The Asian Law Forum is a new multidisciplinary research group with expertise in law and policy in Asia in the School of Law, Faculty of Law, Humanities and the Arts. The Forum aims to be a leading hub, with nationally and internationally recognised expertise, in the areas of teaching, research and public policy on law and legal systems in Asia.

**THE INAUGURAL ASIAN LAW FORUM SYMPOSIUM**

Legalisation and institutionalisation are critical challenges for the achievement of a comprehensive and functional integration framework in Asia. The Symposium will examine legal aspects of the Asian integration process. The Asian Law Forum will also be launched at the commencement of the Symposium.

**VISITING SPEAKERS**

H.E. Nadjib Riphat Kesoema, Indonesian Ambassador
H.E. Kazi Imtiaz Hossain, Bangladesh High Commissioner
Ms Nina P. Cainglet, Philippine Consul General
Prof Gary Bell, National University of Singapore
Prof Natalie Stoianoff, University of Technology, Sydney
Prof Dustin Kuan-Hsiung Wang, National Taiwan Normal University

**DATE:** 28 November 2014
**TIME:** 9:00am - 5:00pm
**VENUE:** School of Law, McKinnon Building, Room 67.202
**RSVP**
- Online
- By 26 November

**ENQUIRIES:**
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lha.uow.edu.au/law/asianlawforum
The process of regional integration in Asia has been extensively discussed in academic literature, particularly in preparing for the 2015 ASEAN Economic Community. The focus of discussion has mostly been on the political and economic aspects of integration rather than legalisation of the integration process. Legalisation and institutionalisation would be one of the challenges for the achievement of a comprehensive and functional integration framework. The main issue is how to promote integration while taking into account Asia’s rich diversity of legal traditions, religions, culture, and levels of development.

The Inaugural Asian Law Forum Symposium aims to explore legal aspects of the Asian integration process. It will examine issues that are common across the region and analyse them from a regional perspective to propose initiatives to enhance integration.

Participants are encouraged to address the following questions:

- To what extent is integration based on institutions and legalisation necessary in Asia? How can legalisation be promoted and in which areas in addition to trade and finance?
- Does the coexistence of different legal traditions in Asia present a serious obstacle to a more effective process of integration? If so, what vehicles may be useful to overcome these obstacles or minimise their impact on legal aspects of integration?
- Is integration actually occurring in any event as a result of global trade, financial, political and social influences? How can examination of legal systems of countries in the region provide insights about the different models of the integration process compared to what has been carried out in the integration of Europe, North America and South America which are highly formal and where law has played a key role?

Papers need not be limited to issues on trade, economic, business and finance. We welcome contributions that examine problems associated with the environment, security, international crime, border disputes and society in general (e.g. poverty, inequality, religion, gender issues, etc.).

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