

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
ASIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL LAW  
and

RGC Theme-based Research Scheme Project:  
“Enhancing Hong Kong’s Future as a Leading International Financial Centre”

**The Qatari Financial Sector:  
Building Bridges between Domestic  
and International**

Friday, 12 May 2017, 12:30 - 1:30 pm  
Academic Conference Room, 11/F Cheng Yu Tung Tower  
The University of Hong Kong

Since 2005 and the establishment of the Qatar Financial Centre (QFC), Qatari financial regulation has developed along two parallel paths – one that applies to the QFC and one for the domestic Qatari jurisdiction. To promote greater integration between the two jurisdictions, Qatari policymakers are now implementing a variety of reforms aimed at building legal and regulatory bridges between the two legal regimes. This Seminar examines why and how Qatari officials are dealing with the jurisdictional divide between the QFC and the rest of the State. By redesigning its financial regulatory architecture, Qatar is attempting to blend an independently constituted non-territorially defined Financial Centre with the territorial reality of the State and its mechanisms of control.

**Speakers:**

**Andrew M. Dahdal**, Assistant Professor of Law, Qatar University, who has worked and studied in Australia. Andrew received his undergraduate law degree with honours and also completed a bachelor of commerce majoring in economics from Macquarie University (Sydney, Australia). In 2014 Andrew was awarded his PhD from the University of New South Wales (Sydney, Australia) and received a university award for his PhD dissertation on how the Australian High Court uses ‘history’ in its constitutional reasoning.

**Gordon R. Walker**, Emeritus Professor, La Trobe University, was previously the Professor of Commercial Law at La Trobe University School of Law, Melbourne, Australia in the period 1999-2015; Director of the LLM in Global Business Law and the LLM for International Students programs; Associate Dean (Research) in the (then) Faculty of Law & Management at La Trobe University in the period 2003-5 and as Head of the Law School, 2004-2007.

**Douglas W. Arner** is the Kerry Holdings Professor in Law at the University of Hong Kong. He served as Director of HKU’s Asian Institute of International Financial Law from 2006-2011 and Head of the HKU Department of Law from 2011-2014. He has served as a consultant with, among others, the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and APEC, and worked on financial sector reform projects in over 20 economies in Africa, Asia and Europe. He has published widely, including fifteen books and over 120 articles, chapters and reports on financial law, regulation and development. His most recent books include *Financial Markets in Hong Kong: Law and Practice* (Oxford University Press 2nd ed. 2016) and *Reconceptualizing Global Finance and its Regulation* (Cambridge University Press 2016). He is a member of the Hong Kong Financial Services Development Council and Project Coordinator of a major Hong Kong Research Grants Council Project on “Enhancing Hong Kong’s Future as a Leading International Financial Centre”.

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Enquiries: Flora Leung at [flkleung@hku.hk](mailto:flkleung@hku.hk)