



AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND SCRUTINY OF LEGISLATION CONFERENCE

DECEMBER 2024
PARLIAMENT HOUSE, MELBOURNE VICTORIA

PROGRAM

Tuesday, 3 December 2024 – 5 pm Reception

5:00–7:00 pm **Welcome Reception at Parliament House** Queen's Hall
Registration / Cocktail party

Wednesday, 4 December 2024 – Morning

8:00 am **Registration open** Queen's Hall
Arrival tea and coffee / refreshment item

9:00 am **Welcome to Country** Legislative Assembly Chamber

9:15 am **Opening comments and welcome – Gary Maas MP, Chair, SARC (Vic)** Legislative Assembly Chamber

9:30–9:50 am **Session – Keynote Address – The Honourable Jaclyn Symes MP, Attorney-General of Victoria** Legislative Assembly Chamber

9:50–10:15 am **Morning tea** Queen's Hall

SESSION 1 – COVID-19 Emergency legislation — What should be scrutinised?

Convenor – Gary Maas MP (Vic)
[Location: Legislative Assembly Chamber]

10:15–10:55 am **'To scrutinise or not to scrutinise? A critical assessment of the scope of delegated legislative scrutiny jurisdictions'**

Professor Gabrielle Appleby
Law and Justice, University of NSW

10:55–11:00 am **Questions from the audience**

11:00–11:55 am **'Parliamentary scrutiny of COVID-19 legislation'**

Hon David Parker MP, Chairperson,
Regulations Review Committee (NZ) (approx. 30 mins)

'Reigning in Hell: Legislation in an Emergency'

Ryan Hamilton MP, Deputy Chairperson,
Regulations Review Committee (NZ) and
Constance Mailer, Legislative Counsel (approx. 30 mins)

11:55–12:00 pm **Questions from the audience**

12:00 noon–12:30 pm **General discussion:
'How do Scrutiny Committees interact with Government and how should they respond?'**

12:30–1:15 pm **Lunch** Queen's Hall

Wednesday, 4 December 2024 – Afternoon

SESSION 2 – Scrutiny Committees – What does success look like? – Artificial Intelligence

Convenor – Kathleen Matthews-Ward MP (Vic)

[Location: Legislative Assembly Chamber]

1:15–1:55 pm

‘Reconceptualising the role and purpose of scrutiny committees: who do they work for and what does success look like?’

Dr Sarah Moulds, Associate Professor in Law,
Justice & Society, UniSA

1:55–2:00 pm

Questions from the audience

2:00–2:40 pm

Exploring the Legislative Scrutiny Potential of Artificial Intelligence: A Cross-Platform Study

Professor Lorne Neudorf, La Trobe University, and
Associate Professor Sam Dahan, Queens University, Canada

2:40–2:45 pm

Questions from the audience

2:45–3:00 pm

General discussion

3:00–3:15 pm

Afternoon tea

Queen’s Hall

SESSIONS 3A and 3B – Alternate sessions – Scrutiny of legislation – Emerging trends – Artificial intelligence – Other matters

SESSION 3A

Convenor – Professor Jeremy Gans (Vic)

[Location: Legislative Assembly Chamber]

3:15–3:45 pm

‘A potential game changer for Legislative Scrutiny Committees: Artificial Intelligence’

Matt Balfour, Secretary, Legislative Review Committee (SA)

3:45–3:50 pm

Questions from the audience

3:50–4:30 pm

**General discussion:
‘What form of legislative scrutiny is most effective in securing rights protection? How are Committees staffed?’**

Delegates:
Mary Westcott (Qld)
Anita Coles (Dept of Senate)
Hon Cameron Murphy MLC (NSW)

SESSION 3B – What Parliament didn’t say and new ground

Convenor – Stephen Argument (ACT)

[Location: Legislative Council Chamber]

3:15–3:45 pm

‘What Parliament Didn’t Say: The Impact of Silence in Legislative Scrutiny on Statutory Interpretation’

Dr Jacinta Dharmananda, Senior Lecturer
Law School, University of Western Australia

3:45–3:50 pm

Questions from the audience

3:50–4:15 pm

‘Breaking new ground – expanding the scrutiny function of the New South Wales Legislative Council’s Regulation Committee’

Hon. Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Chair,
Regulation Committee (NSW)

4:15–4:25 pm

Questions from the audience and general discussion

Delegate:
Stephen Argument (ACT)

4:30 pm

End

Wednesday, 4 December 2024 – Conference Dinner

6:30 pm

Conference dinner
State Library of Victoria

Thursday, 5 December 2024 – Final Day

8:00 am Arrival tea and coffee / refreshment item Vestibule
Optional tour of Parliament House – 8:15 am

SESSION 4 – Traditional scrutiny of legislation and other subject matter

Convenor – The Honourable David Davis MLC (Vic)
[Location: Legislative Assembly Chamber]

9:00–9:40 am **‘Commonwealth Parliamentary Scrutiny of Henry VIII Powers’**
Associate Professor Andrew Edgar,
Law School, University of Sydney

9:40–9:45 am **Questions from the audience and general discussion**

9:45–10:25 am **‘Explanatory Memorandums for proposed legislation in Australia:
Are they fulfilling their purpose?’**
Alex Hickman, Legal Advisory Officer, Legislative Council
Committee Office of Western Australia

10:25–10:30 am **Questions from the audience and general discussion**

10:30–10:45 am **Morning tea** Queen’s Hall

SESSION 5 – Other Directions – Animal Rights

Convenor – Rachel Payne MLC (Vic)
[Location: Legislative Assembly Chamber]

10:45–11:30 am **‘Animal rights Scrutiny’**
Professor Jeremy Gans, University of Melbourne

11:30–11:35 am **Questions from the audience and general discussion**

11:35 am–12:20 pm **‘When is the job of the parliamentarian done? Towards a life-cycle
model of legislative scrutiny in Australia through post-legislative scrutiny’**
Sam Hastings, Clerk of the Legislative Council &
Clerk of the Parliaments, Parliament of Western Australia

12:20–12:30 pm **Questions from the audience and general discussion**

12:30–1:30 pm **Lunch** Queen’s Hall

SESSION 6 – Final

Convenor Gary Maas MP (Vic)
[Location: Legislative Assembly Chamber]

1:30–1:55 pm **‘Is Parliament only giving cursory attention to the respect of human rights?
Scrutiny is a pre-cursor to democracy but are people listening?’**
Lynda Voltz MP, Chair,
Legislation Review Committee (NSW)

1:55–2:00 pm **Questions from the audience**

2:00–2:30 pm **Conference round up and formal close**

2:30–3:30 pm **Afternoon Tea** Queen’s Hall