

Human Rights Law in Practice: Policy, politics and potential

9 March 2013 **PROGRAMME** (please note programme is provisional and subject to change)

9.30 Registration

9.45 Welcome from the chair

10.00 **Life in the law and the challenges facing new lawyers**

The Hon Mr Justice Singh

Reflections of a judge who (as Rabinder Singh QC) was formerly one of the country's most respected human rights practitioners and the author of *The Future of Human Rights in the UK* (1997) and co-author of *Human Rights: Judicial Enforcement in the UK* (2008)

- Questions & Answers

11.00 Coffee break

11.15 **Breakout groups**

looking at key current issues in detail

1. Secret evidence (Article 6, the common law and fair trial rights in the Justice and Security Bill)

Angela Patrick, JUSTICE Director of Human Rights Policy

- The Justice and Security Bill: the end of the line?
- Special Advocates and their Role: where next?
- The ECHR, the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, the common law and open justice.

2. The proposed opt-out of EU criminal justice measures

Jodie Blackstock, JUSTICE Director of Criminal Justice and EU Policy

- Protocol 36 of the Lisbon Treaty and the special UK position
- Will this resolve the problem of the European Arrest Warrant?
- Why is the opt-out a human rights issue?

3. Social media and the law

or "I'm a human rights lawyer, what do I need to know about Twitter?"

Carl Gardner, Barrister and Legal Commentator, Editor of Head of Legal Blog

- What can I learn from social media that I can't get in a textbook?
- What am I missing if I don't know my blog from my bios?
- Protecting human rights online: freedom of expression, privacy & legal developments.

12.30 Lunch (hosted by Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer)

1.30 **Repeat breakout groups** (see 11.15 for details)

2.45 Tea break

3.00 **Human rights and the work of JUSTICE**

JUSTICE promotes access to justice, human rights and the rule of law. This session will provide an overview of the key human rights challenges in the UK today. It will include tips and techniques from practice as a lawyer focusing on law reform:

- The Bill of Rights Commission: Where next?
- Us and them? The role of the European Court of Human Rights
- International standards and the good role model

4.00 **Politics and the law**

Lord Falconer, Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, former Lord Chancellor.

A key part of JUSTICE's work involves operating in a non-partisan way to inform politicians understanding of the law.

The former Lord Chancellor will explore some of the themes emerging from his career, as a politician and a lawyer and on the challenges facing both professions.

- Questions & Answers

5.00 Close

