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cordially invite you to the

SCIENCE  
CIRCLE  
LECTURE

## "Legal Transfer in the Common Law World"

Prof. Dr. Stefan Vogenauer

Director, Max Planck Institute for European Legal History

Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016, 5:30 pm

German House, 2 Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021

Kindly be seated by 5:15 pm. The lecture will be followed by refreshments.

To attend, please register on <http://eepurl.com/co6K95>

### Prof. Dr. Stefan Vogenauer



Professor Stefan Vogenauer has been Director of the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History since 2015. From 2003-2015, he held the established Chair in Comparative Law at the University of Oxford where he also served as a Fellow of Brasenose College and as Director of the Institute of European and Comparative Law. Prior to this, Professor Vogenauer was based in Hamburg as a Senior Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law and a part-time lecturer at Bucerius Law School. He has received his legal education in Kiel, Paris, Oxford (Trinity College, MJur 1995, Clifford Chance and Herbert Hart Prizes) and practical training from Regensburg. He has held several visiting positions at University of Melbourne, Paris II, Stellenbosch, Bucerius Law School, NYU and University of Texas at Austin.

Professor Vogenauer works mostly in the areas of European legal history, comparative and transnational private law with particular interest in legal transfers in the common law world, the history of EU law and the comparative history of legal method.

In 2012, he received the Humboldt Award 'in recognition of his lifetime achievements in research'. For his comparative and historical analysis of the interpretation of statutes in English, French, German and EU law, he was awarded the Max Weber Prize of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities and the Otto Hahn Medal of the Max Planck Society in 2002, as well as the 2008 Prize of the German Legal History Conference.

### Legal Transfer in the Common Law World

As the British Empire expanded, English law was being introduced in very different parts of the world. Rules, principles and institutions from England were brought into force in regions and societies as diverse as Australia, Ghana, India, Jamaica and Singapore. In many cases English law encountered local or regional traditions, both legal and non-legal. To what extent did these encounters differ from each other? Was there ever anything resembling the frequently invoked 'unity of the common law'? Or did the law of England acquire a distinctive flavour in each territory, depending on the geography, the climate and the prevailing religious, moral and economic views of the inhabitants? And, finally, can we learn anything from the experience of English law for the broader debate on legal 'transplants' and, even more generally, legal development as such?

