

**Dear Friend,**

The **Danube Institute** cordially invites you to its new event

**COURTS, GOVERNMENTS AND RIGHTS**

Date: **September 27**

Location: **Magyar Tudományos Akadémia, 1051 Budapest, Széchenyi István tér 9**

Time: registration at **9 AM**

Registration is required. **Please register here:**

<http://danubeinstitute.hu/jelentkezes/index.php?eventid=227>

Around the world democratic governments find themselves in tense relationships, sometimes in conflict, with courts that exercise powers under their constitutions to cancel or amend laws and regulations passed by parliamentary majorities.

Federal courts in the U. S., judges in the United Kingdom, international courts and courts in countries as far afield as Australia and Israel have increasingly exercised powers that a generation ago were thought to be the prerogative of democratic majorities. This has led to controversies over such matters as same sex marriage, Brexit and the deportation of terrorists.

Examining the question,

**"WHAT IS THE APPROPRIATE ROLE OF COURTS AND CONSTITUTIONAL COURTS IN A FUNCTIONING LIBERAL DEMOCRACY?"**

are

Professor **James Allan**, University of Queensland, AU,

and Professor **David Martin Jones**, Kings College London, UK.

Topics include:

**\* Constitutional Law, Europe and Germany**

**\* Human rights, National Rights, Europe and Hungary**

**\* Normative Delusions: International Law, Human Rights and the Return to Realism in Foreign Policy**

**\* Constitution, Politics and Judicial Power**

Professor David Martin Jones will examine international law, norms and rights and their deleterious impact on the West's conduct of international politics. Professor Jones will argue the necessity of a return to a classically realist understanding of foreign policy that emphasises prudence and diplomacy rather than international norms and human rights.

Professor James Allan will discuss written constitutions and the pre-EU UK unwritten constitutional model, federalism judging and bill of rights judging, the increasing politicisation of judging and signs of an increasing resistance and backlash to this politicisation. Additional speakers to be announced. Registration at 9:00, program starts at 9:30 and will conclude at 2:00 p.m.

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