

CALL FOR PAPERS
ONLINE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
"Life Imprisonment in Asia: Law and Practice"
Tuesday and Wednesday, 5-6 October 2021

Hanoi Time (GMT+7): 1.00pm – 5.00pm
London time (GMT+0): 7.00am – 11.00am
Manila Time (GMT+8): 2.00pm – 6.00pm
Melbourne Time (GMT+11): 5.00pm – 9.00pm

Dear Friend/Colleague,

Life imprisonment is a sentence, following a criminal conviction, which gives the state the power to detain a person in prison for life, that is, until they die there.¹ Most countries in the world accept that some type of life sentence may be imposed on some persons convicted of serious offenses. However, given the continuing and, in all likelihood, expanding use of life imprisonment, the development of environments that minimise the potential human costs of these sanctions is a critical concern. Over recent decades, international, regional, and national standards of human rights have emerged as increasingly important means of protecting prisoners against abuse or the types of painfulness and treatment, including life imprisonment.²

In that context, an online international conference titled "**Life Imprisonment in Asia: Law and Practice**" will be co-hosted on **5-6 October 2021** by:

- School of Law, University of Nottingham
- School of Law, Vietnam National University Hanoi
- International Organization of Educators and Researchers Inc. (IOER)
- Asian Law Centre, Melbourne Law School, The University of Melbourne

We are inviting scholars and practitioners working in this area to submit abstracts that would fit within the broad framework of the conference. Papers should focus on one or more of the themes below, and may adopt a national or comparative perspective:

- *Imposing life imprisonment (on whom, for what, and how is life imprisonment imposed)*
- *The treatment of life sentence prisoners (regime, conditions, access to rehabilitation)*
- *Release of life sentence prisoners (including conditional release, recall to prison, if applicable)*
- *The application of international human rights standards to life sentences*
- *Life sentence prison population statistics*

¹ Van ZYL SMIT, DIRK, and CATHERINE APPLETON. "Describing Life." In *Life Imprisonment: A Global Human Rights Analysis*, 35-85. Cambridge, Massachusetts; London, England: Harvard University Press, 2019. Accessed February 13, 2021. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctvckq60v.5>.

² DIRK van ZYL SMIT and CATHERINE APPLETON (2019), *ibid*, pp. 104-125

Online Platform and Language

The conference will take place online via the *Zoom Meetings* platform.

The language to be used at the conference is English, with simultaneous interpretation to Vietnamese. Vietnamese authors can therefore submit their abstract/paper in English and in their own language, as well as present in English or Vietnamese.

Submission of Abstracts

Authors should submit a 200-400-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 **30 July 2021** via this link: <http://go.unimelb.edu.au/zm2i>

If you have difficulties in submitting this form, please email Kathryn Taylor at k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au.

Notification of the result will be sent to you via email.

Submission of Papers

A limited number of speakers will be able to present at the conference, but all are welcome to submit papers for the conference website.

Please submit papers to Kathryn Taylor at k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au by **30 September 2021**. See 'Publication' for the preferred format of submitted 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.

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 **30 October 2021** to Kathryn Taylor at k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au

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/Organization, 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 and provided on the conference website.

Please register your participation by **30 September 2021** via this link: <http://go.unimelb.edu.au/3t2i>

Successful registration will be confirmed shortly thereafter. If you have any technical difficulties when registering for the conference, please email k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au

Contact

Conference website: <http://go.unimelb.edu.au/qt2i>

Please direct queries about the conference to:

Kathryn Taylor (in English) at k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au

Giao, Vucong (in Vietnamese) at giaovnu@gmail.com