bar Foundation. Elder Oaks is author of 11 books and over 100 other publications on legal and religious subjects. Among many honors are "Judge of the Year" (Utah State Bar 1984) and the Canterbury Medal (Becket Fund for Religious Liberty 2013).



Dr Peter Petkoff – United Kingdom

Peter Petkoff is a law lecturer at the Brunel Law School and is Director of the Religion, Law and International Relations Programme, a collaborative international research network at Regent's Park College, Oxford, in which capacity he brings together lawyers, theologians, philosophers, and social and political scientists, to develop innovative interdisciplinary strategies for studying law, religion and international relations from legal and theological perspectives. He is Legal Consultant on Media Freedom and Freedom of Expression for the Representative on Freedom of the Media at the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, a TEPSA consultant of the European Parliament, as well as a consultant for the All Party Parliamentary Group on International Freedom of Religion or Belief at the House of Lords. He is Managing Editor of the *Oxford Journal of Law and Religion*. He is writing a book for Oxford University Press on Holy Sites under International Law and was editor with Malcolm Evans and Julian Rivers of *The Changing Nature of Religious Rights under International Law* (OUP 2015). His work engages with academics, lawyers, religious leaders and communities, think tanks, and policy makers working in the field of religion and public life.

