Prof. John R Spencer  
Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge

Opening Lecture

Noli me tangere?  
Tensions between Europe and the UK over criminal justice

Tuesday 17 March 2015, 5.30 pm  
ULB - Dupréel Room - Avenue Jeanne 44 - Brussels

The lecture will be followed by a reception  
All welcome. Registration by March 12: fwa@ulb.ac.be  
More information: fwa.ulb.ac.be

Following lectures (Room Spaak, IEE)

Wednesday 18 March 10.00-12.00 and 14.00-16.00  
"Levelling up, levelling down, or leaving things alone?  
The EU and attempts to harmonise the rules of criminal law and criminal procedure"

Monday 30 March 14.00-16.00  
"The European Arrest Warrant: whose standards of justice should apply?"

Tuesday 31 March 14.00-16.00  
"The European Public Prosecutor: saviour, monster, or a waste of space?"

Wednesday 1 April 10.00-12.00  
"The right to silence – sacred cow, or sacred principle?"
Abstract

Professor Spencer will examine current discontent in the UK with the Strasbourg Court and the European Convention, much of which relates to criminal justice matters, and current political moves to “liberate” the national courts from their obligations to apply the Convention and the Strasbourg case-law that interprets it. He will then examine parallel moves to “liberate” the criminal justice system of the UK from the influence of Brussels, Luxembourg and the EU. Much of the current discontent, he believes, is based upon grave misunderstandings – both about the administration of criminal justice in Continental Europe, and the supposed desire of “Europeans” to force the British to adopt Continental ways.

Biographical Note

John R Spencer Q.C., LL.D was a Professor of Law at the University of Cambridge until his retirement in September 2013, when he became a Professor Emeritus. In a career lasting over 40 years he has written extensively on criminal law, criminal evidence and comparative criminal procedure, including on law enforcement and police cooperation. His interests include European criminal law. In particular, he was a member of the international team responsible for drafting the Corpus Juris project. Besides his book (with Mireille Delmas-Marty) on European criminal procedures, he has written or edited books dealing with various aspects of the law of evidence in England and Wales, and also a short book in French about English criminal procedure. He is the ECLAN Contact Point for the United Kingdom. He is Life Fellow of Selwyn College, Cambridge, and a Bye-Fellow of Murray Edwards College, Cambridge.
“Noli me tangere? Tensions between Europe and the UK over criminal justice”
Professor John R Spencer, Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge

When: Tuesday 17 March 2015 at 5.30 pm
Where: Université libre de Bruxelles, Dupréel Room (Building S, 1st floor)
        Avenue Jeanne 44, 1050 Brussels

Please confirm your attendance by March 12: fwa@ulb.ac.be