Prof. KENNETH ARMSTRONG
Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge

Opening Lecture
Governed by Europe or Governing through Europe
Lessons from Brexit

Tuesday 26th February, 6pm
Institut d’Études européennes
Room Spaak
Avenue Franklin D. Roosevelt 39
1050 Brussels

The lecture will be followed by a reception
All welcome but registration required by February 18th
at kennetharmstrong.eventbrite.com
Info: fwa.ulb.ac.be - fwa@ulb.ac.be

Following lectures
27th February 4pm-6pm
28th February 12am-2pm and 5pm-7pm
1st March 9am-11am and 12am-2pm
Biographical Note

Kenneth Armstrong was elected to the Professorship of European law at the University of Cambridge in September 2013. Before joining the Faculty, Kenneth was Professor of EU law at Queen Mary, University of London. He has held visiting positions at Edinburgh University, the European University Institute and at New York University School of Law. He is a Fellow of Sidney Sussex College. He is editor in chief of the Cambridge Yearbook of European Legal Studies.

Kenneth has written extensively in the field of European Union law and policy, with a particular focus on the evolving governance and institutional structures of the EU. His book Governing Social Inclusion: Europeanization through Policy Coordination was published by Oxford University Press in 2010 and won the 2011 UACES Best Book Prize. His book Brexit Time: Leaving the EU - Why, How and When? was published by Cambridge University Press in 2017. He writes a blog at brexittime.com.

Kenneth has been awarded a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship to analyse the dynamics of regulatory alignment and divergence after Brexit. The project will run from 2018-21.

Abstract of the Opening Lecture

Every democratic and constitutional order experiences the same dilemma, namely how to govern through a set of political and legal structures while at the same time being governed by those structures. The way in which we conventionally resolve this dilemma is by emphasising that these structures and the discipline that they exert are a means of self-government and self-realisation.

Extrapolating this idea to the European Union is more difficult. Many of the EU’s recent crises seem to emphasise the disciplining aspects of membership - fiscal discipline after the financial and economic crisis; the discipline of burden-sharing and solidarity after the refugee crisis - rather than the self-realising aspects of what it means for European states to govern collectively through EU institutions.

The aim of this lecture is to analyse the discipline of membership against the backdrop of the challenges facing the European Union, including the challenge of Brexit. It addresses concerns that the EU has lost its ‘mission legitimacy’ and considers how the EU might seek to address that problem in ways that make the discipline of membership a means of self-government and self-realisation.
Practical Information

When: Tuesday 26th February, 6pm

Where: Room Spaak, Institute for European Studies,
ULB, Avenue Franklin D. Roosevelt 39, 1050 Bruxelles

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