



The Method and Culture of Comparative Law

Workshop Ghent 15-17 May, 2014

Thursday, May 15th

Epistemology session

- 14.00 **Introduction** by Maurice Adams (Tilburg)
- 14.15 **What is Legal Epistemology?**
Geoffrey Samuel (Canterbury, Kent)
- 14.45 **Comparative Law as Method and the Method of Comparative Law**
Jaap Hage (Maastricht)
- 15.15 **Research-Designs of Comparative Law – Methodology or Heuristics?**
Jaakko Husa (Rovaniemi, Lapland)
- 15.45 discussion
- 16.15 *break*
- 16.45 **Three Functions of Function in Comparative Law**
Catherine Valcke and Matthew Grellette (Toronto)
- 17.15 **Against Method?**
Patrick Glenn (McGill, Montreal)
- 17.45 discussion

19.30 short visit to the law faculty buildings, followed by a drink

Friday, May 16th

Morning session on Globalisation

- 09.30 ***Ius Commune*, Comparative Law and Public Governance**
Alain Wijffels (Leiden, Louvain-la-Neuve, and Leuven)
- 10.00 **Things Being Various: Normativity, Legality, State Legality**
Seán Donlan (Limerick)
- 10.30 discussion
- 11.00 *break*
- 11.30 **The Curious Case of Overfitting Legal Transplants**
Mathias Siems (Durham)

12.00 Making the Case for European Comparative Legal Studies in Public Law

Susan Millns (Brighton, Sussex)

12.30 discussion

13.00 *lunch*

Friday, May 16th

Afternoon session on Context

- 14.30 **Comparative Contexts in Legal History: Are We All Comparatists Now?**
Heikki Pihlajamäki (Helsinki)
- 15.00 **Comparative Law and EU-legislation: Inspiration, Evaluation or Justification?**
Rob van Gestel (Tilburg)
- 15.30 discussion
- 16.00 *break*
- 16.30 **Taking account of the empirical and comparative law**
David Nelken (Macerata/King's College, London)
- 17.00 discussion

19.30 *dinner*

Saturday, May 17th

Closing session

- 10.00 **Comparatively Speaking: 'Law in its Regulatory Environment'**
Roger Brownsword (King's College, London)
- 10.50 **Framing Comparisons: Comments on Nelken and Brownsword**
Jacco Bomhoff (LSE, London)
- 11.10 discussion
- 12.00 **Conclusions** by Dirk Heirbaut (Ghent)
- 12.30 *end of the workshop*

Venue:

- on the 15th and 16th May: Ghent University Conference Center 'Het Pand', Onderbergen 1, Ghent
www.ugent.be/het-pand/en/accessibility
- on 17th May: Facultaire Raadzaal, Ghent Law Faculty, Voldersstraat 3, Ghent

Workshop papers: All papers presented on 15th and 16th May will be published, together with some other papers, in *'The Method and Culture of Comparative Law. Essays in Honour of Mark Van Hoecke'*, edited by M.Adams and D.Heirbaut with Hart Publishing, Oxford. This book is expected to appear by the time of the Workshop.

Fees: A limited number of places are available for interested researchers. The registration fee is 140 €, which includes lunch on Friday and the book with the workshop papers. If you wish to also attend the dinner on Friday the registration fee will be 190 €. Please register using the enclosed registration form and make your payment of the fees upon receipt of the invoice.

Boat trip: On Saturday afternoon (14-18 hrs) there will be a trip on the picturesque river Leie, on a reconstructed historical boat (tow barge used on the canal Ghent-Bruges in the 18th century and early 19th century). Price for taking part in this boat trip is 20 €.