Call for Papers: Plural Visions of Law – The Legacy of Joseph Raz

The Society of Legal Scholars Jurisprudence Section invites submissions for a hybrid conference, to be held on 11 May 2023 at the University of York, entitled Plural Visions of Law – The Legacy of Joseph Raz. To be eligible, scholars must either be current Postgraduate Research Students or Early Career Researchers within five years from the award of their first doctoral degree. Submissions are particularly encouraged from individuals from Black or other minority ethnic backgrounds, as well as from members of other groups traditionally underrepresented within British academia. Applications from scholars working outside the United Kingdom are also encouraged, particularly from jurisdictions within the Global South.

Abstracts of no more than 500 words should be submitted to the Jurisprudence Section Convenors, Dr Alex Green and Dr Joshua Jowitt, by email at PluralVisionsLaw@gmail.com no later than 15 February 2023.

Up to ten travel bursaries of £250 will be available for in-person conference attendance. To apply for one of these bursaries, please also submit a statement of no more than 700 words identifying in clear terms the need for financial support, including any lack of funds from your host institution. Hybrid participation will be possible where in-person attendance is unavailable. If you wish to participate online, please indicate this when submitting an abstract, providing reasons in no more than 200 words. For accepted participants, full papers of between 8,000 and 10,000 words should be submitted no later than 19 April 2023.

Papers shall explore the influence of the late Joseph Raz, one of the most prominent legal philosophers of the last hundred years, upon diverse areas of legal scholarship. Abstracts engaging with any aspect of Raz’s work will be considered, however we particularly encourage submissions that use Razian ideas outwith traditional jurisprudential debates. Potential topics might include:

- Value pluralism and the duties of governments in deeply divided societies.
- Conceptions of authority in both global and legally plural domestic contexts.
- Liberal perfectionism, colonial legacies, and cultural diversity.
- The intersection(s) between legal positivism and critical theory.

A keynote address shall be delivered by Margaret Davies, Research Professor and Matthew Flinders Distinguished Professor of Law in the College of Business, Government, and Law at Flinders University. Accepted papers will be grouped into thematic panels, with twenty minutes of presentation time allotted to each participant, after which discussion will follow. All papers presented shall be considered with a view to arranging a special issue for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.