

*The Texas International Law Journal Spring and Robert S. Strauss presents:  
A Conference on the Military Commissions Act  
April 10-11, 2007*

**Tuesday, April 10**

5pm – 6pm – Opening Keynote Address by Lieutenant Commander Charles Swift, introductions by Professor Derek Jinks

**Wednesday, April 11**

8:00am – 9:00am: Breakfast at UT Law

**9:00-10:30am: Military Commissions**

*What rules should govern war crimes trials by military commission? As a direct legislative response to the Supreme Court's decision in Hamdan v. Rumsfeld, the MCA purports to correct the structural and procedural defects that prompted the Court to invalidate the then-contemplated commissions. Panelists will analyze the framework provided by Congress—assessing whether it is consistent with domestic and international law.*

- David Remes, Covington & Burling
- Julian Ku, Hofstra and visiting at William & Mary
- Geoffrey Corn, South Texas College of Law
- Derek Jinks, University of Texas School of Law (moderator)

**11:00-12:30pm: Interrogation**

*What rules ought to govern the interrogation of enemy combatants in the Global War on Terror? The MCA and DTA enact some important, even if arguably modest, constraints on U.S. interrogation policy. Panelists will analyze the substantive changes wrought by Congress—assessing the degree to which these changes comport with U.S. constitutional law and international law.*

- Leila Sadat, Washington University
- Deborah Pearlstein, Princeton University
- Mark Osiel, University of Iowa
- Sanford Levinson, University of Texas School of Law (moderator)

**Lunch Break**

**2:00pm – 3:30pm: Defining the Role of the Courts**

*What is the proper role of courts in the Global War on Terror? More specifically, what is the proper role of courts in interpreting treaties and other international law pertaining to the conflict? The Military Commissions Act (MCA) and the Detainee Treatment Act (DTA) address both questions. Panelists will discuss the propriety and legality of this complex statutory scheme—with a view toward resolving the larger questions about the role of courts in wartime.*

- Jonathan Hafetz, Brennan Center, NYU
- David Rivkin, Baker & Hostetler
- David Sloss, St. Louis University
- Ernest Young, University of Texas School of Law (moderator)

**4:00 – 5:30pm: Standards and Procedures for Classifying “Enemy Combatants”**

*How should the United States define “enemy combatant” in the Global War on Terror? In the MCA and DTA, the Congress endorsed the standards and procedures employed by the Executive in the Combatant Status Review Tribunals and Administrative Review Boards. Panelists will assess this approach—with a view toward identifying a workable and lawful framework.*

- Allison Danner, Vanderbilt

- Ken Anderson, American University
- Marty Lederman, Georgetown University
- Scott Sullivan, University of Texas School of Law (moderator)

**5:30pm - Reception at UT Law**