

CALL FOR PAPERS

ONLINE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“Legalisation of Same-sex Marriage: A Global Perspective”

Tuesday and Wednesday, 7th and 8th December 2021

8.30am - 12.30pm Hanoi Time (GMT+7)

12.30pm - 16.30pm Melbourne Time (GMT+11)

Dear Friend/Colleague,

As of 2021, marriage between people of the same sex has been legally performed in 29 countries. The Netherlands was the first country in the world to legalise same-sex marriage exactly 20 years ago, with the most recent being Costa Rica in 2020. No country has reversed a law allowing same-sex marriage, while support for same-sex marriage has also increased. In 2019, Taiwan became the first government in Asia to welcome legalisation on same-sex marriage. A Japanese court ruled that the government's failure to allow same-sex marriages is violating Article 14 of the Constitution, which ensures the right to equality. Other countries in Asia, including Thailand, have also been discussing the prospect of legalising same-sex marriage.

However, fighting for equality in marriage is nowhere near completion. Most parts of Asia, Africa, and Latin America still have laws banning same-sex marriage, with nearly 70 countries continuing to criminalise same-sex relations. The world is polarised regarding LGBTIQ acceptance. The rise of nationalism, anti-globalisation and undiscovered intersectional impacts of the pandemic on the marriage equality movement have meant that opposition remains strong in many countries.

In that context, an online conference titled “**Legalisation of Same-sex Marriage: A Global Perspective**” will be hosted on **7th and 8th December 2021** by:

- School of Law, Vietnam National University Hanoi
- Asian Law Centre, Melbourne Law School, The University of Melbourne
- The iSEE Institute, Vietnam

The themes of the online conference will include, but are not limited to:

- *Legalisation of same-sex marriage in countries*
- *Effective legal frameworks for same-sex marriage*
- *Social, economic and cultural impacts of same-sex marriage after legalisation*
- *Civil unions, registered partnerships, domestic partnerships for same-sex couples*
- *Adaption of non-binary, non-heteronormative legislation*
- *Marriages of transgender people*
- *Joint adoption, single parent, same-sex parenting, surrogacy*
- *Transnational marriage involving same-sex unions*
- *Raising public awareness and social acceptance of same-sex marriage*
- *The role of NGOs and civil society in building community and advocating for marriage equality*

We are inviting scholars and practitioners working in this area to submit abstracts that would fit within the broad themes of the conference.

Online Platform

The conference will take place online via the *Zoom Meetings* platform and will be hosted by the Asian Law Centre, Melbourne Law School, The University of Melbourne.

Zoom link and ID: Registered participants will be notified of the Zoom link and ID prior to the conference.

Submission of Abstracts

Authors should submit a 200-to-300-word abstract, which includes a title of the proposed paper and his/her short biographical details (including name, email, academic appointment, affiliations).

Abstracts are to be submitted by **15 October 2021** via this link: <http://go.unimelb.edu.au/uz5i>

If you have difficulties in submitting this form, please email k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au Notification of the result will be sent to you via email by 20 October 2021).

Submission of Papers

Full papers are not required prior to the conference, although it would be very useful for participants if they are made available. Submitted papers will be uploaded to the conference website.

Please submit papers to k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au by **30 November 2021** to be included on the website prior to the conference. See 'Publication' for the preferred format of submitted papers.

Publication

Selected papers will be published in the conference proceedings book, with agreement from authors. The conference proceedings book will not be published for commercial purposes.

To be included in the conference proceedings book, full papers (preferably 5000 – 8000 words, inclusive of footnotes) are to be submitted by **3 January 2022** to vnuls.humanrights@gmail.com.

To facilitate the editing process, we would appreciate it if you could adhere to the submission deadline and follow the specifications below in preparing your conference paper. Failure to comply will result in the paper not being included.

- Paper Title, Author's Title and Name, University/Organisation, and Email Address
- Font: Times New Roman, size 12
- Single line spacing of text throughout
- Microsoft Word Document Format (.doc or .docx)
- Length: no more than 10,000 words, inclusive of footnotes (5000 to 8000-word papers are preferred)
- Referencing standard: Oxford Standard for the Citation Of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA): https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/sites/files/oxlaw/oscola_4th_edn_hart_2012quickreferenceguide.pdf

Registration

Conference attendance is free; however, registration is essential (for both authors and participants without papers). Guidelines for conference attendance will be sent to you via email.

Please register your participation by **6 December 2021** via this link: <http://go.unimelb.edu.au/oz5i>

Successful registration will be confirmed shortly thereafter. If you have any technical difficulties when submitting this form, please email k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au

Contact

Conference website: <http://go.unimelb.edu.au/yz5i>

Please direct queries about the conference to:

- Asian Law Centre, Melbourne Law School: Kathryn Taylor at k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au
- VNU School of Law: Nguyen Anh Duc at nguyenanhducvg@yahoo.com
- iSEE Institute, Vietnam: Duong Dang at dtduong@isee.org.vn