

# Corporate Law, Religion and Social Responsibility

## Speaker Biographies

### **Mr Shakeel Adli**

Shakeel Adli is a solicitor qualified in England and Wales. He spent over 18 years working at various international law firms in London and Dubai and was most recently a partner and the Global Head of Islamic Finance at CMS; the fifth largest law firm in the world. He left legal practice at the start of 2023 to focus on growing a multidisciplinary property development and investment business that he has founded in the UK.

### **Dr Stephen Bogle**

Stephen Bogle is a Senior Lecturer in Private Law at the University of Glasgow. Stephen joined the School in 2014. He has an MA in Philosophy (University of Edinburgh, 2005), an LLB (University of Strathclyde, 2007), an LLM by Research (University of Edinburgh, 2012), and a PhD in Law (University of Edinburgh, 2016). He is a qualified (non-practising) solicitor in Scotland (2010). He teaches delict, contract, and international sales law.

His forthcoming book, *Contract before the Enlightenment* (OUP, 2023) examines the influence of Calvinism, Aristotelianism, and Grotius upon the ideas of James Dalrymple, Viscount Stair.

### **Mr Ephraim Borowski**

Ephraim Borowski is the Director of the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities, and has held numerous other voluntary positions in the Jewish Community in Scotland, for which he was awarded an MBE. He has also been Convener of the ethnic minority umbrella organisation, Bemis, a member of the Scottish Committees of both the EOC and CRE. He is currently Vice-Chair of the Defence Division of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, and chairs the Police Scotland National Independent Strategic Advisory Group on diversity matters.

In a former life, Ephraim was head of the Philosophy Department at Glasgow University, elected member of the University Court, and President of the Glasgow Association of University Teachers. He is author of the Collins Dictionary of Mathematics, and was President of the Royal Philosophical Society of Glasgow, of which he is only the third Honorary Member since Einstein!

### **Ms Anita Bennett**

Anita Bennett is a social and economic researcher and impact evaluation consultant. Until recently, she was Head of Research at the Jubilee Centre Christian think tank where she led a team that recently published a national research report about purpose-driven businesses with Christian influence. After graduating from Cambridge University, she began her career as an economic development consultant and over the years, she has worked for a variety of public, private and third sector organisations. She is now Head of Delivery at Eido Research – a research consultancy that helps Christian organisations to measure and improve their social and spiritual impact. Her interest is in the growth and transformation of people, communities and organisations to become more effective, healthy and purpose-driven for influence and social impact.

### **Dr Catriona Cannon**

Catriona Cannon is a Lecturer in Equality Law in the School of Law at the University of Glasgow. She joined the School in November 2018. She has a PhD (2018) and a LL.B with Honours in Scots Law (2003) from the University of Glasgow and a Diploma in Professional Legal Practice (2004) from the Glasgow Graduate School of Law. She qualified as a solicitor in Scotland in 2006 and prior to taking her post at the University, she worked as a solicitor in commercial legal practice for many years, specialising in the field of employment law.

Catriona's research interests are primarily in the area of Equality Law. She has a particular interest in religion in its human rights and equality law context and in the experiences of religious organisations.

### **Professor Irene-marié Esser**

Professor Irene-marié Esser is a Professor of Corporate Law and Governance in the School of Law at the University of Glasgow and Dean of the Graduate School, College of Social Sciences. Since 2020 she is an Extraordinary Professor at Stellenbosch University, South Africa. Professor Esser acted as Director and Deputy-Director of Postgraduate Teaching and Co-Subject Head of Commercial Law at the School of Law, University of Glasgow from 2018 until 2022 as well as the Early-Career Co-Ordinator. She also served as a Professor Extraordinarius at the University of South Africa (UNISA) and was, until 2017, a Visiting Professor at the Open University, UK. She has been in academia for 15 years and was admitted as an Attorney of the High Court of South Africa in 2005. She was the Company Law Convener for the UK Society of Legal Scholars for 3 years, until 2021. She currently teaches Corporate Governance, Corporate Social Responsibility and Company Law at the University of Glasgow and supervises postgraduate research students in the United Kingdom and South Africa. Her research spans doctrinal and empirical approaches, covering the UK, EU and South Africa in the field of corporate governance, company law and corporate social responsibility.

### **Professor Iain MacNeil**

Iain MacNeil is the Alexander Stone Professor of Commercial Law at the University of Glasgow. His teaching, research and consulting are focused on corporate governance and financial regulation. He began his academic career after a decade working in investment banking in the City of London. He has undertaken research and collaborated with colleagues in Australia, Canada, China, Hong Kong and the United States. Beyond the University of Glasgow, Iain has several roles. He is a member of the advisory board of the Centre for Business Research at the University of Cambridge, the Board of Trustees of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, and Chair of the International Securities Regulation Committee of the International Law Association. He has acted as Senior Adviser on several projects examining national compliance with EU financial sector Directives.

### **Professor Ken McPhail**

Ken is Professor of Accounting at Alliance Manchester Business School (AMBS). He joined the University of Manchester in 2014 taking up the position of Vice Dean Social Responsibility. He was appointed Director of Research, and Deputy Head of AMBS in 2017 where he led the business schools 2021 REF return and was involved in bringing the £32 million ESRC Productivity Institute to Manchester. In December 2022, Ken was appointed incoming Head of AMBS, a position he will assume from August 2023.

Ken researches the role of accounting in helping business be successful in generating profits for their shareholders as well as value for the environment and society. He is currently studying the role of institutional investors in transitioning towards net-zero and the role of business engagement in humanitarian relief as a driver of both technology and business model innovation. Ken was made an honorary member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Australia and New Zealand in 2012 and his seminal work on business and human rights was recognised in 2018 when he was made a fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences.

### **Rev Dr Jock Stein**

Jock Stein is a poet, piper and preacher from Haddington in Scotland. He has degrees from Cambridge, Edinburgh and Glasgow Universities, and brings experience of the Sheffield steel industry, people and places in East Africa, and the life of modern Scotland to his poetry, which began seriously after he reached the age of 70. Earlier in life he ran Carberry Tower, then a 90 bed conference centre, and currently chairs Tyne and Esk Writers. In his spare time he manages the Handsel Press, a small publishing house started in 1975, and a large garden, and is Interim Moderator at Aberlady and Gullane Parish Church.

He is the author of Commentary (poems on economics and politics), and his latest book is Temple and Tartan: Psalms, Poetry and Scotland ([www.handseypress.co.uk](http://www.handseypress.co.uk))