Calendar for November 2022

10 November
Thursday,
7.30pm

Chaired
Chaired by:
Professor Graham Watt

The Nature of Justice
Baroness Helena Kennedy KC

Baroness Helena Kennedy KC is one of Britain's most distinguished lawyers. She has spent her professional life giving voice to those who have least power within the system, championing civil liberties and promoting human rights. She has conducted many prominent cases of terrorism, official secrets and homicide. She is the founding force behind the establishment of the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights at the University of Oxford. In 1997, she was elevated to the House of Lords where she is a Labour peer. She has published a number of books including two on how the justice system is failing women, and has written and broadcasted on many issues over the years. Currently, she has taken on the role of Director to the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute. She directs the Institute's work upholding the rule of law and human rights globally.

Justice is an ethical concept. It is a core value. It demands that people should be treated fairly, properly, without bias or discrimination in their human interactions. A child soon develops a sense of what is fair and what is not. Most societies develop rules for co-existence and, where there is a breach of such commandments or laws, processes are developed to provide remedies; a collective wisdom has developed which insists that such remedies should be arrived at justly, through procedural rules.

At the heart of our criminal justice system is a social contract which involves handing over our individual grievances to the state for decision making and punishment. The questions which arise concerns who makes the rules and who are the arbiters of justice. This lecture will engage with these issues in our contemporary society and in the international arena.

23 November
Wednesday,
7.30pm
Chaired by:
Tony Burton

Changing Places: Migration and Climate Change
Professor Neil Adger

Neil Adger is Professor of Human Geography at the University of Exeter. He has published across the social and natural sciences on vulnerabilities, public health response, demograph-ic outcomes, and risks from floods, heatwaves, and long-term climatic changes on people and ecosystems. His latest book is Deltas in the Anthropocene.

Climate change will alter the economic geography of every corner of the world. Climate related migration is happening now but is not the principal determinant of current migration flows. How should societies deal with this emerging challenge? First, we need to make destinations safe and resilient for new populations. Second, governments need fair processes to help communities to relocate. There is a growing impetus to contemplate moving people out of harm's way. Third governments need to co-ordinate with like-minded countries in their own regions to facilitate international migrants. International migration due to climate change is only a modest proportion of all flows, but a challenge fraught with political conflict due to highly polarized views on international movement. We should not be alarmist about the prospect of climate migration. But there are good reasons to plan for increased demand for movement, and to mitigate the impact of climate change on populations everywhere.

30 November
Wednesday,
7.30pm
Chaired by:
Professor Adrian Bowman

The Bowman Lecture 2022 in conjunction with the University of Glasgow

Left Behind: how poor places can get trapped, and how they can catch up
Professor Sir Paul Collier

Please register with eventbrite for this talk - details will be sent to members

All lectures take place in Lecture Theatre 201, Sir Charles Wilson Building, University of Glasgow, 1 University Avenue, Glasgow G12 8QQ.

Visitors Welcome - recommended donation £3