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groningen centre for law and governance

International conference on Judicial and Quasi- Judicial Independence

University of Groningen, Netherlands



At the Remonstrantse kerk,
Coehoornsingel 14, Groningen
Friday, May 25, 2012

~ Groningen Centre for Law and Governance ~
International Conference

09.30 Registration, Tea / Coffee

10.00 **Welcome**

Jan Berend Wezeman, *Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Groningen*

Introductory Remarks

Suzanne Comtois, *Visiting Professor of Public Law, University of Groningen and Professor at the University of Sherbrooke*

10.10 **SESSION I: Independence and the Rule of Law**

- Chair: Professor Suzanne Comtois

Social Systems Theory and Judicial Independence

Professor Martine Valois, *University of Montreal*

Protection effective de l'indépendance de l'autorité judiciaire en France*

Mr. Guy Canivet, *Member of the Constitutional Council, Paris and First Honorary President of the Court of Cassation (*english translation provided)*

Effective Protection from the Administration and the Role of the Courts in the Netherlands

Mr. Willem Konijnenbelt, *Professor emeritus and former member of the Dutch Council of State*

11.30 **Tea / Coffee break**

11.45 **SESSION II: Independence and Accountability of Judges and Adjudicators**

- Chair: Professor Marc Hertogh, *University of Groningen*

Adjudicative Independence in Canada: Constitutional Dimensions and Current Issues

Judge John Evans, *Canadian Federal Court of Appeal*

The Accountability of the Judiciary to the Executive and to Parliament

Professor Robert Hazell, *University College London*

Court Judges: Neutral, Objective, or Independent?

Professor Mauro Zamboni, *Stockholm University and Visiting Professor, University of Groningen*

13.00 **Lunch break**

~ Judicial and Quasi-Judicial Independence ~
Groningen, Friday 25 May, 2012

14.00 **SESSION III: Independent Regulatory Agencies and Advisory Committees**

- Chair: Professor Herman Bröring, *University of Groningen*

Independence of Regulatory Authorities and the Influence of European Law

Professor Annetje Ottow, *Utrecht University and member of OPTA*

Independent Regulatory Agencies and Formal Governmental Control

Professor Heinrich Winter, *University of Groningen*

On the Interaction between a Public Decision- Making Authority and its "Independent" Advisory Committee

Professor Dick A. Lubach, *University of Groningen*

15.15 **Tea / Coffee break**

15.30 **SESSION IV: Independence of Complaint Committees and Enforcement Authorities**

- Chair: Professor Ko de Ridder, *University of Groningen*

A Call for Independent Environmental Law Enforcement

Professor Gustaaf Biezeveld, *University of Groningen*

Advisory Complaint Committees: Deviation or Acceptance?

Professor Jan Jans, *University of Groningen*

Final Dispute Resolution by Administrative Courts and Independence

Dr. Kars de Graaf, *University of Groningen, and Professor Bert Marseille, University of Groningen/Tilburg University*

16.45 **Closing Comments**

Professor Suzanne Comtois

17.00 **Drinks**

~ End of conference ~



The *Department of Administrative Law and Public Administration* and the *Groningen Centre for Law and Governance*, invite you to register for this one-day international conference on *Judicial and Quasi-Judicial Independence* to be held Friday, the 25th of May 2012 in Groningen, Netherlands.

You may do so by sending an email including your name, title, address and professional affiliation to the following address: conference-on-independence@rug.nl

On behalf of the organizing committee, we look forward to welcoming you in Groningen.

Professor Suzanne Comtois
Dr. Kars de Graaf

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- Please consult: <http://www.rug.nl/gcl/congressen/conference-on-independence> for more details.
Admission to this Conference is free of charge