

TEN YEARS OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

Post-crisis and pre-Brexit

After almost ten years of deliberations since the announcement of the Company Law Review project in March 1998, the implementation of most parts of the Companies Act 2006 was completed between 2007 and 2008. Consisting of 1300 sections it was the longest statute ever introduced and it ushered a number of significant changes in the law, such as a codified set of directors duties and a statutory process for their enforcement, unrestricted objects clauses, new rules on corporate finance, as well as a more liberal regime for private companies.

Since the Act's implementation, there have been further but less extensive reforms in what can be seen as a live and open-ended programme of legislative

development in the area of Corporate Law. The still unresolved financial crisis of 2007, which ironically coincided with the passing of the Act, has contributed significantly to the debate surrounding Corporate Law reform and, as a result, has rendered the closure of the reform programme even more unlikely in the near future. More recently, Brexit is bound to complicate even further how we think about the law in this area and about companies more generally.

In the light of these developments, a number of leading Corporate Law scholars and experts who will review the most interesting and debated aspects of the Act.

The University of Manchester
Private & Commercial Law Hub
&
Queen Mary, University of London
School of Law

Thursday 8th June 2017

At the offices of **Trowers & Hamlins**
55 Princess Street
Manchester M2 4EW

Programme

- 9.15-9.45** Registration
- 9.45-10.00** Welcome address
- 10.00-10.30** **A Brief History of Neoliberalism (and the Companies Act 2006)**
Paddy Ireland, *University of Bristol*
- 10.30-11.00** **Justifying Shareholder Liability: The Limited Relevance of the Corporate Group**
Chris Riley, *Durham University*
- Chair: Michael Galanis, *University of Manchester*
- 11.00-11.30** Coffee break
- 11.30-12.00** **The Interpretation and Impact of the Duty to Promote the Success of the Company**
Andrew Keay & Taksin Iqbal, *University of Leeds*
- 12.00-12.30** **Reassessing UK company law's shareholder orientation in turbulent times**
Marc Moore, *University of Cambridge*
- 12.30-13.00** **The Legal Pre-Conditions for Making a Broader More Inclusive Corporate Purpose Effective**
David Kershaw, *LSE*
- Chair: Andrew McGee, *University of Manchester*
- 13.00-14.00** Lunch
- 14.00-14.30** **The Irrelevant Part 11 Derivative Claim – a False Alarm and a Missed Opportunity**
Brenda Hannigan, *University of Southampton*
- 14.30-15.00** **The Takeover Panel and the Companies Act 2006 Ten Years on: The End of Self-Regulation and the Rise of Economic Nationalism**
Alan Dignam, *Queen Mary, University of London*
- Chair: Gerard McMeel, *University of Manchester*
- 15.00-15.30** Coffee break
- 15.30-16.00** **Considering the Future of the Legal Capital Regime**
Jennifer Payne, *University of Oxford*
- 16.00-16.30** **The Companies Act 2006 Ten Years on: A Practitioner's View**
Vanessa Knapp OBE, *Queen Mary, University of London*
- Chair: Vincenzo Bavoso, *University of Manchester*
- 16.30-17.30** **PLENARY DISCUSSION**
- Chair: Alan Dignam, *Queen Mary, University of London*