



215th Lecture Series 8th February 2017

Lord Macdonald of River Glaven Freedom in a dangerous world

BIOGRAPHY



Ken Macdonald QC's practice ranges from business and corporate crime and associated extraditions, to financial regulation, sanctions busting, terrorism, espionage and human rights law.

A founder member of Matrix Chambers, he was appointed a Recorder of the Crown Court in 2001 and elected Chairman of the Criminal Bar Association in 2003. He served as Director of Public Prosecutions for England and Wales 2003-2008, the first prominent defence lawyer to have been appointed to that post. As DPP, he established the Counter Terrorism Division, the Organised Crime Division, and the Special Crime Division. In 2007, he was knighted for services to the law. Appointed a Deputy High Court Judge in 2010, he entered the House of Lords in the same year.

He was a Visiting Professor of Law at the London School of Economics 2009-2012 and is a member of the Advisory Board

of the Centre for Criminology at the University of Oxford. He has been Chair of the Council of the Orwell Prize since 2015.

In 2012, he became Warden of Wadham College, Oxford.

ABSTRACT

At a time when President Trump is expressing the belief that torture works, and his administration is considering re-opening secret CIA prisons around the world, what is the role of the courts in regulating political and security abuses by governments? Traditionally, citizens have had recourse to the courts to challenge abuses of government power. But now we are seeing an unprecedented increase in secrecy in the administration of justice and, by hiding away misconduct, this risks weakening our oversight of intelligence agencies precisely at a time when they need more scrutiny.

LINKS

<https://www.wadham.ox.ac.uk/people/warden/m/ken-macdonald>

<http://www.matrixlaw.co.uk/member/ken-macdonald/>

**All lectures take place in Lecture Theatre K3.25, John Anderson Building,
University of Strathclyde, Rottenrow East, Glasgow G4 0NG.**

The John Anderson Building is in the pedestrianised area between Rottenrow and Rottenrow East.
Free car parking is available behind the building. From High Street enter Rottenrow East at the Barony.

Refreshments will be served at 9.00pm.