

International Conference

The Future of Federalism

Stamford Plaza, Brisbane

10 - 12 July 2008



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

TC Beirne School of Law



Law Council
OF AUSTRALIA

Endorsed by



Queensland
Law Society

AACL

Australian Association of Constitutional Law



Registration Brochure

www.fedcon2008.net

Invitation

Dear Delegate

We invite you to register your attendance at the international conference *The Future of Federalism* to be held in Brisbane from 10 - 12 July 2008.

The conference is jointly presented and managed by the Centre for Public, International and Comparative Law a research division of the TC Beirne School of Law at The University of Queensland and the European Focus Group a part of the International Law Section at the Law Council of Australia.

The Organising Committee has assembled a distinguished panel of national and international federalism experts who will discuss the major challenges and opportunities for federal systems from both an Australian and international perspective including the distribution of powers and fiscal arrangements.

CPD points are available to conference attendees. Please contact your state body for further information.

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Brisbane.

Yours sincerely,

The Future of Federalism
Conference Committee

“ This conference is an invaluable opportunity to study the phenomenon of federalism, its advantages and difficulties, its laws and practices. Papers by distinguished scholars ensure a stimulating encounter with problems confronting many of today’s federations. ”

**The Hon Sir Gerard Brennan
Conference Patron**

About the Conference



Overview

Australian federalism has been under strain in recent years and there are calls for an evaluation of the state of the federation focusing on the distribution of powers and fiscal arrangements. There are similar issues elsewhere where federalism defines constitutional arrangements.

Yet, federalism offers prospects for constitutional settlements in countries and regions threatened with ethnic and other divisions and at the global level we observe federating processes at work in the emergence of regional confederal systems and international legal regimes on trade and commerce and human rights.

The Organising Committee has assembled a distinguished panel of national and international federalism experts who will discuss a wide range of topics, including a comparative evaluation of the state of federalism, papers focusing on the distribution of powers and fiscal arrangements in Australia, and critical discussion of the Rudd government's vision for the future of Australian federalism.

The conference will feature contributions from Australian, German, European Community, US, South African and Canadian perspectives.

Who should attend

Those with an interest in political, legal and economic affairs of federal systems including academics, government, legal practitioners, judiciary, corporations and media.

Destination and Venue

Brisbane is the capital city of Queensland and the fastest growing city in Australia. Its subtropical climate and the compact nature of its central business district makes it extremely easy to get around. Just an hour drive from Brisbane lie Queensland's pristine beaches and tourist attractions.

The conference will be held at the Stamford Plaza which is situated in the heart of the city and is one of the City's most prestigious and recognisable landmarks, comprising of 252 luxuriously appointed five star guestrooms, nestled between the banks of the Brisbane River and the Botanical Gardens.

About the organisers



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

TC Beirne School of Law

The Centre for Public, International and Comparative Law (CIPCL) is a research division of the TC Beirne School of Law at The University of Queensland. The TC Beirne School of Law is a long-established and leading Australian law school which prides itself on its internationally recognized research and high quality undergraduate and postgraduate legal education. CIPCL is dedicated to advanced research in public, comparative and international law.



The European Focus Group is part of the International Law Section of the Law Council of Australia (LCA). The LCA is the peak national body representing the legal profession and is comprised of 16 Australian State and Territory law societies and bar associations as well as the Large Law Firm Group (LLFG) as constituent bodies. Through this representation the LCA effectively acts on behalf of around 55,000 lawyers across the region.

Program

NOTE: Subject to change



Thursday 10 July 2008

Cocktail reception

Mr Ross Ray QC
President, Law Council of Australia

Welcome messages (*)

Friday 11 July 2008

Session I Opening Session

The Hon Chief Justice Paul de Jersey AC QC
Chief Justice of Queensland

The Hon Sir Gerard Brennan AC KBE
Former Chief Justice of Australia; President of
the Australian Association of Constitutional Law

Opening addresses (*)

Session II Comparative federalism – global trends

Professor Dr Thomas Fleiner
Director of the Institute of Federalism,
University of Fribourg, Switzerland

Professor Dr Fritz Scharpf
Emeritus Director, Max Planck Institute for the
Studies of Societies, Cologne, Germany

Professor Dr Cheryl Saunders AO
Director,
Centre for Comparative Constitutional Studies,
Law School, University of Melbourne, Australia

Dynamics of Federalism:
a comparative analyses of recent developments
of federations and of the countries in transition to
federalism

The Challenges of Federalism Reform in
Germany:
Community, Diversity and Autonomy in a
Multilevel Constitution

Intergovernmental co-operation in comparative
perspective

Friday 11 July 2008 cont...

Session III Comparative federalism – specific experiences

Professor Christina Murray
Department of Public Law,
University of Cape Town, South Africa

Has multilevel government been an obstacle to transformation in South Africa?

Professor Ernest Young
School of Law, University of Texas,
Austin, Texas, United States of America

American Federalism:
Are There Any 'Lessons' for Australia?

Professor Dr Thomas Hueglin
Department of Political Science, Wilfrid Laurier
University, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Constitutional Flexibility and Executive
Accommodation: Specifically Canadian, or a
Governance Model for the 21st Century?

Session IV Supranational federalism – stretching the boundaries

Associate Professor Dr Jürgen Bröhmer
School of Law, University of New England,
Armidale, Australia

An EU perspective (*)

Mr Andrew Hudson
Partner, Hunt & Hunt, Melbourne, Australia

The WTO: "Independent or co-dependent:
Has Australia abandoned its rights to an
independent trade policy?"

Associate Professor Dr Nicholas Aroney
T C Beirne School of Law,
University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia

National and supranational federalism:
what is the difference?

Session V Ethno-religious conflict and federalism

Professor Dr Suri Ratnapala
T C Beirne School of Law,
University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia

Federalism as a response to ethno-religious
conflict:
The case of Sri Lanka

Professor Dr Julia von Blumenthal
School for Political Science,
Leuphana University, Lüneburg, Germany

Federalism and Cultural Diversity in Germany:
The Case of the Islamic Headscarf

Professor Jean-Francois Gaudreault-DesBiens,
Canada Research Chair in North American and
Comparative Juridical and Cultural Identities,
Faculty of Law, University of Montreal

Religious identities:
Testing the Limits of Canadian Federalism



Friday 11 July 2008 cont...

Conference Dinner

The Hon Mr Bruce McPherson CBE
Former judge of the Queensland Court of Appeal

Dinner address

Saturday 12 July 2008

Session VI The Law of Federalism

The Honourable Justice Robert S French (tbc)
Federal Court of Australia, Perth, Australia

The Interaction between the power constraints
imposed by Federalism
and the need for a national approach to
regulation and infrastructure

The Honourable Justice Margaret White
Supreme Court of Queensland,
Brisbane, Australia

Federalism and the Australian judicial system (*)

Mr Stephen Gageler SC
Barrister, Sydney, Australia

The Federal Balance: cases and judicial attitudes
in the High Court of Australia

Mr Gim del Villar
Barrister, Brisbane, Australia

State Human Rights legislation and its impact at
the federal level

Saturday 12 July 2008 cont...

Session VII Federalism and finance

Professor Dr Bhajan Grewal
Centre for Strategic and Economic Studies,
Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia

The Longer-term Stability of Fiscal Federalism

Associate Professor Dr Philip Bodman
School of Economics,
University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia

(*)

Professor Dr Brian Galligan
School for Political Science,
University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia

(*)

Session VIII Federalism's future

Mr Jim Faulkner
Constitutional Policy Unit, Attorney-General's
Department, Canberra, Australia

Co-operative schemes in the 21st Century

Associate Professor Dr Anne Twomey
School of Law, University of Sydney,
Sydney, Australia

Federalism in Australia:
Gazing in the crystal ball of constitutional reform

Associate Professor Dr Alan Fenna
John Curtin Institute of Public Policy, Curtin
University of Technology, Perth, Australia

Rudd Reforms and the Future of Australian
Federalism

Dr A J Brown
Director, Federalism Project, Griffith University

Thinking Big: What Will Australian Federalism Be
Like in 2020?

Session IX Closing session

Forum comprised of panel members,
chaired by Professor Cheryl Saunders AO

Note:

The CV's of speakers are available from the conference website: <http://www.fedcon2008.net>
Further details concerning sessions and contributions marked (*) will be provided soon
This program remains subject to change

Registration



Schedule of Registration Fees

	Price
Standard Full Registration* (1 May to 26 June 2008)	\$695
Additional Tickets: (for partners & others who are not attending conference sessions)	
Opening Cocktail Reception	\$75
Conference Dinner	\$120

All fees are in Australian Dollars (AUD) and include GST.

*Full Registration Entitlements

- ▶ Attendance at all conference sessions
- ▶ Lunch, Morning and Afternoon teas
- ▶ Cocktail Reception (Thurs 11 July)
- ▶ Conference Dinner (Fri 12 July)
- ▶ Conference Satchel and Program

Registration is available online at <http://www.fedcon2008.net/registration.htm>

Refund Policy

The TC Beirne School of Law at The University of Queensland must be notified in writing of cancellation. 10% admin fee charged if cancelled before 12 June 2008, 20% admin fee if cancelled before 26 June 2008. Refunds will not be issued for any cancellations after 26 June 2008.

Contact Us

For further details, please visit the conference website <http://www.fedcon2008.net> or contact:

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Conference Committee

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TC Beirne School of Law



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