

## **FIRST CONFERENCE ON THE RISE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL COURTS**

13<sup>th</sup> of May 2018, register via email: [law.events@qu.edu.qa](mailto:law.events@qu.edu.qa)

One of the key levers and indicators of the globalizing world is the execution of transactions across boundaries. Inevitably, disputes followed the rise in international economic transactions. Due to concerns about partiality, costs and delays in resolving transnational commercial disputes, arbitration and other alternative means of dispute settlement have gained ground since the end of the Cold War. With increasing patronage comes increasing concern about the imperfections of arbitration. These concerns include, *inter alia*, costs, absence of certainty or predictability in settlement outcomes, delays, lack of geographical or regional representation among the key participants etc. The result is the quest for alternatives, as well as efforts to make arbitration more competitive. The establishment of INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL COURTS is one of the initiatives aimed at contributing to the speedy resolution of international commercial disputes at competitive costs, while contributing to the service sector of the countries that have created these courts. To date, Qatar, Singapore, the UAE and Kazakhstan are countries that have established international commercial courts. Discussions are going on in a bid to establish similar courts in the Netherlands, Ghana, Belgium, Rwanda and elsewhere.

Qatar University College of Law in partnership with the Qatar International Court and Dispute Resolution Center are organizing the first conference dedicated to discussing the rise of international commercial courts and their relationship with arbitration. The conference is under the auspices of the Sir William Blair Distinguished Chair in Alternative Dispute Resolution held by Professor Francis Botchway. This is the fourth in the annual conferences on Alternative Dispute Resolution organized by the College of Law at Qatar University. The previous conferences featured luminaries in the field such as Lord Philipps, first President of the UK Supreme Court and former Chief Justice of England & Wales; Professor Brigitte Stern, Emeritus Professor of the Sorbonne University (Paris 1) and well-known Arbitrator; Ambassador Willy Kempel, Austrian Ambassador to Qatar; Professor Loukas Mistellis, Professor Abdelwahab, Professor Francis Botchway, etc.

This year's event, to be held on the **13<sup>th</sup> of May 2018**, will feature Justice Kannan Ramesh of the Singapore Supreme Court Professor Lucy Reed, Director of the Center for International Law (Singapore National University) and a well-known arbitrator, Justice Frances Kirkham of the Qatar International Court, Mr. Michael Patchett Joyce, Barrister of Outer Temple, London, and others.

You are cordially invited to this pioneering conference. You can simply register for this conference by sending an email to [law.events@qu.edu.qa](mailto:law.events@qu.edu.qa)

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