

Rethinking Investment Treaty Law – A Policy Perspective –

Monday, 23 May 2011, 6:00pm – 8:30pm
London School of Economics, East Building, New Theatre

Australia's recent announcement to discontinue the inclusion of investor-state-arbitration in trade agreements with developing countries (see [here](#)) has caused quite some uproar in the arbitration community. This is the latest news of a series of recent events that suggests that investment treaty law and arbitration is being reshaped and may require some rethinking:

- **Ecuador** has abandoned ICSID, declared its intention to terminate its BITs and has proposed to create a South American court that would also have jurisdiction over international investment disputes (see [here](#));
- **South Africa** is seeking the renegotiations its BITs after having reviewed its programme in the light of its black economic empowerment (see [here](#));
- **Norway** has seen an intensive BIT review in 2008-2009, which raised critical issues of the current system but eventually did not come to specific conclusions (see [here](#));
- the **United States** is still undergoing a review of its BIT programme after changing its Model BIT significantly in 2004 in reaction to NAFTA claims against it (see [here](#)).

This colloquium of the [LSE Transnational Law Project](#) unites officials from the governments of these countries to explain and debate their internal experiences, discussions and policy choices.

The discussants are:

Adam Sheppard, Senior Economic Advisor at the Australian Productivity Commission
Alvaro Galindo, former head litigator of the Attorney General's Office of Ecuador
Randall Williams, Chief Director at the South-African Trade and Industry Department (tbc)
Margrethe Norum, Senior Legal Advisor at the Norwegian Ministry of Trade and Industry;
and a representative of the U.S. Department of State (tba).

The discussion is moderated by

Dr. Jansen Calamita (BIICL) and **Dr. Jan Kleinheisterkamp** (LSE)



Places are limited; to **register** please click [here](#)
or email to Law.TL.Project@lse.ac.uk.
This event is CPD certified.

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