

Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong

## The European Union as a Champion of Peace

*Prof. Gonzalo VILLALTA PUIG*

*Professor of Law, The Chinese University of Hong Kong*

**Date: 19 November, 2012 (Monday)**

**Time: 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm**

**Venue: Lecture Theater 2, THEi Building, Tsing Yi**

The European Union (EU) is the recipient of this year's Nobel Peace Prize. For the Norwegian Nobel Committee, the prize motivation recognises that the EU has 'over six decades contributed to the advancement of peace and reconciliation, democracy and human rights in Europe.' The EU is a champion of peace. Indeed, under Art 3.1 of the Treaty on European Union, its 'aim is to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its peoples'. This seminar paper considers the origins and development of the EU towards an ever closer union among the peoples of Europe. It argues for the significance of its process of regional economic integration to the construction of the European identity and its independence in order to promote peace, security, and progress in Europe and in the world.

Dr Gonzalo Villalta Puig is Professor of Law at The Chinese University of Hong Kong and Director of its Master of Laws Programme in International Economic Law. With years of academic experience in Europe, he last was Reader in Law at the University of Hull. Prof Villalta Puig is a Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales. He is a Fellow of The Higher Education Academy.

Prof Villalta Puig teaches and supervises in the areas of International Trade Law (Preferential Trade Agreements and Economic Integration Agreements: Free-Trade Areas and Customs Unions), European Union Law (the Economic Freedoms of the Internal Market and the Common Commercial Policy of the External Market), and Comparative Constitutional Law. A specialist in Economic Constitutional Law, he researches the role of constitutional courts in the constitutionalisation of free trade in non-unitary jurisdictions, mostly from a comparative approach.

Prof Villalta Puig has a particular research interest in the economic constitution of the European Union. He has published numerous journal articles in some of the best cited periodicals in Europe, such as the European Law Journal, European Law Review, and European Foreign Affairs Review. He has also presented at the prestigious Europa Institute (Leiden University) and has collaborated with the Institute of European Studies (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences).

Prof Villalta Puig is a graduate of The Australian National University and was a sometime Visiting Fellow at its Centre for European Studies.

Language: English

**All are Welcome**

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