**The 16th Melbourne Doctoral Forum on Legal Theory**

**Melbourne Law School**

**21-22 November, 2023**

**TRANSLATION, TRANSFORMATION AND TRANSGRESSION**

**The 16th Melbourne Doctoral Forum on Legal Theory (DLFT-16) invites reflection on the activities on crossing (trans-) and law—the work of translation, transformation and transgression in all their forms, emphasising the importance of approaching these tasks with the utmost care.**

**The DLFT-16 is the 16th reiteration of an annual interdisciplinary workshop hosted by graduate researchers to bring together graduate researchers and early career scholars from a range of disciplines to think critically, methodologically and theoretically about law and legal theory. We aim to create a cordial and safe space for doctoral scholars to share their research and warmly welcome your participation.**

**Conducting research in law within a diverse local framework, comparatively across jurisdictions, at the international level, or by crossing disciplinary boundaries is a productive pursuit as well as a precarious undertaking. All these scholarly engagements involve translation, transformation and transgression.**

**Thinking broadly with translation, transformation and transgression, we invite submissions on issues, including (but not limited to): Lost in translation?: What happens when law does not have a vocabulary to address a problem, for example, in AI regulation and biotechnology? How do we translate social issues into a legal question and what forms of legal relations are established? What does it mean for the law to adopt an eco-centric vocabulary? Approaching law “on the move”: How do interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to law transform our engagement with law? How to translate one material form of law to another, for example, through the digitisation of law? How do we “transgress” colonial laws by addressing colonial legal languages, authorities and practices in post-colonial societies? How do we “transgress” neo-liberal laws in contemporary society? How do these transgressions then transform legal relations and responsibilities?**

**Format**

**The DFLT-16 will be held in person at the Melbourne Law School. We envision a series of paper presentations and comments organised into multiple panels in a supportive, collegial environment. But we also warmly encourage participants who wish to present their work in visual, aural, multimedia or other creative formats.**

**Please submit abstracts of 300 words together with biographies of up to 100 words via this form by Tuesday 22 August 2023. (The link to the form is:**[**https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeyYRgqXYA-zhXKiqVSbeDUffO6oNS9GvSQNYhotkXvc2mV0Q/viewform**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeyYRgqXYA-zhXKiqVSbeDUffO6oNS9GvSQNYhotkXvc2mV0Q/viewform)**)**

**Applicants will receive a response by mid-September. Confirmed participants are to submit their papers (between 3000–5000 words) by Monday 23 October 2023.**

**We also welcome non-presenting participants to join the DLFT-16 as observers, to ask questions and support the presenters. To express your interest in attending as a non-presenting participant, please complete this form by Monday 23 October 2023.**

**For further details, refer to their Twitter call posted here:**[**https://twitter.com/doctoral\_forum/status/1682264611477762050?s=20**](https://twitter.com/doctoral_forum/status/1682264611477762050?s=20)

**Last date of application: Tuesday, 22 August,  2023**