

Anniversary Conference

'Fifty Years of the British Indian Ocean Territory'

A conference organised by Centre for Small States (CSS), School of Law, at Queen Mary University of London (QMUL)

Thursday 12 November, 9:45am

Colette Bowe room, Queen's Building
Queen Mary University of London
Mile End Road, London E1 4NS

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The British Indian Ocean Territory was created on 8 November 1965 by excising the Chagos Islands from the colony of Mauritius and three atolls from the Seychelles. The partitioning of Mauritius on the eve of independence; the involuntary displacement of the Chagos Islanders (pursuant to the construction of a US naval facility on Diego Garcia); and their subsequent chronic impoverishment in Mauritius has remained highly controversial. The marking of fifty years since the BIOT was constituted provides legal scholars and practitioners with a timely opportunity to reflect upon a range of legal issues which continue to affect the BIOT and to evaluate ways in which they might be resolved.

10:30am-12pm – Panel 1: BIOT and UK law

Chair: Professor Tom Poole (LSE)

Speakers

- Dr Stuart Lakin (Reading)
- Professor Adam Tomkins (Glasgow)
- Mr Stephen Kosmin (Barrister, 39 Essex Street Chambers)

1-2:45pm – Panel 2: BIOT and Human Rights

Chair: Professor Malgosia Fitzmaurice (QMUL)

Speakers

- Dr Ralph Wilde (UCL)
- Ms Maya Lester (Barrister, Brick Court Chambers)
- Professor Sue Farran (Northumbria).

3:15-4:45pm – Panel 3: Sovereignty and Future Prospects

Chair: Ms Jill Barrett (BIICL)

Speakers

- Dr Tom Grant (Cambridge)
- Dr Michael Waibel (Cambridge)
- Mr Carl Soderbergh (Minority Rights Group International).



This event has been organised with support from Dr Stephen Allen, Senior Lecturer in the School of Law, QMUL.

For more information, please contact:

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