

Centre for Business Law and Practice

School of Law



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Annual Report 2014/15



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Director's Welcome

Welcome to the annual report of the Centre for Business Law and Practice (CBLP). The centre addresses matters of contemporary concern in Business Law and Regulation using a pluralistic perspective that mixes disciplinary and inter-disciplinary approaches.



The 2014-2015 academic year has been a year of particular success for the Centre though also tinged with a degree of sadness. Associate Professor and Deputy Director of the Centre, Dr Pinar Akman, has been elevated to a much deserved full Professorship. She steps down from the Deputy Directorship and is replaced by Dr Jingchen Zhao. I thank her very much for her contribution. I would also like to take this opportunity of thanking a former Director of the Centre, Professor Andy Campbell, who has decided to retire from his post at the University of Leeds. Andy has made an immense contribution over the years but, fortunately, will still be associated with the Centre (and the University) as an Emeritus Professor. After a brief period at Leeds, the Centre also bids a fond farewell to Dr Raphael Heffron.

But I take great pleasure in welcoming some new colleagues – Mihail Danov as Associate Professor, Jingchen Zhao as Associate Professor in Law, and Konstantinos Stylianou to a Lectureship in Competition Law and Policy. These new appointments will add vigour and vitality to the Centre, the School and the University in years to come. We are looking forward to welcoming more new appointments over the next year as well. On an occasion like this, it is somewhat invidious to highlight particular individuals and achievement for mention as exemplars of our success during the academic year.

Nevertheless, I would particularly like to mention the work of Surya Subedi in improving the conditions for economic

and social governance in Cambodia through his work as UN Special Rapporteur for that country. The end of his tenure as Special Rapporteur was marked by a Leeds Public Lecture given by Surya in June 2015 that was hosted by the Vice Chancellor. Subedi continues his work on the international stage through membership of a high level committee drawing up international investment guidelines for the World Economic Forum based in Davos Switzerland.

Among other successes, in April 2015 a CBLP team consisting of Andrew Keay, Sarah Brown, Judith Dahlgreen and myself were commissioned by the European Commission - to carry out a comparative study on substantive insolvency law throughout the EU with a view to possible reform and harmonisation measures.

Working with a team of national reporters, the Leeds project team were tasked to collect data on insolvency law matters in the EU Member States and then to carry out horizontal, cross-cutting analysis of the data; identifying areas where disparities in national laws produce problems that have impacts outside national boundaries in line with the Europe 2020 growth strategy of fostering economic recovery and sustainable growth. The objective is to facilitate a situation where economic and social systems are adaptable, resilient and fair; where economic activity is sustainable and where human values are respected.

Joan Loughrey and Andrew Keay have also been working on a project in conjunction with the Management School at the University of Liverpool that addresses 'Business Judgment and the Courts'. The project examines what constitutes a business judgment, as defined by the UK courts and courts elsewhere, and whether these definitions are consistent with the view of corporate

directors. It assesses the normative arguments for and against the reviewing of business judgments of directors. Loughrey is also part of an international consortium headed by Kingsford Smith at the Centre for Law, Markets and Regulation, UNSW, along with Lessig (Harvard), Scott (UC Dublin) which aims to develop practical mechanisms to advance professional standards. The project will map the extent to which the global reform agenda, as implemented in domestic markets address the ethical deficiencies exposed in the global financial crisis.

Akman and Whelan are considering how the legal certainty deficiency in European competition law might be addressed. Their competition law and policy research directly fits with the policy objectives of creating a more competitive economy, improving economic performance and informing interventions. In collaboration with the Leeds University Business School (LUBS) they hosted a very successful conference in Leeds in June 2015 addressing these themes with the conference featuring many high level academic and practitioner speakers including two QCs.

As you can see, it is a very exciting time for the Centre, and I'm delighted that we have a number of further developments in the pipeline. Over the next year we are hoping to appoint a number of new colleagues to build on our existing strengths. The Centre has exciting plans for a number of conferences which will help us remain at the forefront of Business Law Research both nationally and internationally. We'll be welcoming some leading thinkers to the School as visiting scholars to deliver seminars, meet colleagues, and work alongside our postgraduate community.

Professor Gerard McCormack

Centre News

The Centre has been joined by three new academics during 2014/15.

Dr Pinar Akman

was promoted to a full professorship. Her research interests lie in EU and UK competition law, law and economics, consumer law and contract law.

Dr Mihail Danov

joined the School as Associate Professor in May 2015. Dr Danov's research interests are in private international law and competition law. He is currently part of a research consortium working on a project (JUST/2013/JCIV/AG/4635) on Cross-Border Litigation in Europe. The latter project, which is coordinated by the University of Aberdeen, attracted over €730,000 in support from the European Commission Civil Justice programme.

Dr Konstantinos Stylianou

joined the School as a Lecturer in Competition Law and Regulation in September 2015 from the Center for Technology and Society at FGV Direito Rio (Brazil). Dr Stylianou's main research focus is competition, telecommunications, regulation, regulatory economics, and EU law with a focus on the Digital Single Market.

Dr Jingchen Zhao

was appointed Associate Professor in Law in February 2015. Dr Zhao's specialism is within corporate law, corporate social responsibility and corporate governance, and he also contributes to research in the areas of insolvency law, international trade law, contract law and commercial law. Since his arrival Dr Zhao has been appointed Deputy Director of the Centre.

REF2014

The Centre for Business Law and Practice is part of the University of Leeds School of Law, which was ranked 8th in the UK for the quality and impact of its research, according to the Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014).

REF is a periodic national exercise by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) to assess the quality and impact of research at UK universities. The School's results show that 98 per cent of its research was of at least international quality, with 88 per cent classified as either 'world-leading' or 'internationally excellent' confirming the School's position as one of the leading centres in the world for research in criminology and law.



Professor Pinar Akman



Dr Mihail Danov



Dr Konstantinos Stylianou



Dr Jingchen Zhao

Investor-State relations

Business
& human rights

Behavioural decision theory

& Private law theory

Improving Media standards

& modes of governance

Academic Focus

The work of the Centre is presently focused in the following fields of scholarly endeavour

1. Business dynamics and changing financial relationships

This has been an area of traditional strength for the Centre with Campbell, Baker, Brown, Dahlgreen, Keay, Loughrey, McCormack, Subedi, and Zhao working in this area. Particular sub-themes to be addressed under this heading include:

- Corporate governance and accountability from a comparative perspective including China
- Legal measures to facilitate the restructuring of ailing enterprises
- Personal insolvency and consumer over-indebtedness
- Harmonisation of insolvency law in Europe
- Regulation and accountability of professionals and regulators including the Legal Profession
- Investor-State relations including business and human rights

2. Law of Obligations including its private international and comparative dimensions

Danov, Halson, Mullis, Pearce, Wragg and Zhou

- Comparative private law including unjust enrichment law and codification
- Monetary remedies for breach of contract
- Behavioural decision theory and private law theory
- Misuse of private information
- Tort and press regulation

3. Competition, Tax, and Regulation

Akman, Basu, Stanley, Stylianou, Whelan, and Wragg

- Effective enforcement (including criminalisation) of EU competition law Use and abuse of market power, especially in high technology markets and the interface between competition and regulation
- Role of legal certainty in EU competition law
- Public participation in environmental decision-making
- Improving media standards and modes of governance.

A number of members of CBLP are also members of other research centres and groups within the School including the specialist research group – the group for Law and Emerging Technologies - where Basu, Dutfield, and Ramirez are leading lights.

Research Projects

Study on Substantive Insolvency Law

Over the past year Judith Dahlgreen, Dr Sarah Brown and Professors Gerard McCormack & Andrew Keay have been involved in a major Europe-wide 'Study on Substantive Insolvency Law'. The project is funded by the European Commission (€317,000).

The project involves the collection, evaluation and analysis of insolvency law data provided by a team of national reporters in the 28 EU Member States. Disparities in national laws are being identified and consideration of the problems that this produces and how it impacts outside national boundaries. This study will enhance the knowledge base of the Commission and set the scene for possible future initiatives by the Commission in the field of insolvency law.

Study on a new approach to business failure and insolvency; Comparative legal analysis of Member States' relevant provisions and practices

This European Commission contracted 'Study on Substantive Insolvency Law' will enhance the knowledge base of the Commission and potentially inform future legal change in the field of insolvency, both corporate and personal, and over-indebtedness.

The study includes data collection from the 28 EU member states covering the following topics:

- Reforms in the EU Member States that implement the Commission Recommendation on a new approach to business failure and insolvency, including the availability of discharge and second chance for the individual as an entrepreneur.
- Completion of the comparative law information available to the Commission in matters such as the regulation, status and powers of insolvency practitioners; the duties and liabilities of directors and the recognition of disqualifications, rules on the ranking of claims/order of priorities and the conditions under which certain detrimental acts can be avoided, conditions for opening insolvency proceedings and fast-track or standardised procedures for SMEs.
- The procedures available to overindebted consumers/households explaining how overdebtedness is dealt with in the Member States including the conditions and timeframe for debt reduction and discharge.

The data will then be comparatively analysed; identifying areas where disparities in national laws produce problems that have impacts outside national boundaries: creating an environment that tries to avert business failure but sanctions severely conduct that constitutes an abuse of the fundamental freedoms underpinning the EU legal order (e.g. 'rogue' directors evading national disqualification orders relocating to another country). Some of the findings of the study will be presented at an international conference on 12 May 2016.

€317,000

EU funding

Informing Future Legal Change

Field of insolvency

Regulation, status & powers

Insolvency practitioners

Board accountability in Corporate Governance

Professors Andrew Keay and Joan Loughrey from the Centre for Business Law and Practice have been leading on this major research project. Both are internationally recognised experts in the field of corporate law.

The work involves a comprehensive study and assessment of the accountability of boards of directors as part of the governance of public companies.

Boards are clearly critical to the operation of companies and they are endowed with substantial power. This project seeks to address a number of fundamental questions surrounding board accountability, including:

- Why should boards be accountable and to whom?
- What accountability is presently required by corporate governance systems?
- From a normative perspective, what should accountability involve?
- What are the rationales for requiring boards to be accountable?
- What is the objective of accountability?
- How effective are the present mechanisms for accountability and what measures could be taken to ameliorate the provision for accountability?
- What drawbacks are there with making directors accountable; how is authority and accountability balanced?
- What are the obstacles to accountability taking place?
- During times of financial distress what is the nature of accountability and what does it involve?

**Professors
Andrew Keay
& Joan Loughrey**

Internationally
recognised experts

Corporate Social Responsibility in Contemporary China

Dr Jingchen Zhao

is leading an up-to-date examination of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in China and related contemporary issues such as the Harmonious Society in China, the 2008 Financial Crisis and its impact on the Chinese economy, and discussions of recent corporate scandals over the last few years including the Sanlu Baby Milk scandal, the Wenchuan earthquake and CSR donations, the Beijing Olympic Games and CSR, and the Fujia chemical plant. It is interdisciplinary, with a focus on discussions of the legal aspects of CSR. Just like the legal framework for corporate governance, the legal framework for CSR in China comprises four levels: basic laws, administrative regulations, regulatory provision and self-disciplinary rules.

This project takes a closer look at related provisions aiming to introduce social and environmental aspects into corporate decisions and corporate objectives through legislation. Suggestions for how to enforce these laws more effectively and efficiently will be discussed with reference to UK law, especially related provisions and legislative experiences after suggestions from the Company Law Review Steering Group and the drafting of the Companies Act 2006. The reconstruction of the Chinese corporate governance model will also be discussed as a measure for prompting Chinese corporations in a more socially responsible direction.

Three main approaches are being adopted in order to address the research questions and reach conclusions about the effectiveness of the enforcement and regulation of CSR in a Harmonious Society with a long history dominated by Confucian values. These methods include literature-based library research, comparative research and doctrinal analysis. CSR reports from Chinese listed companies are being studied in order to gather industry perspectives on CSR reporting and enrich the social and public impact of the research.

The primary approach adopted throughout the book is a literature-based analysis, including qualitative reviews of modern secondary sources. The literature-based review is supported by a doctrinal analysis of the law relating to CSR in China. This is concerned with the analysis of legal doctrine and how it has been developed in conjunction with the social economy in China.

Financial Crisis 2008

& Chinese economy

2006

CSR and Chinese company law

CSR Law

In relation to China



Regulation 1346/2000

Advanced by EU

**Best achieved in
small steps**
Instead of a great
leap forward

Reforming the European Insolvency Regulation

This project, led by Professor Gerard McCormack, critically evaluates the proposals for reform of the European Insolvency Regulation - regulation 1346/2000 - advanced by the European Commission.

While criticised by some commentators as unsatisfactory, the Regulation is widely understood to work in practice. The Commission proposals have been described as 'modest' and it is fair to say that they amount to a 'service' rather than a complete overhaul of the Regulation.

The proposals are being considered under the following heads:

- 1. General Philosophy**
- 2. Extension of the Regulation to cover pre-insolvency procedures**
- 3. Jurisdiction to open insolvency proceedings**
- 4. Co-ordination of main and secondary proceedings**
- 5. Groups of Companies**
- 6. Applicable law**
- 7. Publicity and improving the position of creditors**

The general message is that while there is much that is laudable in the Commission proposals, there is also much that has been missed out, particularly in the context of applicable law.

The proposals reflect an approach that, in this particular area, progress is best achieved by a series of small steps rather than by a great leap forward. This is not necessarily an approach that is mirrored in other areas of European policy making.



Board Accountability in Chinese listed Companies

Professor Andrew Keay and Dr Jingchen Zhao

Over the last decade company law and corporate governance issues in China have received much attention both in theory and in practice. The focus has been primarily on how to develop an effective corporate governance system in order to improve the performance of listed companies, and to protect their shareholders and stakeholders. The improvement of corporate governance is an ongoing battle that calls for the participation of many people and entities, such as regulators, market participants and academics. Chinese governments have been developing policies to create internationally recognised oversight mechanisms and corporate governance models in order to improve public confidence, domestically and internationally.

The development of Chinese company law and other related legislation and codes of practice has allowed listed companies in China to shape their structure in a more modern manner and to imitate their counterparts in developed markets, giving Chinese listed companies a “Western appearance”. This project seeks to break new ground by investigating a critical element of corporate governance in relation to Chinese listed companies, namely, the accountability of boards of directors. The project aims to provide an all-round understanding of accountability and how it can be fostered within a sound corporate governance system in which stakeholders and shareholders can be adequately protected by effective enforcement of Chinese company law as it was reformed in the legislation of 2005.

The broad aim of this project is to examine the nature and scope of the accountability of boards of directors and boards of supervisors in Chinese listed companies, in order to provide a better understanding of how accountability operates and to enhance corporate governance. The project also will explore the characteristics of, and reasons for, the unique understanding and application of accountability in China, with the goal of assessing accountability in Chinese listed companies and making recommendations for reform and improvement.



Developing Effective corporate governance

Providing Better Understanding Accountability in China

Research Snapshots

A selection of the research being undertaken by staff from across the Centre.



Dr Sarah Brown

has been researching the role of one particular remedy available to credit consumers, the unfair credit relationship test, which allows borrowers to contest credit agreements and their terms where there has been some form of unfairness. In her recent research she has been examining the test's role within the law, its development by the courts, and what place this should have in the final regulatory regime. Household debt continues to rise and the Debt Advisory Centre recently reported more and more people are relying on credit cards, loans, overdrafts and pay day loans to cover their energy bills-other research reports worrying number of private renters paying their rent using similar means of lending to pay the rent. Providers of consumer credit are now supervised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, and this has resulted in reform to the law which is still ongoing. Sarah's current research is looking at various policy issues connected with this ongoing reform agenda, including vulnerability, responsible lending and access to finance.



Professor Andrew Keay

is undertaking research that involves an evaluation of the provision for board accountability made in transnational codes of corporate governance. He is also undertaking research that involves an analysis of the harmonisation in the EU of the avoidance rules in insolvency law proceedings, including an examination of the ways that the EC could address the issue of divergence of avoidance laws with a focus on harmonisation or rules, and examination of what needs to be considered in harmonising the law.



Dr Konstantinos Stylianou

led a project on Online Terms of Service and Human Rights, analysing the extent to which the terms of service of various popular online platforms (e.g. YouTube, Facebook, Dropbox etc) respect or conflict with three basic human rights: freedom of expression, privacy, due process. The project was funded and supported by FGV Law School in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and its initial phase ran from September 2014 to July 2015. Results were presented at a public hearing before the Brazilian Government in the frames of the public consultation for the new data privacy law.



Dr Paul Wragg

has been drawing upon his specialisms in press freedom and press regulation, sitting on the Impress code committee. Impress is set to be recognised as the UK's first independent press regulator and has members from across the UK.

Wragg has been responsible for advising the Board on the wording and application of its editors' code of conduct and has produced guidance to be used by the public when contemplating a complaint against a member.

Professor Surya P. Subedi

conducted a comprehensive investigation into the human rights impact of economic land concessions in Cambodia between 2010 and 2012. His report running into 146 pages was published by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva. He did so as part of his mandate as the UN Special Rapporteur for Human Rights in Cambodia.

The report is an assessment of the human rights impact of economic land concessions and other land concessions and major development projects in Cambodia. It includes not only an analysis of concessions pertaining to agro-industry (for example, rubber, sugar, acacia and cassava plantations), but also to concessions for mining, oil and gas, forestry, and concessions for the purposes of tourism, property development, and large scale development projects, such as hydropower dams. The objective was to look at the human rights challenges posed by land concessions in light of the rapid growth in the number of concessions granted to both national and foreign companies and the detrimental impact of such concessions on the lives of the people.

Professor Subedi states in his report that Cambodia, as an emerging market, risked developing an international reputation for insecure investment in the land sector. The climate of development was characterised by low transparency and uneven access to information, inadequate consultation, and participation which is not inclusive, and was unsustainable and likely to hamper future national economic growth. He concluded his report by stating that the development of Cambodia's land and natural resources could have a positive impact on the lives of all Cambodians if undertaken in a sustainable and equitable manner and within the framework of the human rights obligations of the Government.



International Speakers

Attracting diversity

Public Events

The Centre organises a regular seminar series inviting contributions from national and international speakers, attracting a diverse range of academics, practitioners and students.

Structured Finance and the Law

13 October 2014, Mark Drury, Managing Associate, Linklaters, and School of Law Alumnus.

Cross-border Insolvency Law: Reconciling the Global and the Local?

28 October 2014, Professor Rosalind Mason (Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia)

Brands, Branding and Corporate Social Responsibility

18 November 2014, Professor Andrew Griffiths (Newcastle University),

Financial Regulation and Ethics

24 November 2014, Professor Iain Macneil, Head of School, University of Glasgow School of Law

Defendant-Sided Unjust Factors

26 January 2015, Professor Duncan Sheehan, University of East Anglia

Introducing Competition Law into Healthcare Nationalising the NHS

9 February 2015, Professor Erika Szyszczak, University of Sussex

A Critical Comparison of the English and Australian Insolvency Regimes: where we are and where are we headed?

17 February 2015, Michael Murray, Legal Director of the Australian Restructuring, Insolvency & Turnaround Association.

Author, author: Google, orphan works, and competition

2 March 2015, Professor Uma Suthersanen, Queen Mary University of London

Managing Risks Related to Hydraulic Fracturing

9 March 2015, Professor Terence J. Centner, University of Georgia



Contemporary Challenges in Competition Law, 15 May 2015

On 15 May 2015, the School of Law hosted a conference dedicated to the analysis of the most difficult contemporary challenges in competition law.



The conference examined some of the cutting-edge, most difficult topics of competition law and its enforcement. These are issues that competition law and economics, as they stand, struggle to resolve.

The contemporary challenges were grouped around four themes: the enforcement of competition law; issues particularly relevant to the practice of competition law and economics; substantive issues in competition law; and the interplay between competition law and regulation. The keynote speech was delivered by Lord David Currie, Chairman of the Competition and Markets Authority.

The Centre also hosted a series of PGR seminars, allowing postgraduate researchers studying for a PhD the chance to discuss their research amongst their peers. There were four seminars in this academic year:

Lerong Lu

China's Deposit Insurance and Transformation of Banking Sector

Abdulmalik Altamimi

Legalise or not to Legalise International Trade:
the Interactionism Approach

Longjie Lu

Judgeship in Your Early 20s? Not a Myth in China

Abdulaziz Aleid

Revision of the definition of affordable housing in Article 12 of the
Real Estate Mortgage Law

Community and Engagement

Alongside teaching and research, members of the Centre are active in engaging with the legal and academic communities, and applying their research in real world situations.

Dr Subhajit Basu

was invited as an expert in 'Internet Governance': Extraordinary General Assembly of the European Project "MAPPING"- Managing Alternatives for Privacy, Property and Internet Governance. May 2015

Dr Sarah Brown

is a member of the Leeds City Council Financial Inclusion Steering Group, where she engages with the City Council and a variety of charities, registered social landlords and advice agencies in relation to high cost credit and over indebtedness in Leeds and West Yorkshire.

Professor Graham Dutfield

was appointed as a Member of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature SSC/WCEL Joint Specialist Group on Access and Benefit-sharing and Related Matters (JSG-ABS). He has been involved in the drafting of a position paper for IUCN to feed into negotiations on follow up activities to implement the Nagoya Protocol to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Professor Andrew Keay

continues to act in an editorial capacity on a wide range of leading scholarly journals, including as Commonwealth Editor for Gore-Browne on Companies and a member of their editorial board; Member of the Editorial Board for the Insolvency Law Journal; Member of the Editorial Board for International Insolvency Review; Member of the Editorial Board for Journal of Civil and Legal Sciences; Member of the Advisory Board for Insolvency Intelligence; and, Member of the Advisory Board for the QUT Law and Justice Journal.

Professor Joan Loughrey

was an expert advisor on the Reference Group of an independent research project commissioned by the Solicitors Regulation Authority on Independence, Representation and Risk Report that examined how City & Global (C&G) firms are preserving professionalism and managing liability in competitive international legal practice, published October 2015.

Professor Surya Subedi

was lead discussant on a paper on 'State Owned Enterprises, Investment, and Competition Policy', at the 2nd Task Force Workshop on Investment Policy, World Economic Forum, Davos, Switzerland, 9-10 June 2015.

Dr Peter Whelan

joined the Council of the Society of Legal Scholars (as the representative of the University of Leeds) and was also invited to become a member of the Academic Society for Competition Law.

Dr Paul Wragg

was appointed as editor in chief for Communications Law (Bloomsbury Professional).

Dr Qi Zhou

has twice been awarded funds to undertake research at Xi'An Jiao Tong University in China and also the institute of law and economics at Rotterdam in the Netherlands.

Impact

The Centre also works to ensure that the research undertaken by members has a real world application. Here are a selection of the impact activities undertaken by members of the last year.

Training Judges in Romania.

In October 2014 Dr Peter Whelan provided training in competition law to a variety of judges from different levels of the Romanian judicial system.

Improving Elder Care in Northern Ireland

Devolution in the UK has encouraged deeper analysis of the social care systems of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, especially for older persons. Dr Subhjit Basu, joined by a team of researchers from Queens University Belfast and Pennsylvania State University's Dickinson Law, provided key comparative, international analysis of legislation that supports social care for older adults, as part of a 2015 commissioned research report for the Commissioner of Older Persons for Northern Ireland.

A core recommendation by the Basu-Duffy-Davidson-Pearson team was initiation of a government program of "home care visits" starting at age 75, to assist in age-related planning by families, a concept that has already been used successfully in Denmark.

Professor Andrew Keay's work was cited in following cases:

- **By the High Court of England and Wales in Top Brands Ltd v Sharma**
[2014] EWHC 2753 (Ch) at [31], [33]
- **By the High Court of New Zealand in Grant v BB2 Holdings Limited**
[2014] NZHC 2504 at [38]
- **By the Supreme Court of Victoria in 640 Elizabeth Street Pty Ltd (in liq) & Ors v Maxcon Pty Ltd**
[2015] VSC 22 at [36]
- **By the Supreme Court of Queensland in Re: Ascot Community Sports Club Incorporated (in liquidation)**
[2014] QSC 2 at [18]

Regulating the Press

On account of his expertise in press regulation, Dr Paul Wragg was appointed to the Impress code committee in June. As has been reported in the press, Impress intends to apply for recognition as a Leveson-compliant press regulator. In this role he is advising the Impress board on how to regulate breaches of the Editors' Code of Conduct. His guidance on the meaning and application of the existing code will be used by the board, when evaluating complaints, and members of the public, when contemplating complaining.

PGR Community

PGR students studying at the Centre during 2014/15:

Saleh Alamer

The Independence of Sharia Supervisory Board in Islamic Financial Institutions: Governance Standards and Standardization of Opinions (Saudi Arabia as an Example)

Moosa AlAzri

Foreign Investment in the Sultanate of Oman; Legal Challenges & Guarantees.

Rakan Alrdaan

Supervening Impossibili: A Comparative Study of England and Saudi Law.

Abdulaziz Aleid

Proposal on finance lease contract

Ayman Alharbi

Reforming The Law On Board Of Directors In Saudi Arabia

Bashayer Almajed

The history, development and evolution of contract law in Kuwait, with a particular emphasis on the role of Islamic Law and precepts in its formulation and implementation

Muath Almajed

The conceptual and practical framework of Islamic project finance In Saudi Arabia: a critical analysis and practical examination from legal perspective.

Yousef Almutairi

Regulating Electronic Transactions in the State of Kuwait: A study of the draft law on electronic transactions by comparison with the proposed e-commerce regulations submitted by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Kuwait, similar laws of the GCC and British law.

Mohammad Alomari

Applying good governance practices in Saudi Arabia in the case of Environmental Protection.

Abdullah Alshebli

Protecting individual investors under Kuwaiti securities law

Sulaiman Alsuhaibani

The Development of Anti-suit Injunction, Analytical and Critical Study

Maryam Alsuwaidi

Facilitating Enhanced Intra-regional Liquidity and Public Market Transactions between the UAE and KSA: An Analysis in Light of the EU Paradigm.

Abdulmalik Altamimi

The Challenge of Enforcing the Rulings of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body, by Ensuring Prompt Compliance and Timely Implementation in High Profile Cases.

Peter Coe

The public interest debate: When is your private life actually private when you are a 'public figure'? Comparing membership of the 'Leveson Club' with international media regulation and the law relating to privacy and protection of reputation.

Andrea Combe

The impact of solicitors' strategic thinking on outcomes in employment litigation.

Hussam Ibrahim Fallatah

The role of consumer protection policy in the development of the economic sector in Saudi Arabia from the Economist point of view.

Emmanuel Sotande

The Impact and Benefits of Compliance To Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism Financing In Developing Countries: A Case Study Of Nigeria

Norhasliza Ghapa

Cross border tourism industry-a study of consumer protection in UK in comparison with Malaysia.

Marina Himoni

A Comparative Analysis of the Consumer Laws in the UK, Cyprus + Greece and the effect that the new consumer rights directive will have on their domestic legislations.

Taskin Iqbal

An analysis of the role of directors in strengthening the position of non-member stakeholders and promoting responsible business behaviour under the regulations currently in place and the scope for reform.

Veli Kaplan

Evaluating the effectiveness of AML policies on the basis of suspicious activity report regimes. Can homogeneous policies reduce crime rates?

Sabah Qasim Khedir

The legal system for sport sponsorship contract, along with its legal consequences. An analytical and comparative study in the light of the civil law.

Jae Young Lee

Rebuilding of the Fair and Equitable Treatment (FET) Standard While Balancing the Interests of a Foreign Investor and Those of a Host State in International Treaty Arbitration: A Focus on General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Investment.

Zhihui Li

The problem of executive remuneration and its regulation

Lerong Lu

The Regulation of Private Lending in China.

Longjie Lu

A Comparative Study of Bank Remuneration Regulation in the US, the UK and China: Does the Current Regulatory Intervention Work?

Negar Mardani

The directors' duties to companies in Iran: what imperfections exist and what could be done by way of improvement.

Julie Pole

Barristers Big Bang? Understanding the response of barristers to the Legal Service Act 2007.

Michael Randall

Adoption of the Financial Transaction Tax Through Differentiated Integration

Shatha Shannag

An assessment of the protection provided to reputable trade marks under Article 5(2) of the Trade Mark Directive 1988 (section 10(3) of the Trade Mark Act 1994).

Bingdao Wang

Cross-Border Insolvency: Asian Emerging Economics and Cross-Border Insolvency Regimes, the Development of UNCITRAL Model Law and Future Development of the Model Law in Asia

Lu Xu

Party Autonomy in Proprietary Rights of Movables - from the perspective of conflict of laws

Sarah Zaghoul

The Effect of Corporate Governance Mechanisms on Investor Protection and the Possibility of the Use of Arbitration in Raising the Standard of Enforcement: a Comparative Study Between Saudi Arabia and the UK.

List of Publications

- Akman**, 'Abuse of Dominance' in J Backhaus (ed) *Encyclopaedia of Law and Economics* (Springer, 2015)
- Akman**, 'Period of limitations in follow-on competition cases: when does a "decision" become final?' (2014) 2 (2) *Journal of Antitrust Enforcement* pp. 389-421
- Akman**, 'The Role of Intent in the EU Case Law on Abuse of Dominance' (2014) 39 (June) *European Law Review* pp. 316-337
- Akman**, 'The Role of "Freedom" in EU Competition Law' (2014) 34 (2) *Legal Studies* pp. 183-213
- Akman**, 'The Relationship between Economic Duress and Abuse of a Dominant Position' [2014] *Lloyd's Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly* pp.99-131
- Akman**, 'The New Shape of the De Minimis Defence for Anti-Competitive Agreements' (2014) 73 (2) *Cambridge Law Journal* pp. 263-266 (Case Note)
- Baker**, 'Developers versus Protestors: Contractual Licensees and Possession Claims post Dutton' in 2014 *Modern Studies in Property Law: Volume 8* (Hart, Oxford, 2015) pp. 97-114
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