

Acknowledgments from the Co-Editors-in-Chief

The International Lawyer is proud to publish this very distinguished group of papers and addresses on the Rule of Law, one of the world's paramount concerns. The collection would not exist without the dedication of Lord Hacking, who has served as Editor of the compilation. At the invitation of Jeffrey Golden, 2007 Chair of the Section of International Law, Lord Hacking began the process of compiling these papers. When Lord Hacking first discussed with *The International Lawyer* the possibility of publishing a collection of works on the Rule of Law, he suggested papers by five renowned authors from the United Kingdom. The papers by Lords Phillips, Goldsmith, Bingham, and Hope and Sir Anthony Clarke became the cornerstone of the collection. From that first discussion last September at the 2008 Fall Meeting in Brussels, the project expanded to include twelve papers and now also contains the work of authors from Pakistan, Singapore, the United States, the International Criminal Tribunal of Rwanda, and the United Nations. Lord Hacking thoughtfully considered which papers to include, obtained the cooperation of these very impressive authors, and worked tirelessly throughout the editorial process. The slate of authors reflects the international significance and impact of the Rule of Law.¹ The content of the papers reflects the timelessness of the topic: the papers range, for example, from discussion of a landmark British case on the Rule of Law decided more than sixty-five years ago to papers from Pakistani authors who celebrated the reinstatement—only a few weeks ago—of Mr. Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry, Chief Justice of Pakistan.

The American Bar Association and, specifically, the Section of International Law and its leadership, have demonstrated unfailing commitment to the Rule of Law. In fact, current Chair Aaron Schildhaus is a contributing author in the collection. It is because of the cooperation and support of the Section of International Law that *The International Lawyer* is able to publish this excellent, thoughtful group of papers and addresses.

It is particularly fitting for SMU Dedman School of Law to participate in this project on the Rule of Law. Since 2004, SMU Dedman School of Law has been privileged to host ten Rule of Law Forums. These forums were established to broaden understanding of the Rule of Law among emerging democracies and those nations moving in that direction. Proposed by U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, the Forum has become the prototype for other exchange programs. In partnership with the U.S. State Department, the Rule of Law Forum at SMU brings leaders from a country with an emerging legal system and familiarizes them with the central ideas of the Rule of Law. Delegations have come from China, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Oman, Egypt, Bahrain, Afghanistan, and Brunei. Members of the delegations have included senior members of the judiciary, legis-

1. This set of papers presents a departure from the typical articles in *The International Lawyer*. The papers and addresses appear largely as written and delivered by the authors, although some have been amended to include additional information, which is noted. With respect for the varying nationalities of the authors, not all the papers were edited to comply with U.S. style and citation conventions.

lature, and executive departments, including Chief Justices, Speakers of Parliaments, and Ministers, as well as prominent business leaders. Four United States Supreme Court Justices, including Chief Justice John Roberts, fourteen United States Senators, two Cabinet Members, many SMU Law Faculty, and numerous others, have participated in the Rule of Law Forum.

Each Rule of Law Forum provides delegates the opportunity to discuss important issues with their respective counterparts in the United States, which is a key feature of the program. The Forum also provides valuable insight to key leaders in the United States. As U.S. leaders learn more about the culture and systems in place in the visiting country, they gain greater understanding and awareness. SMU is committed to supporting the Rule of Law through hosting Rule of Law Forums. It is appropriate that this important set of papers appears in *The International Lawyer*, published by the American Bar Association's Section of International Law in cooperation with the SMU Dedman School of Law.

Lord Hacking introduces the following collection of papers on the Rule of Law with an impressive and instructive Preface, which ties together the various papers and highlights the complexity and importance of the topic. His passion for the Rule of Law as well as his keen understanding and expertise are evident. It has been our privilege to work with Lord Hacking and these eminent authors.

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