



**CENTRE FOR
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
AND DIPLOMACY**

Thinking Globally Acting Globally



11th Ruth Steinkraus-Cohen International Law Lecture

**United Nations Association – Westminster branch
in association with
The Centre for International Studies & Diplomacy, SOAS
and
The International Committee of the Bar Council**

6.30pm on Monday 4 February 2013

"The UN and Torture Prevention: theory and practice"

Professor Malcolm Evans

Professor Evans is the current Chairman of the United Nations Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture, other Cruel and Degrading Treatment or Punishment. He is Professor of Public International Law at the University of Bristol and has served as Head of the School of Law (2003-2005) and Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law (2005-2009). He is a renowned authority in the field of international law of the sea and international human rights protection, particularly torture and torture prevention and freedom of religion or belief. Elected to the Subcommittee in 2009, he became Chairperson in 2010.

The Subcommittee was set up in 2007 following the entry into force (2006) of the Optional Protocol on the Convention (2002). Currently, there are sixty-five parties with notable omissions. It has a purely preventive mandate focused on field visits to places of deprivation of liberty with a view to reducing the risk of torture or ill-treatment as well as on advising and assisting States in the establishment of National Preventive Mechanisms and engaging with those mechanisms in the advancement of their work. It co-operates also with other international, regional and national bodies and agencies engaged in activities related to torture prevention. Speaking to the UN General Assembly in October 2012, Professor Evans said: "Our major goal is to see effective National Preventive Mechanisms established in all States parties in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture criteria as swiftly as possible. When coupled with international oversight by the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture, we consider this to be the most potent means possible to prevent torture and ill-treatment."

**Brunei Lecture Theatre, School of Oriental and African Studies
10 Thornhaugh Street, London WC1H 0XG**

to be followed by a reception

The event is open to all. Please register at

<http://internationallawlecture.eventbrite.co.uk/>

or by mail to UNA Law, 61 Sedlescombe Road, London SW6 1RE