

Globalization of the Legal Profession

**A joint event between the Harvard Law School Program on the Legal Profession
and the American Society of International Law**

Harvard Law School

Friday, Nov 21, 2008

8.00am - 4.30pm

Legal practice historically has been a largely parochial endeavor. One need look no further than the complex debate within the United States about multi-jurisdictional practice between states (let alone questions of foreign lawyers practicing within the US) to see that the inherent complexities of the emerging global bar extend far beyond fitness and character to practice law.

In an age of rapid globalization, this is no longer merely the academic issue it might have been even a decade ago. The largest law firms now span the globe, with thousands of lawyers carrying the banner of a single firm, yet residing in geographically diverse offices and practicing law in numerous states. Large corporations face similar challenges in creating a common legal identity among in-house attorneys practicing in a multitude of jurisdictions that typically report upward to a single general counsel resident in one nation.

This one-day conference examines these issues from multiple perspectives. Does international commerce or finance provide common ground for practitioners, for example, or is there broader commonality among counsel in other fields, such as human rights lawyers? What are the proper contours of a genuine debate over matters such as ensuring minimum standards of qualification, guarding domestic province from outside intervention, protecting clients and the public, the role of lawyers as aspect of national identity, and the like? What can we do – as international scholars, educators, and practitioners – to adapt to the rapidly-changing economic, social and political environment and prepare the next generation of lawyers – domestic and international – to meet the challenges that globalization will continue to present?

Format and Keynote Address

The symposium will include four panels examining the globalization of the legal profession in terms of the impact on law firms, international and domestic regulatory frameworks, and a case study focusing on the legal profession in India. A broad range of speakers will offer the varied perspectives of private law practitioners, government lawyers, academic scholars, government officials, consultants, corporate counsel, and the judiciary.

The seated lunch will feature a keynote address on globalization by Ben Heineman, Jr., former Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary of the General Electric Company, along with remarks on legal education in the global setting by HLS Dean Elena Kagan.

Attendance and Registration

Attendees will include practicing lawyers, academics, and students. The conference is free, but space is limited and pre-registration is required. Registration is available online at: http://asil.associationonline.com/activities_calendar.cfm?action=detail&rec=35.

Enquiries about the event can be directed to Suela Caushi, Staff Assistant at the HLS Program on the Legal Profession, at scaushi@law.harvard.edu.

Format and Participants

Each 1-hour panel will consist of 3 discussants presenting for 15 minutes each. A panel moderator will introduce the discussants, maintain time, and facilitate 15 minutes of Q&A with the audience following the presentations.

Preliminary Schedule:

8.00 – 8.45 Continental Breakfast
8.45 – 9.00 Welcome (Global Changes to the Legal Profession – An Overview)
9.00 – 10.00 Panel 1 (Perspectives on the Global Law Firm)
10.00 – 10.15 Break
10.15 – 11.15 Panel 2 (Global Innovation & the International Regulatory Environment)
11.15 – 12.15 Panel 3 (Lawyer Qualification & Global Professional Responsibility)
12.15 – 1.00 Lunch (seated)
1.00 – 1.10 Remarks by HLS Dean Elena Kagan (Legal Education for a Global Profession)
1.10 – 2.00 Keynote Address – Ben Heineman
2.00 – 2.15 Break
2.15 – 3.15 Panel 4 (Globalization Case Study – The Legal Profession in India)
3.15 – 3.30 Closing / The Way Forward
3.30 – 4.30 Reception

Detailed Program:

(Note that speakers are subject to change).

Introduction – Global Changes to the Legal Profession – An Overview

Dr. David Nersessian, Executive Director, Harvard Law School Program on the Legal Profession

Panel 1 – Perspectives on the Global Law Firm

Peter Kalis, Chairman & Global Managing Partner, K&L Gates

James Jones, Vice President of Hildebrandt International & Chairman of the Hildebrandt Institute

Trevor Faure, General Counsel for Europe, Middle East & Africa, Tyco International Ltd.

Prof. Ashish Nanda, HLS (Moderator)

Panel 2 – Global Innovation and the Shifting Regulatory Environment – International Frameworks

Dr. Todd Nissen, Director of Services Trade Negotiations, Office of the United States Trade Representative

Prof. Laurel Terry – Penn State Dickinson

Prof. Carole Silver – Georgetown University School of Law

Elizabeth Anderson – Executive Director, American Society of International Law

Panel 3 – Lawyer Qualification & Professional Responsibility in the Global Setting

Stephen Denyer, Regional MP for Europe, Allen & Overy (Germany)

Prof. Catherine A. Rogers, Penn State Dickinson School of Law

Prof. Andrew Kauffman, HLS (Moderator)

Additional Panelist – TBD

Luncheon – Legal Education for a Global Profession / Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Dean Elena Kagan, HLS

Luncheon – Keynote Address

Ben Heineman, Former Senior Vice President & Chief Legal Officer of General Electric

Panel 4 – A Globalization Case Study - The Legal Profession in India

Prof. C. Raj Kumar, CEO – OP Jindal Global University & Jindal Global Law School

Pratibha Jain – VP & Chief Legal Officer, Goldman Sachs Mumbai

Prof. David Wilkins, HLS (Moderator)

Additional Panelist – TBD

Closing Remarks – The Way Forward

Prof. Marc Galanter, University of Wisconsin – Madison & London School of Economics and Political Science