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alexandra.briscoe@vuw.ac.nz

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Announcements

Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Palmer QC: Collected Addresses Part VIII: Constitutional Law (II)

The Palmer Addresses is a collection of speeches and lectures delivered by the Right Honourable Sir Geoffrey Palmer QC, former Prime Minister of New Zealand and Distinguished Fellow of the Victoria University of Wellington Law Faculty. The series is sponsored by an anonymous donor whom the Faculty gratefully acknowledges.

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"The No-Change Rewrite of the New Zealand Labour Party Constitution"

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper No. 35/2022

SIR GEOFFREY PALMER QC, Victoria University of Wellington, Te Herenga Waka - Faculty of Law

Email: geoffrey.palmer@vuw.ac.nz

The introductory address to the Annual Conference of the Labour Party, 8 November 2015. The address argues that the existing Labour Party Constitution has been so contested, so amended and so covered with political moss that it has become incoherent, obscure and confusing. It introduces, instead, a redrafted but substantively unaltered Labour Party Constitution.

"Civics, Constitutions and Democratic Renewal"

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper No. 36/2022

SIR GEOFFREY PALMER QC, Victoria University of Wellington, Te Herenga Waka - Faculty of Law
Email: geoffrey.palmer@vuw.ac.nz

An address to a UN Youth High School Politics event, delivered on 5 August 2017. The address paints a picture of life as a Member of Parliament and explains how Parliament functions. It discusses the reasons behind low voter turnout and the cause of political disengagement among young people.

"Constitutional Law in a Time of Democratic Decline"

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper No. 37/2022

SIR GEOFFREY PALMER QC, Victoria University of Wellington, Te Herenga Waka - Faculty of Law
Email: geoffrey.palmer@vuw.ac.nz

An address to the Asia Forum meeting in Wellington on 10 March 2021. The address discusses modern democratic decline in three sections. The first outlines the nature of democratic decline, touching specifically on recent developments in the United Kingdom and the United States, and on the implications of the "digital revolution". The second considers steps that can be taken to guard against decline. The third deals with other aspects of these issues and what they mean for New Zealand's international relations.

"Democracy, Decay and Constitutions"

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper 38/2022

SIR GEOFFREY PALMER QC, Victoria University of Wellington, Te Herenga Waka - Faculty of Law
Email: geoffrey.palmer@vuw.ac.nz

A speech to the Wellington Rotary Club, delivered on 10 May 2021. The speech addresses the fragility of democracy and how the stable state of New Zealand's government should not give rise to complacency. It discusses the "acute crisis of democratic faith" in Anglo-Saxon democracies, noting that there has been a rise in dissatisfaction with democracy in recent decades. The speech suggests that the lack of a written constitution in New Zealand may contribute to a decay of democratic faith, but that the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 could play a role in mitigating this.

"Peace, Order, and Demonstrations"

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper No. 39/2022

SIR GEOFFREY PALMER QC, Victoria University of Wellington, Te Herenga Waka - Faculty of Law
Email: geoffrey.palmer@vuw.ac.nz

A journalistic piece originally published by *Stuff* on 22 February 2022. In the wake of the anti-mandate protests and occupation of New Zealand's Parliament in early 2022, the article provides a guide to the key legal issues. It outlines the relevant legislative provisions governing the police response, explaining the importance of operational independence and the rule of law. It also touches on how the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 has been misunderstood throughout Covid-19 debates.

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About this eJournal

Victoria University of Wellington - Te Herenga Waka Legal Studies Research Paper Series primarily contains scholarly papers by members of the **Faculty of Law at Victoria University of Wellington**. Some issues collect a number of papers on a similar theme to form a suite of papers on a single topic. Others issues are general or distribute mainly recent work.

The Student/Alumni Series is a subseries of the Victoria University of Wellington - Te Herenga Waka Legal Studies Research Paper Series. The subseries started in 2015 and publishes papers by students and alumni of Victoria University of Wellington, comprising primarily work for honours and postgraduate courses. Papers are collected into thematic or general issues.

The Victoria University of Wellington was founded in 1899 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the reign of Queen Victoria of Great Britain and of the then British Empire. Law teaching started in 1900. The Law Faculty was formally constituted in 1907. The first dean was Richard Maclaurin (1870-1920), an eminent scholar of both law and mathematics. Maclaurin went on to lead the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

as President in its formative years. Early professors included Sir John Salmond (1862-1924), still one of the Common Law's leading scholars. His texts on jurisprudence and torts have gone through many editions and remain in print.

Alumni include Sir Robin Cooke (1926-2006), one of the leading judges of the British Commonwealth. As Baron Cooke of Thorndon, he sat on over 100 appeals to the Appellate Committee of the House of Lords, one of very few Commonwealth judges ever appointed to do so.

Since 1996 the Law School has occupied the Old Government Building in central Wellington. Designed by William Clayton and opened in 1876 to house New Zealand's then civil service, the building is a particularly fine example of Italianate neo-Renaissance style. Unusually among large colonial official buildings of the time it is constructed of wood, apart from chimneys and vaults.

The School is close to New Zealand's Parliament, courts, and the headquarters of government departments. Throughout Victoria's history, our law teachers have contributed actively to policy formation and to law reform. As a result, in addition to many scholarly articles and books, the Victoria SSRN pages include a number of official reports.

Victoria graduates approximately 230 LLB and LLB(Hons) students each year, and about 60 LLM students. The faculty has an increasing number of doctoral students. Ordinarily there are ten to twelve students engaged in PhD research.

Victoria University observes the British system of academic ranks. In North American terms, lecturers and senior lecturers are tenured doctrinal scholars, not legal writing teachers. A senior lecturer corresponds approximately to a North American associate professor in rank.

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Email: rgilson@leland.stanford.edu

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