***Pusat Studi Hukum Tata Negara & Lembaga Pengkajian Hukum Internasional***

**(Centre for Constitutional Law Studies & Centre for International Law Studies)**

**Faculty of Law Universitas Indonesia**

**in collaboration with**

International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

(**International IDEA)**

**hold a**

**Public Lecture on**

**What If Australia Becomes a Republic?**

1. **Background**

The discussion for and against Republicanism in Australia is indeed a long and heated one. With the 1999 Referendum siding on the Crown, it seems that Australian Republicanism waits for a more suitable momentum to re-introduce its proposal to the public. Now, by the passing away of Queen Elizabeth II, probably such momentum will truly come to Australia.

It is not totally clear, however, for the eyes of the rest of us who do not live in Australia to understand the gravitas of the situation of the Australian Monarchy-Republicanism debate, especially in relation with their constitutional legal scholarship, and how this could impact the whole socio-legal-political constellation of Australian affair and, of course, their international attitude in the future. The least that most outside spectators know is that The Crown, in international politics, has always been seen as an important actor (or actress for that matter) in shaping Australian foreign policy, including war as it falls under the prerogative power of the Crown inherited by the British jurisprudence, a power that has been increasingly eroded by the House of Commons.[[1]](#footnote-1)

As some classical literature suggests, there is no perfect or ideal system of government, there are good monarchies and bad republics -and *vice versa-* throughout the history of nations.[[2]](#footnote-2) One must ponder upon the question of true urgency for such a radical constitutional reform proposal in Australia, and whether the Crown has anything good worth conserving. Surely, there is more than one perspective in understanding Australian democracy. In order to unravel such perspectives, the Centre for Constitutional Law Studies and the Centre for International Law Studies of the Faculty of Law of Universitas Indonesia will hold a public lecture on **“What If Australia Becomes a Republic?”**

1. **Speaker and Moderator**

The speaker of this event is **Prof. Cheryl Saunders AO** (*Laureate Professor Emeritus - University of Melbourne*).

As the introduction, **Prof. Satya Arinanto**, a professor of Constitutional Law Department of the Faculty of Law of Universitas Indonesia, will deliver a keynote speech beforehand.

Moderator:

**Mohammad Novrizal, LL.M.**

(*Lecturer* *of Constitutional Law Department & Chairman of the Centre for Constitutional Law Studies, the Faculty of Law, Universitas Indonesia*)

1. **Time and venue**

Time : Thursday, 6th October 2022

08.30 - 11.00 West Indonesian Time (Jakarta Local Time)

Venue : “S & T Multimedia” Room

Faculty of Law, Universitas Indonesia, Depok Campus,

and ***Zoom*** (hybrid)

1. **Target audiences**

This event is aiming participants from academia (especially constitutional law students), practitioners, government officials, and industry. As for in-person event, the participation is limited to 35 persons due to precautionary measure. However, an online ***Zoom*** meeting will allow participants up to 500 persons.

1. **Rundown**

| **Time** | **Activity** | **Notes** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 08.00 – 09.00 | Preparation and registration (offline & online) | In case the event is fully conducted online, these items will not be done. |
| 08.30 – 08.55 | Courtesy Call  Attended by the Speakers, Moderator and Organizing Committee Members  Venue:  the “Purnadi Purbacaraka” Room,  Faculty of Law – Universitas Indonesia, Depok City |
| 08.55 – 09.00 | Proceed to “S & T Multimedia” Room |
| 09.00 – 09.05 | Opening by the Moderator |  |
| 09.05 – 09.15 | Keynote Speech by Prof. Satya Arinanto |  |
| 09.15 – 09.20 | Introduction to Speaker by the Moderator |  |
| 09.20 – 10.20 | **The Public Lecture by Prof. Cheryl Saunders** |  |
| 10.20 – 10.25 | Highlights by the moderator |  |
| 10.25 – 10.55 | Q & A - led by the Moderator |  |
| 10.55 – 11.00 | Highlights & closing by the Moderator |  |
| 11.00 – 11.10 | - Token of appreciation to Prof. Tom Ginsburg – presented by the Dean.  - Group photo (virtual for online participants & real for offline participants). | In case the event is fully conducted online, these items will not be done. |
| 11.10 – 11.20 | Proceed to Restoran ‘Mang Engking’, Universitas Indonesia, Depok Campus. |
| 11.20 – 14.00 | Lunch @ *Restoran ‘Mang Engking’,* Universitas Indonesia, Depok Campus. |

1. Cheryl Saunders, ‘The Concept of the Crown’, (2015) 38 *Melbourne University Law Review,* 873-896, 880. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Thomas Aquinas, *Commentary on Aristotle’s Politics,* translated by Richard J. Regan (Hackett Publishing Company, Inc., 2007), 208. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)