



PEKING UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF TRANSNATIONAL LAW

HARMONIZING THE JURISPRUDENCE IN EMERGING AFRICAN LEGAL SYSTEMS: UGANDA'S ADAPTATION OF CUSTOMARY, COMMON LAW AND CIVIL LAW SYSTEM



SPEAKER:

Karoli Lwanga Ssemogerere
Acting Judge of the High Court of Uganda

Hon. Justice Karoli Lwanga Ssemogerere took office as Acting Judge of the High Court on March 6, 2025. He is the Resident Judge and Head Circuit Kabale. Kabale, is one of the 27 High Court circuits. It covers 4 districts of Kabale, Rubanda, Kisoro and Rukiga in southwest Uganda bordering Rwanda and DRC. At the High Court, Justice Ssemogerere hears appeals from the 5 Magistrates Courts, tries capital offences, civil, land and family matters in the jurisdiction of the High Court. At the court, Hon. Ssemogerere has focused on a quick adjudication review of appeals, introducing aspects of American legal practice. He also has strong interest in juvenile justice and African customary law.

ABSTRACT:

Justice Ssemogerere will discuss how Uganda's legal system incorporates African customary law, common law and civil law elements. Justice Ssemogerere will also discuss the structure of the judiciary in Uganda, and in particular the role of the High Court within that system, as well as Uganda's constitutional framework.

MODERATOR:

Mark Feldman
Interim Dean and Professor of Law, STL



DATE & TIME: September 8, 2025, 17:00-18:30(CST)

LOCATION: STL 308