

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PAUL CRAIG*

IT HAS BEEN a great pleasure to attend this meeting of the EPLO and to participate in the discourse concerning the important topics considered in this session.

I would like to express my gratitude and honour to receive the *Laudatio* and I would like to express my sincere thanks to those who spoke on my behalf.

I have been an academic since 1976, which is coming close to 50 years. I have never ceased to learn throughout this time. My career began as a Fellow and Tutor in Law at Worcester College, Oxford, where I served from 1976-1998, initially as a Fellow and Tutor in Law, then as a Reader in Law, thereafter as a Professor. In 1998 I moved from Worcester College to St John's College to take up the Chair in English Law, a position I held until mandatory retirement from this position in 2018. I am still a member of my College and of the Oxford law faculty, but I no longer teach at Oxford. I am nonetheless still fully engaged in research and writing, and I also teach for one semester each year at New York University in Abu Dhabi.

I have throughout my career taught and written on Constitutional law, Administrative law, EU law and Comparative Administrative law. It has been a privilege to be able to engage in such subjects. It has also been a privilege to discuss issues of common concern with colleagues from other countries, many of whom have become friends. I have learned a great deal from such discussion, which has enriched my understanding of the commonalities and differences between legal systems.

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We should never lose sight of the fact that every legal rule, with no exception, is grounded in some value, or values, and seeks to attain one or more objectives. Legal scholarship should constantly question the nature and identity of such values and the extent to which the objectives served by the legal rule have been attained.