

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
COMPARATIVE LAW**

***Comparative Law, Faith and Religion: The Role of Faith in Law***

**Thursday, October 26 – Saturday, October 28, 2017**

American University Washington College of Law  
4300 Nebraska Avenue, NW  
NT01, Ceremonial Classroom, Warren Building, Terrace Level  
Washington, DC 20016

**Thursday, October 26:**

**8:30 am – 5:00 pm:**

**Pre-Conference: Law's Porosities/Porosités du droit**

**Joint Conference of the Société de législation comparée and the American Society of  
Comparative Law** [NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)

**Conference: Comparative Law, Faith and Religion: The Role of Faith in Law**

5:30 pm Welcome Reception [The Atrium, Capital Building](#)

7:30 pm End

7:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting [N104, Warren, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor](#)

**Friday, October 27:**

8:00 am Registration and continental breakfast [Outside NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)

9:00 am Welcome Remarks [NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)

- ***Camille Nelson***, Dean, American University Washington College of Law
- ***Vivian Curran***, President, American Society of Comparative Law

- 9:15 am Plenary Panel I: Law & Faith in Comparative Law [NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)
- **Anver Emon**, Professor & Canada Research Chair in Religion, Pluralism and the Rule of Law, University of Toronto Faculty of Law
  - **Ralf Michaels**, Arthur Larson Professor of Law, Duke University School of Law
  - **Suzanne Last Stone**, Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Jewish Law and Contemporary Civilization, Cardozo School of Law
  - **James Whitman**, Ford Foundation Professor of Comparative and Foreign Law, Yale Law School
  - Moderator: **Padideh Ala'i**, Professor of Law and Director, International and Comparative Legal Studies, American University Washington College of Law

10:45 am Break [Outside NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)

11:00 am Concurrent Panels I:

- Competing Faiths in Islamic Law [N101, Warren, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor](#)
  - **Haider Ala Homoudi** (chair), University of Pittsburgh School of Law, “Market Fundamentalism, Social Justice and Islamic Jurisprudence: On the Existential Crises of Islamic Finance”
  - **Ebrahim Afsah**, Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen, “Faith, Rationality and Legal Method: Islamic Law in the Modern State”
  - **Clark Lombardi**, University of Washington School of Law, “Islam and Rule of Law in Constitutional Courts”
  - **Bashar H. Makawi**, College of Law, University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, “A Comparison of Contractual Agreements between Islamic Law and Western Legal Traditions”
- Law and Religion in East Asia: Connected Socio-Religious Themes in Divergent Legal Traditions [N102, Warren, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor](#)
  - **Frank S. Ravitch** (chair), Michigan State University College of Law “Law and Religion in Japan, Limited Religiosity but Strong Religious Freedom”
  - **Jaclyn Neo**, National University of Singapore Faculty of Law, “Regulating Religion in Multicultural Polities: The Case of Singapore”
  - **Eunseok Paik**, Handong International Law School, “Religion and Law in Korea: Challenges Old & New”
  - **Liu Peng**, Beijing Pu Shi Institute of Social Sciences, “Religion and the Rule of Law in China Today”

- Challenging State Law: Religious communities as norm entrepreneurs in comparative perspective [Y402, Yuma, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor](#)
  - **Kyriaki Topidi** (chair), Centre of Comparative Constitutional Law and Religion, Faculty of Law, University of Luzern, “The Unfinished Education: Religion, Education and Power Struggles in multicultural Israel”
  - **Burim Ramaj**, Faculty of Law, University of Fribourg i.Ue / Switzerland, “Legal customs, religion and constitutional law – The Albanian example of normative interaction”
  - **Federica Sona**, Law & Anthropology Department, Max Plank Institute, Halle / Germany, “Muslim partners as norm entrepreneurs: The interplay between shari‘ah and the Italian legal system”
- Women’s Rights and Religious Divorce Law: From Contradiction to Coexistence [NT03, Warren, Terrace](#)
  - **Peter Roudik** (chair), Law Library of Congress
  - **Tariq Ahmad**, Law Library of Congress, “The Law and Politics of Talak-ul-bidaat (or instant and irrevocable divorce) in India”
  - **Karim El Chazli**, Swiss Institute of Comparative Law, “The Verbal Divorce (talaq shafahi) in Egypt between Politics, Religion and Women’s Rights”
  - **Havva G. Guney-Ruebenacker**, Research Fellow in Law & Social Change, Islamic Legal Studies Program, Harvard Law School, "Islamic Marriage Contracts in American Courts: The Case of Mahr/Dower and its Misunderstood Economics"
  - **Ruth Levush**, Law Library of Congress, “Releasing Agunot from the Chains of Marriage: Israel and Beyond”

12:30 pm Lunch Buffet [Outside NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)

- 1:30 pm Plenary Panel II: Hot Topic: Oppression of Religion Minorities [NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)
- **Diane Alai**, Representative of the Baha’i International Community to the United Nations
  - **Dwight Bashir**, Director of Research and Policy, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom
  - **Jamie Raskin**, Congressman, Maryland’s 8th District, U.S. House of Representatives
  - Moderator: **Maximo Langer**, UCLA School of Law

3:00 pm Concurrent Panels II:

- Religion and Constitutional Practices in South and Southeast Asia  
[N101, Warren, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor](#)
  - *Donald L. Horowitz* (chair), Duke University & National Endowment for Democracy
  - *Rehan Abeyratne*, Chinese University of Hong Kong, “Protecting the Powerful: Religion and Constitutional Law in India”
  - *Pranoto Iskandar*, Institute for Migrant Rights, “Religious Constitutionalism in Indonesia”
  - *Eugénie Mérieau*, Faculty of Political Science, University of Göttingen, “Religion and Constitutional Practices in Thailand”
  - *Dian A. H. Shah*, Research Fellow, Centre For Asian Legal Studies, NUS, “Religion and Constitutional Adjudication in Malaysia and Sri Lanka: Forces, Counterforces, and Challenges Ahead”
- Religion, Legal Norms, and Institutions [N102, Warren, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor](#)
  - *Peter Lindseth* (chair), University of Connecticut School of Law, “Maurice Hauriou, ‘Catholic Positivism’ and Institutional Legal Theory”
  - *Omar Farahat*, McGill University, Faculty of Law, “Juristic Deliberation and the Formation of Norms in Islamic Legal Theory”
  - *Ivana Isailovic*, Center for European Studies, Harvard University, Northeastern University School of Law, “Recognition and Religion in French Courts: the Case of Family Law”
  - *Hoi Kong*, McGill University, Faculty of Law, “Buddhism and Legal Norms”
  - *Chaim Saiman*, Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, “Rabbinical Courts in the Contemporary West: A Forum of Jewish Law or a Jewish Legal Forum?”
- Exploring Contradictions in Faith in the Caribbean Context: Postcolonialism, Tradition And The Constitution [Y402, Yuma, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor](#)
  - *Yonique Campbell* (chair), University of the West Indies
  - *Alan Greene*, Durham University, “Natural Law and Constituent Power: Re-Appraising The State (Ryan) v Lennon”
  - *Alecia Johns*, Conyers, Dill and Pearlman (British Virgin Islands), “Examining the Influence of Religion on the Development of Jamaican Constitutional Law”
  - *Latoya Lazarus*, University of the West Indies, “Christianity and the Enactment of Citizenship in the Anglophone Caribbean: Attending to Sexuality and Gender in the Law”

- *Se-shauna Wheatle*, Durham University, “Creolization of Caribbean Constitutional Law”
  - Constitutions and the "Return" of Religion in Secular and Majority-Muslim States [NT03, Warren, Terrace](#)
    - *Stefanus Hendrianto* (chair), Boston College, “Working within the Transcendental Frame? On Constitutional Reform and Religion”
    - *Richard Albert*, Boston College, “Religion, Secularism and Limitations on Constitutional Amendment”
    - *Anna Su*, University of Toronto, “Varieties of Burdens: On Religious Accommodations”
    - *Yvonne Tew*, Georgetown University, “Constitutionalizing Islam in Contemporary Malaysia”
- 4:30 pm Break [Outside NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)
- 4:45 pm Plenary Panel III: Reflections on Religion, Faith and the Law: Bridging Differences [NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)
- *Mary Anne Case*, Arnold I. Shure Professor of Law, University of Chicago Law School
  - *Rebecca French*, Professor of Law, SUNY at Buffalo School of Law
  - *Jae Ho Sung*, Professor of Law, Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU)
  - Moderator: *Amr Shalakany*, Assistant Professor of Law & Director, Law and Society Research Unit, American University in Cairo
- 6:15 pm End of Sessions
- 6:30 pm Reception [Founders Lobby, Yuma, Terrace](#)
- 7:00 pm Conference Dinner [Claudio Grossman Hall, Yuma, Terrace](#)
- Keynote Speaker: *Marta Cartabia*, Vice President of the Constitutional Court of Italy on “Religious Pluralism in Constitutional Adjudication”
  - Introductory Remarks: *Fernanda Nicola*, Professor of Law and Director, Program on International Organizations, Law and Diplomacy, American University Washington College of Law
- 9:00 pm End

**Saturday, October 28:**

- 7:30 am Continental breakfast [Outside NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)
- 8:30 am Plenary Panel IV: Young Comparativists “New Perspectives on Comparative Law”: [NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)

- Moderator: **Virginia Harper Ho**, Professor of Law & Edwin W. Hecker, Jr. Teaching Fellow, Co-Director, Polsinelli Transactional Law Center, University of Kansas School of Law
- “Stealth Theocracy”, **Yvonne Tew**, Georgetown University  
Discussant: **Mark Tushnet**, William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Law, Harvard Law School
- “Innovation Through Interpretation: How Judges Make Policy in China”, **Zhiyu Li**, NYU  
Discussant: **Don Clarke**, David Weaver Research Professor of Law, GWU

10:45 am      End

11:00 am      Society Business Meeting    [NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)

12:30 pm      Lunch    [Outside NT01, Warren, Terrace](#)