



**Centre of European Law
The Dickson Poon School of Law
Seminar**

**THE EU FTAs: DO YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW? A DIALOGUE
ON TRANSPARENCY**

As the adoption by the European Union of a “tailor made” approach to the Brexit negotiations shows, transparency in international economic relations can rightly be defined as a hot topic on both the global and European scene. Although secrecy and confidentiality have been long-standing and firmly defended hallmarks in the fields of international trade and investment - both at treaty-making and procedural levels - transparency has gradually acquired a key role as an in statu nascendi principle in international relations.

An increasingly more open approach to the subject is also being adopted within the context of the EU-led investment policy and among Member States. Arguably, such changes constitute a necessary pre-requisite for a proper deployment of the multi-level system of governance of the Union. Still. Despite the positive impact that transparency has on the legitimacy and accountability of such system of governance, confidentiality is considered by many as a necessary requirement in negotiations. On the one hand, by reason of the sensitive economic and political considerations that necessarily underlie international economic relations. On the other, the availability of larger amounts of information does not necessarily translate into an equally higher level of involvement and informed discussion with stakeholders.

Within this context, the dialogue hosted by the Centre of European Law of King’s College London offers a space for an interdisciplinary exchange of ideas on these issues. Specifically, it aims at providing a channel for further discussion among scholars, policy-makers and civil society/interested stakeholders on how much transparency in international economic agreements we want and need for a legitimate decision making to take place.

Speaker: Maria Laura Marceddu, King's College London

Discussant: Giorgia Sangiuolo, King's College London

Professor Andrea Biondi, King's College London in the Chair

Friday 14th July 2017

17.00 – 18.30

The Moot Court

The Dickson Poon School of Law

Somerset House East Wing

King's College London

Strand, London

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All welcome RSVP giorgia.sanguolo@kcl.ac.uk

The seminar will be followed by a drinks reception

Event sponsored by the Jean Monnet Network LawTTIP.

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