

The conference is part of the Research Project “Jurisdiction and Pluralisms” funded by the Italian Ministry of University and Research as a project of national relevance (P.R.I.N.) and is developed by research units located in several Italian Universities (Bari, Calabria, Napoli II, Napoli Parthenope, Trento, Trieste, Torino, Udine). The National Coordinator is Prof. Roberto Toniatti, University of Trento.

The Conference will explore judicial pluralism in India from several interrelated perspectives: pluralism in the Constitution; the implications of Indian federalism for the judiciary and the role of local bodies in dispute resolution; the application of personal laws in the courts; the interaction between official and unofficial law; the issues of diversity in the courts and judicial activism from the perspective of the representation of interests and needs of different segments of Indian society.

#### SCIENTIFIC AND ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Mia Caielli, Chiara Correndo, Domenico Francavilla  
(University of Torino)

#### REGISTRATION AND INFO

[jupls-india.dg@unito.it](mailto:jupls-india.dg@unito.it)

*Registration is appreciated*

## Diversity and the Courts: Judicial Pluralism in India

18-19 September 2014

Room D4-H1, Campus Luigi  
Einaudi, Lungo Dora Siena  
100, Torino



9.00 - 9.30 | Registration

**OPENING SESSION**

9.30-11.00 | *Welcome address*, Gianmaria Ajani (Rector, University of Torino)

*Presentation of the "Jurisdiction and Pluralisms" Research Project*, Jens Woelk (University of Trento)

*Constitutional Pluralism in India*, Mahendra Pal Singh (Central University of Haryana)

Debate

Coffee Break

**SESSION 1: Federalism and Judiciary**

11.30-13.00 | Chair: Mario Comba (University of Torino)

*Indian Federalism: The Role of the Judiciary*, Domenico Amirante (Napoli II University)

*An Overview of the Systems of Dispute Resolution at Village Level through Nyaya Panchayats in India*, Arvind Agrawal (Central University of Himachal Pradesh)

Debate

Lunch

**SESSION 2: The Role of the Courts in Managing Legal Pluralism**

15.00 -16.30 | Chair: Domenico Francavilla (University of Torino)

*The Messiness of Indian Family Law Adjudication: Default or Design?* Werner Menski (SOAS, University of London)

*Understanding a Minority Litigant's Approach to Dispute Settlement in India*, Kalindi Kokal (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle)

Debate

Coffee Break

**SESSION 3: Representation and the Judiciary**

17.00-18.30 | Chair: Mia Caielli (University of Torino)

*Diversity in the Judiciary: India in Comparative Perspective*, Alex Fischer (SOAS, University of London)

*Towards Structural Adjustment of Indian Judicial Activism? Or, Towards Demosprudence?* Upendra Baxi (University of Warwick)

Debate

Dinner

**ROUNDTABLE**

*Sustainable Pluralism and the Law: Can Courts Manage Diversity Better than Legislation?*

9.30 -11.00 | Chair: Roberto Scarciglia (University of Trieste)

Arvind Agrawal, Domenico Amirante, Upendra Baxi, Alex Fischer, Kalindi Kokal, Werner Menski, Mahendra Pal Singh

11.00 | *Concluding Remarks*, Roberto Toniatti (University of Trento)

Light Lunch