

PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES CENTRE

CRAWFORD SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND GOVERNMENT



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

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

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

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 at this conference are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian National University.

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