

The Foundation for | Law, Justice and Society

The Social Contract Revisited

***Equality and Personal Responsibility
in the New Social Contract***

Wednesday 29 April–Friday 1 May 2009
St Hugh's College, Oxford

In association with the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies,
University of Oxford

Participant Biographies

John Roemer is Stout Professor of Political Science and Economics at Yale University. Prior to joining Yale, he was on the economics faculty at the University of California, Davis, and before entering academia Roemer worked for several years as a labor organizer. Roemer received his A.B. in mathematics summa cum laude from Harvard in 1966. He received his Ph.D. in economics from Berkeley in 1974.

Roemer is famous for his work in the fields of economic philosophy and distributive justice. In recent years he has focused his attention on the topic of equal opportunity. In his book, *Equality of Opportunity*, he argues that society must take the action necessary to ensure that an individual's economic (or welfare) prospects are independent of attributes such as race, gender and the economic class to which one is born. Instead, one's achieved level of welfare should depend solely on the effort that one exerts in life. In another recent monograph, *Democracy, Education and Equality*, Roemer claims that democracy as a political mechanism cannot guarantee, even in the long run, that an individual's prospects will be independent of the wealth or education of his/her parents, and thus we cannot rely on democracy alone for implementing the equality of opportunity concept of justice.

Robert Goodin is Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at the Research School of the Social Sciences at the Australian National University, where he has taught since 1989. Goodin was General Editor of a 10-volume series of *Oxford Handbooks of Political Science* for Oxford University Press; he was founding Editor of Blackwell's *Journal of Political Philosophy*, with previous service as Co-editor of the *British Journal of Political Science* and, for over a decade, as an Associate Editor of *Ethics*. He is also founding Editor of a series of books on 'Theories of Institutional Design' for Cambridge University Press. Goodin's own work focuses on political theory and public policy. His books include: *Political Theory & Public Policy* (U Chicago Press, 1982); *Protecting the Vulnerable* (U Chicago Press, 1985); and *Reasons for Welfare* (Princeton U Press, 1988). In 2009-2010 he will be Visiting Fellow at the National Institutes of Health, Washington, D.C.

Peter Vincent-Jones is Professor of Law, University of Leeds. He is an expert on contractual governance and an author of a highly acclaimed book *The New Public Contracting* (OUP, 2006). His main interests are the overlapping areas of contract and public law, regulation and socio-legal theory. He has published widely on privatization and contractualization of public services in the UK and Europe. He is currently engaged in a five year research project – "Reflexive Governance in the Public Interest" – comparing different modes of healthcare regulation in Britain, France and Hungary as part of a larger integrated project under the European Commission's 6th Framework Programme, involving 30 partner institutions in Europe, Canada and Australia.

Caroline Mullen is a Research Officer at the School of Law, University of Leeds. She is currently working on the Reflexive Governance in the Public Interest (REFGOV) project. She has previously worked at the University of Birmingham on the Property Regulation in European Science Ethics and Law Project at the Centre for Global Ethics, and on Database of Archives of Non-Governmental Organisations, at the Centre of Contemporary Governance and Citizenship. Her PhD is from the Centre for Social Ethics and Policy, School of Law at the University of Manchester.

Dr Mullen's research interests are in contemporary governance and citizenship; ethics of risk; conceptions of equality and distributive fairness, especially as these conceptions are applied to issues of healthcare and medicine, transport and environment. Her publications include: 'New Labour's PPI Reforms: Patient *and* Public Involvement in Healthcare Governance?' *Modern Law Review* (Peter Vincent-Jones, David Hughes, Caroline Mullen), and 'Representation or reason: Consulting the public on the ethics of health policy' *Health Care Analysis*.

Julian Le Grand is the Richard Titmuss Professor of Social Policy at the London School of Economics and Political Science. From 2003 to 2005 he was seconded to Number 10 Downing Street as Senior Policy Adviser to the Prime Minister. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine, a Senior Associate of the Kings Fund, and a Founding Academician of the Academy of Learned Societies for the Social Sciences. In 2006 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Sussex.

Professor Le Grand currently holds two Government chairmanships: Chairman of Health England: the National Reference Group for Health and Well Being for the Department of Health; and Chairman of the Social Care Practices Working Group for the Department for Education and Skills. He is also a member of the Group of Societal Policy Analysts advising President Jose Barroso of the European Commission. He is one of the principal architects of the UK Government's current public service reforms introducing choice and competition into health care and education. In addition, he was the originator (sole or joint) of several recent developments in UK and international social policy, including the 'baby bond' or Child Trust Fund, the Partnership Scheme for funding long-term care endorsed by the 2005 Wanless Report Securing Good Care for Older People, the Disadvantage Premium for the education of children from less well-off families and for looked-after children, and the Social Work Practice proposed in the 2006 Department for Education and Skills Green Paper, Care Matters.

Daniel Wikler is Professor of Ethics and Population Health at Harvard Medical School. Daniel Wikler's current research interests are ethical issues in population and international health, including the allocation of health resources, health research involving human subjects, and ethical dilemmas arising in public health practice. He served as the first Staff Ethicist for the World Health Organization, and remains a consultant to several WHO programs. Prof. Wikler was co-founder and second president of the International Association of Bioethics and has served on the advisory boards of the Asian Bioethics Association and the Pan American Health Organization Regional Program in Bioethics.

Professor Wikler is presently co-director of the Program on Ethical Issues in International Health Research at the School of Public Health. A frequent lecturer on ethics and health in the PRC and Hong Kong, Prof. Wikler holds honorary appointments at two Beijing research institutions. His book series, *Studies in Philosophy and Health Policy*, was published by Cambridge University Press, as was *From Chance to Choice: Genetics and Justice*, co-authored by Prof. Wikler and three other philosophers.

While at the World Health Organization, he instituted an international collaboration among philosophers and economists on ethical, methodological, and philosophical issues raised by WHO's work in measurement of the global burden of disease and in developing methods for improving health resource allocation. He is a core faculty member in the new Harvard Program in Ethics and Health and participates in faculty research and curriculum development groups on such issues as disparities in health status and the impact of corruption and fraud on public health.

Alexander Cappelen is Professor of Economics and Head of the Center for Ethics and Economics at the Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration and Senior Advisor at the Bank of Norway. His research interests are in the fields of fiscal federalism, social choice theory, and theories of distributive justice. He holds a doctorate in economics from the Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration. Cappelen has published extensively in international journals, including *American Economic Review*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Economics and Philosophy*, and *Social Choice and Welfare*.

Yuli Tamir is Professor of Political Philosophy at Tel-Aviv University, and (at the time of writing) Israeli Minister of Education. During 1989-1999, she was a philosophy lecturer in Tel Aviv University and a research fellow in the Hartman Institute of Jerusalem, Princeton and Harvard universities. Her book, *Liberal Nationalism*, was published by Princeton University Press.

Michele Landis Dauber is Professor of Law at Stanford Law School. She has written highly original historical and sociological studies about the relationship between welfare programs and disaster relief programs in the formation of the modern American welfare state. She has focused her scholarship on aspects of the history of the New Deal and the fate of the legal doctrines and policies it created. Winner of the 2006 Walter J. Gores Award, Professor Dauber is only the second law professor to receive the highest teaching honor at Stanford University.

Bo Rothstein is Professor of Political Science at Gothenberg University, Sweden. He received his Ph.D. in political science from Lund University in 1986. He has been a visiting scholar at the Russell Sage Foundation, Cornell University, Harvard University, Collegium Budapest Center for Advanced Study, the Swedish Center for Advanced Study in the Social Sciences, and at the University of Washington in Seattle. Among his recent publications in English are: *The social democratic state : the Swedish model and the bureaucratic problem of social reforms* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 1996), *Just institutions matter : the moral and political logic of the universal welfare state* (Cambridge University Press, 1998), *Restructuring the welfare state : political institutions and policy change* (New York, 2002, co-editor: Sven Steinmo), *Creating social trust in post-socialist transition* (New York, 2004, co-editors: János Kornai and Susan Rose-Ackerman), and *Social traps and the problem of trust* (Cambridge University Press, 2005). In 2003 Rothstein received the Swedish Association of University Teachers' prize for academic freedom. Rothstein received the prize for having "in the public debate argued for the importance of independent university teaching and research". In 2004 he was awarded a six years research grant for "leading scholars" from the Swedish Research Council. Together with professor Sören Holmberg, he is in charge of the newly established Quality of Government Institute at Göteborg University. His current research interests are comparative quality of government institutions, social capital and social dilemmas, and political corruption.