

## THE JONES DAY DISTINGUISHED VISITOR LECTURE ON COMPARATIVE COMMERCIAL LAW

# THE RULE OF LAW AND COMMERCIAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION

THURSDAY, 22 JANUARY 2026 || 5.00PM TO 6.40PM || THE WESTIN SINGAPORE



**THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
BEVERLEY MCLACHLIN, P.C., C.C.**  
FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE OF  
THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA

## ABOUT

This lecture explores the relationship between the Rule of Law and commercial dispute resolution, focusing on the importance of rule-based rights and obligations enforced through established legal procedures. It traces the rise of the Rule of Law as a foundational global principle in the post-World War II era and considers its recent decline and the challenges it faces in the contemporary world.

Against this background, the lecture examines the contribution of nineteenth-century English commercial court decisions to modern conceptions of legal certainty and judicial authority. It also highlights the economic benefits of a strong Rule of Law, particularly in the construction and infrastructure sectors. The lecture concludes by considering how the Rule of Law may be sustained and strengthened amidst current political and economic pressures.

## PROGRAMME

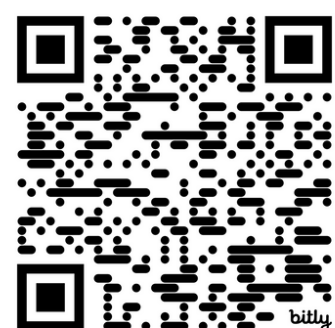
- 4.30PM Registration
- 5.00PM Welcome Speech by Sushma Jobanputra  
(Partner-in-Charge Singapore, Jones Day)
- 5.05PM Speech by Guest-of-Honour,  
Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon
- 5.10PM Lecture by The Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin
- 6.10PM Q&A moderated by Sushma Jobanputra
- 6.40PM Dinner Reception

## REGISTRATION

Register at [bit.ly/jonesday2026](https://bit.ly/jonesday2026) or  
scan the QR code

**Closing date:**  
16 January 2026

**Contact:**  
[ewbclb@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ewbclb@nus.edu.sg)





**SPEAKER**

**THE RIGHT HONOURABLE BEVERLEY MCLACHLIN, P.C., C.C.**  
FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA

The Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin spent her formative years in Pincher Creek, Alberta and was educated at the University of Alberta, where she received a B.A. (Honours) in Philosophy in 1965. She pursued her studies at the University of Alberta and, in 1968, received both an M.A. in Philosophy and an LL.B.

She was called to the Alberta Bar in 1969 and to the British Columbia Bar in 1971 and practised law in Alberta and British Columbia. Commencing in 1974, she taught for seven years in the Faculty of Law at the University of British Columbia as a tenured Associate Professor.

Her judicial career began in April 1981 when she was appointed to the Vancouver County Court. In September 1981, she was appointed to the Supreme Court of British Columbia. She was elevated to the British Columbia Court of Appeal in December 1985 and was appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in September 1988. Seven months later, in April 1989, she was sworn in as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada. On January 7, 2000, she was appointed Chief Justice of Canada. She is the first woman in Canada to hold this position.

In addition to her judicial duties at the Supreme Court, the Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin chaired the Canadian Judicial Council, the Advisory Council of the Order of Canada and the Board of Governors of the National Judicial Institute. She is the author of numerous articles and publications. She retired on December 15, 2017.



**GUEST OF HONOUR**

**CHIEF JUSTICE SUNDARESH MENON**  
SUPREME COURT OF SINGAPORE

Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon was appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court on 6 November 2012.

Chief Justice Menon graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours) from the National University of Singapore in 1986 and a Master of Laws from Harvard Law School in 1991. He was admitted as an advocate and solicitor in Singapore in 1987, and as an attorney and counsellor-at-law in New York in 1992.

After he was called to the Bar in Singapore, he practised with major local and international law firms, primarily as an advocate, in the fields of commercial litigation and arbitration, construction law and insolvency law. From 2006 to 2007, he served as a Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court. He was appointed Senior Counsel in 2008. In 2010, he was appointed the 6th Attorney-General of Singapore, a post he relinquished in 2012 shortly before his appointment as a Judge of Appeal. He was appointed to the Presidential Council for Minority Rights upon his appointment as Attorney-General in 2010 and was later appointed as its Chairman in 2012, upon his appointment as Chief Justice.

Between 2012 and 2020, Chief Justice Menon served on the Governing Board of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration, and he also served as a member of the International Chamber of Commerce Governing Body for Dispute Resolution Services from 2021 to March 2024.

He is also an elected member of the American Law Institute, an Honorary Bencher of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple in England and the President of the Singapore Academy of Law. Chief Justice Menon was conferred the Honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by the University of Western Australia in 2022 for his services to the law and by the National University of Singapore in 2024 for his outstanding service to the practice and adjudication of law. In 2024, he was also awarded the White & Case Distinguished Jessup Alumni Award.

**MODERATOR**

**SUSHMA JOBANPUTRA**  
PARTNER-IN-CHARGE SINGAPORE  
JONES DAY

Sushma Jobanputra is the Partner-in-Charge of Jones Day's Singapore office. Based in Singapore since 2009, she has more than three decades of experience advising clients on banking, restructuring, and corporate matters. Sushma advises on complex cross-border financing arrangements, special situations, and debt restructurings across Asia, including Singapore, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, and the Philippines. Her clients include leading financial institutions, credit funds, private equity firms, and multinational corporations.

Before relocating to Singapore, Sushma practiced in London, Toronto, and Paris. Prior to joining Jones Day, she was a managing director at Barclays Capital (London), where she led a structured transactions team, with responsibility on behalf of the bank for the execution of large complex transactions with other financial institutions and multinationals.

Sushma serves on the following committees: National University of Singapore's Law Advisory Council, which supports and advances the Law Faculty in its education, research, and service mission; The Law Society of Singapore's Foreign Lawyers Advisory Panel; and the Expert Panel for the Singapore Management University Centre for Commercial Law in Asia.