

SCGL
Stockholm Centre
for Commercial Law

**Stockholm Centre for Commercial Law
invites you to its 6th biennial conference**

The Stockholm Oxford Law Symposium **8-9 September 2022 at Christ Church, Oxford**

The Stockholm Centre for Commercial Law and the Faculty of Law at Stockholm University, have established a cooperation with the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford, focused on the establishment of a research fellowship at the University of Oxford for Swedish academics.

The Stockholm Oxford Law Symposium is arranged for the sixth time by the Stockholm Centre for Commercial Law as a part of this cooperation and will take place on 8 and 9 September 2022 at Christ Church, Oxford. The symposium was originally planned for 2020 but had to be cancelled as a result of the pandemic. The themes for the symposium have been kept and they are, if anything, even more topical after the pandemic.

The symposium is intended to bring together members of the law faculties in Stockholm and Oxford, as well as Swedish and international lawyers in public and private practice. The number of delegates at the symposium is limited, so an early registration is advisable.



PROGRAMME

Thursday 8 September

- 12.30-13.30 Lunch in Hall
 13.30-14.00 Opening of Symposium
 Welcome speech by professors Jessika van der Sluijs, Dean of the Stockholm Law Faculty, and Birke Häcker, Director of the Institute of European and Comparative Law in Oxford
 14.00-15.15 Theme I: *Rulemaking and enforcement on steroids*
 15.15-15.45 Coffee
 15.45-17.00 Theme I continues
 18.00-19.30 Visit to the Oxford Union and pre-dinner drinks
 20.00 Dinner in Hall
 Post-dinner drinks in the Buttery Bar

Friday 9 September

- 07.30-09.00 Breakfast in Hall
 09.00-10.15 Theme II: *Private law efficiency*
 10.15-10.45 Coffee
 10.45-12.00 Theme II continues
 12.00-13.00 Lunch in Hall
 13.00-14.00 Guided tours of the College and the Picture Gallery
 14.00-15.30 Theme III: *Reshaping the premises of international economic law and international dispute settlement*
 15.30-16.00 Coffee
 16.00-17.00 Theme III continues
 18.00 Evensong in Christ Church Cathedral
 19.00-20.00 Pre-dinner drinks in the Buttery Bar
 20.00 Gala Dinner in Hall
 Post-dinner drinks in the Undercroft

Saturday 10 September

- 07.30-09.00 Breakfast in Hall

With reservation for future adjustments of the programme.



SEMINARS

Overall theme:

Lawyers in time of turmoil: Rule of law vs. Justice

At this year's symposium we will discuss the rule of law in times of change and turmoil, when legality and legal certainty are set against, and sometimes run over by, the requirements for efficiency and the desire to create justice from a societal perspective. In the three different seminars we will discuss what consequences these changes will have on individuals, companies, different categories of lawyers and public authorities.

Theme I (Thursday 8 September 14.00-17.00)

Rulemaking and enforcement on steroids – how to ensure equal treatment and predictability in the application?

Economic crises, bleeding tax bases, digitalisation, climate threats, wars and pandemics are putting the welfare state under pressure. In order to meet these challenges, regulations are increasing within the EU and the OECD, with the effect that, for instance, the areas of taxation and financial regulation are overwhelmed by new rules, penalties and directives. In this plethora of rules, the legal practitioners – authorities, judges, consultants and academics – have to navigate.

This development is questionable and causes new problems. How can the principles of equal treatment and predictability be ensured when the legal material appears to be almost boundless and unmanageable? How can the legitimacy of the judicial system be maintained, and the proportionality in application of the law be ensured, when sometimes double, perhaps even triple, fines and sanctions can be applied for non-compliance?

This development is also characterised by a number of constitutional issues. Powerful authorities are growing even stronger at the expense of parliaments and courts. As the legislator takes on new challenges and the courts are struggling to apply an increasingly complex set of rules, the authorities, often on their own initiative, make proposals for new legislation, giving themselves right to interpretation of the applicable law and impose sanctions and penalties.

Keynote speakers:

Lisa Curran, Senior Counsel, Allen & Overy, Rome

Teresa Simon-Almendal, Professor of Tax Law at Stockholm University

Panellists:

Michael Blackwell, Associate Professor of Tax Law at London School of Economics and Political Science

Andreas Gustafsson, General Counsel Europe at Nasdaq

James Somerville, Partner, A&L Goodbody, Dublin

Karin Åhman, Professor of Constitutional Law at Stockholm University

Moderator:

Fredrik Sjövall, Partner, Mannheimer Swartling, Stockholm

Theme II (Friday 9 September 9.00-12.00)

Private law efficiency – Individual justice, general interests of welfare and the rule of law

Private law frames a system to regulate individual interactions. Affecting the rights and obligations between businesses and individuals, its scope is designed for specific dispute resolution among individuals or smaller groups. The general aim of private law is to promote foreseeability and efficient transactions. In economic terms, private law considers transactions on a micro level isolated from the effects on society as a whole, on a macro level.

Fundamental changes in society on an individual level, such as the international obligations of upholding individual human rights, the development of an international collaborative economy and dependence on web-based platforms and social media for communication, challenge the general principles of private law. These changes have made it abundantly clear that the interactions between two parties might have immense impact on fundamental societal aims and goals, on a macro level.

This theme explores whether traditional legal principles of i.e. contract, property and tort law provide lawyers with the tools they need to resolve disputes and balance the interests of the parties in times of societal turmoil. It explores from an empirical perspective the extent to which the effect of individual interactions on society as a whole are taken into consideration. It also addresses the normative issue of whether individual justice and societal welfare ought to be considered a natural component of private law.

Keynote speakers:

Jill Robbie, Senior Lecturer, University of Glasgow

Eric M. Runesson, Justice of the Swedish Supreme Court and Member of the Swedish Academy

Panellists:

Ångla Eklund, Chairman of the Swedish Institute of Law and Internet

Ciara Kennefick, Associate Professor of Contract Law at University of Oxford and Tutorial Fellow in Law at Christ Church

Michael Kutschera, Partner, Binder Grösswang, Vienna

Claes Martinson, Professor of Private Law at University of Gothenburg

Moderator:

Elisabeth Ahlinder, Associate Professor of Land Law at Stockholm University

Theme III (Friday 9 September 14.00-17.00)

Reshaping the premises of international economic law and international dispute settlement – New economic powers, national attempts at taking back control and the turn to state capitalism

Disruptive forces are sweeping the global economy. Populist regimes are challenging the traditional policy rulebook. Protectionism may reduce trade flows. Automation and the digital economy are boosting productivity for some, eroding old sources of advantage for others. This challenges the current international economic system which was elaborated in the aftermath of the Bretton Woods conference. The third theme of the symposium deals with how these challenges may reshape the premises of international economic law, including international trade law and international investment law and how this development affects international commercial litigation and the private national law landscape.

The third theme will include two main parts. The first will be a discussion on GATT and the WTO, including the tensions between major trade actors such as the U.S., the EU and China and the dispute over the WTO dispute settlement system. In addition to this dispute settlement system it will also be addressed to what extent the disruptive development on the global arena affects international commercial (private law) litigation. The second part relates to international investment law, the changing dynamics between Western economies and the global south and the role of State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and State-Controlled Entities (SCEs). During this theme it will also be discussed how a transforming international economic system poses new challenges and possibilities for private law actors on a national/regional level.

Keynote speakers

Klas Eklund, Senior Economist at Mannheimer Swartling, formerly Chief Economist at SEB
Mona Pinchis-Paulsen, Assistant Professor in International Economic Law at the London School of Economics

Panellists:

Daria Davitti, Assistant Professor in Law, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Nottingham and Postdoctoral Researcher at the Faculty of Law, Lund University
Stephen Fietta QC, Principal, Fietta LLP, London
Veronika Korom, Assistant Professor in International Business Law and Arbitration at ESSEC Business School, Paris, and founding Partner at Queritius
Pål Wrangé, Professor of Public International Law at Stockholm University and Director for the Stockholm Center for International Law and Justice.

Moderator:

Ulf Maunsbach, Associate Professor of Private International Law at Lund University



VISIT TO THE OXFORD UNION

Before dinner on Thursday night, we will visit the Oxford Union. The visit will include a guided tour of the Pre-Raphaelite Murals in the Old Library and drinks and canapés in the Goodman Library.

GALA DINNER

The symposium will end with a gala dinner in Hall on Friday night. Dress code lounge suit (*kostym*).



OPTIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

Swedish and international participants are invited to take part in the full programme for the symposium. Participants are also welcome to bring accompanying persons to the symposium, these will share accommodation and participate only in the meals, the visit to the Oxford Union and the guided tours of Christ Church.

Participants resident in Oxford or London may choose to take part in just one or several of the seminars and the relevant meals.

If you want to extend your stay at Christ Church or have other special requirements, you can contact us via email to sccl@juridicum.su.se and we will do our best to deal with them.

REGISTRATION

The last day to register for full participation (including accommodation) is **18 June**. Later registrations may be accepted depending on availability.

Swedish participants: Sign up via the symposium website [here](#). Registration is binding.

International participants: Sign up via the symposium website [here](#). Registration is binding.

The last day to register for limited participation (not including accommodation) is **20 August**. Sign up via email to sccl@juridicum.su.se. When you register, please specify the parts of the programme which you would like to participate in.

Fees are paid against invoice. The financial administration, including invoicing, is handled by Mannheimer Swartling and all other administration is handled by the Stockholm Centre for Commercial Law.

FEES

Full participation, for lawyers in private practice:

SEK 13,500 (approx. €1,300)

Full participation, for academics and lawyers in civil service:

SEK 6,750 (approx. €650)

Accompanying person (shared accommodation, visit to Oxford Union, guided tours and meals):

SEK 4,750 (approx. €450)

Day-time participation Thursday (seminars, visit to Oxford Union and meals):

SEK 3,500 or **£290** (approx. €30)

Day-time participation Friday (seminars, guided tours and meals):

SEK 5,500 or **£460** (approx. €520)

Full participation includes:

- Three seminars
- Accommodation for two nights, including breakfast
- Lunch Thursday and Friday
- Dinner on the Thursday
- Gala Dinner on the Friday
- Drinks together with the meals
- Visit to the Oxford Union with drinks and canapés on the Thursday
- Guided tours of Christ Church on the Friday
- Transfers from and to Heathrow in conjunction with recommended flights from and to Sweden

Members of the Oxford Law Faculty and the Oxford University Centre for Business Taxation are welcome to participate in the symposium free of charge.

Applicable Swedish VAT will be added to the fees indicated above.

If you cancel a registration of full participation before **9 July**, a cancellation fee of **SEK 500** will be payable. If you cancel after **9 July**, the full fee will nevertheless be payable.

Should there be a new wave of covid-19 and new restrictions preventing the symposium from taking place as planned, the organisers will do their utmost to limit the costs incurred, recover amounts already paid and/or postpone arrangements. The benefit of these efforts will be transferred to the registered participants.

TRAVEL

Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements.

Recommended flights for Swedish participants

Thursday 8 September

07.45 Departure with flight BA0771 (British Airways) from Arlanda

07.50 Departure with flight SK525 (SAS) from Arlanda

9.30/9.35 Arrival at Heathrow

Saturday 10 September

10.35 Departure with flight SK526 (SAS) from Heathrow

14.10 Arrival at Arlanda

There is currently no suitable BA flight scheduled on Saturday morning

Transfers

Transfers for Swedish participants from and to Heathrow will be arranged in conjunction with the recommended flights from and to Sweden. If your flight from another location arrives or departs in conjunction with the flights from and to Sweden, you are welcome to use these transfers free of charge. Contact sccl@juridicum.su.se if you want to use any of these transfers.

If you arrive or depart at another time, pre-booked taxis to or from Oxford can be arranged through British Airport Transfers (www.british-airport-transfers.co.uk).

PERSONAL DATA

Your personal data will be handled in accordance with applicable legislation and used only for the purpose of organising the symposium.

CONTACTS

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OXFORD AND CHRIST CHURCH

University of Oxford is the oldest university in the English-speaking world. There are over 25,000 students at Oxford (of which about 13,000 are graduate students). The University is a truly international environment – over 40 % of the academic staff and over 65 % of the graduate students come from countries outside the United Kingdom.

The University of Oxford consists of 38 Colleges and six Permanent Private Halls, each with its own internal structure and activities. The Colleges create a unique academic and social environment that crosses subject boundaries and create natural and regular contact areas between students, researchers and teachers.

Everyone studying in Oxford has to be attached to a certain college and most colleges accept members in all the subjects offered by the university. The Colleges provide accommodation, meals and leisure activities for their students and are responsible for the supervision of students at the undergraduate level. Christ Church is one of Oxford's most famous colleges and was founded in 1546 by Henry VIII of England.

The chapel of Christ Church is also the cathedral of diocese Oxford. It is about 300 years older than the college and was originally part of a monastery dedicated to St Frideswide. In addition, the college has a famous library and its own art museum.

Read more about Christ Church at <http://www.chch.ox.ac.uk>

THE OXFORD UNION

The Oxford Union is a debating society founded in 1823. The Union offers its members debate workshops and a platform upon which to practice and improve their debating skills. Every Thursday evening during university terms a chamber debate, followed by a vote, is held in the same way as in the British Parliament. The Union is often seen as a playground for future politicians, and past officers include William Gladstone, Harold Macmillan, Edward Heath, Michael Heseltine, Boris Johnson and Michael Gove.

The original debating chamber is now the Old Library and is best known for its Pre-Raphaelite paintings by Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Edward Burne-Jones and William Morris. The paintings depict the Arthurian legend, as told by Tennyson, and the artists sometimes feature as subjects in each other's paintings.

Read more about the Oxford Union at <https://oxford-union.org>

THE STOCKHOLM CENTRE FOR COMMERCIAL LAW

The Stockholm Centre for Commercial Law (SCCL) was established in 2000 as a part of the Faculty of Law at Stockholm University. The SCCL promotes scientific research and doctoral studies in the field of commercial law in a broad sense. The SCCL is led by Professor Göran Millqvist as Director. Twenty researchers are active at the SCCL, which makes it the leading commercial law research centre in the Nordic Region. Research is conducted partly by research panels and partly by individual research efforts within and outside the SCCL.

COOPERATION BETWEEN OXFORD AND STOCKHOLM

The SCCL and the Faculty of Law at Stockholm University have since 2011 a cooperation agreement with the Institute of European and Comparative Law (IECL) and the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford, focused on the establishment of a research fellowship at the University of Oxford for Swedish academics. To date, ten Stockholm Centre Oxford Fellows have each spent a year at the IECL. The Fellowship is affiliated with Christ Church and the Fellows have since the inception of the cooperation had the benefit of participating in the academic and social community there. Additionally, four senior Stockholm academics have spent sabbatical periods in Oxford. However, the cooperation between Oxford and Stockholm goes back even further, and professor Ulf Bernitz has, as Coordinator of the Stockholm-Oxford Collaboration, been a member of the IECL since 2001. The cooperation has over the years also resulted in numerous seminars, conferences and publications.

