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**After the Referendum: A Constitution for an Independent Scotland**

13 November 2013

Court/Senate Suite, Collins Building, University of Strathclyde

9.15 am – 5 pm

This is the first of two workshops exploring the implications of a referendum for Scotland’s constitution. This workshop focuses on the constitutional implications of a yes vote; the second, to be held at the University of Glasgow on 26 November 2013, will discuss what constitutional changes might nevertheless be desirable in the event of a no vote.

The widely shared assumption – endorsed by the Scottish Government – is that an independent Scotland would join the overwhelming majority of nations in adopting a written constitution. In this workshop we will explore a range of issues raised by the prospect of a written Scottish constitution, including: the process for adopting a constitution and interim constitutional arrangements; the content of a written constitution, covering both substantive values and institutional questions; and the legal status of a written constitution, exploring models of entrenchment, interpretation and amendment, as well as the relationship of the constitution to other regional and global legal orders.

***Programme***

**9 am – 9.15 am: Registration and coffee**

**9.15 am – 9.20 am: Welcome**

**9.20 am – 10.50 am: Session 1: The when and the how of constitution-making**

Chair: Dr Chris McCorkindale, University of Strathclyde

Paper 1 – *Managing the Constitutional Transition,* Colin McKay, Scottish Government

Paper 2 – *Comparative Lessons for Effective Constitution-Making*, Dr Elliot Bulmer, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

Paper 3 – *Citizen Participation in Constitution-Making*, Oliver Escobar, University of Edinburgh

**10.50 am – 11.10 am: Coffee**

**11.10 am – 12.40 pm: Session 2: Constitutional values for an independent Scotland**

Chair: Nick Barber, University of Oxford

Paper 1 – *In Praise of Short Constitutions*, Andrew Tickell, University of Oxford

Paper 2 – *Protecting Socio-Economic Rights*, Professor Keith Ewing, King’s College London

Paper 3 – *The Constitution and Public Goods*, Professor Aileen McHarg, University of Strathclyde

**12.40 pm – 1.45 pm: Lunch**

**1.45 pm – 3.15 pm: Session 3: Constitutional institutions in an independent Scotland**

Chair: Professor Stephen Tierney, University of Edinburgh

Paper 1 *– The Role of the Scottish Parliament in a Devolved or Independent Scotland*, Professor Paul Cairney, University of Stirling

Paper 2 – *The Executive in the Constitution*, Professor Alan Page, University of Dundee

Paper 3 – *Local (and Regional?) Government*, Professor Chris Himsworth, University of Edinburgh

**3.15 pm – 3.30 pm: Coffee**

**3.30 pm – 5 pm: Session 4: The constitution as higher law**

Chair: Jean Urquhart MSP

Paper 1 – *Models of Constitutional Enforcement*, Christine O’Neill, Brodies

Paper 2 – *The Living Constitution*, Dr Elisenda Casenas Adam, University of Edinburgh

Paper 3 – *The Constitution and other Legal Orders*, Professor Neil Walker, University of Edinburgh