Research Handbook on Law and Ethics in Banking and Finance

Research Handbooks in Financial Law series

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Featuring foreword from Andrew Bailey, Governor of the Bank of England

The global financial crisis evidenced the corrosive effects of unethical behaviour upon the banking industry. The recurrence of misbehaviour in the financial sector, including fraud and manipulations of market indices, suggests the need to establish a banking culture that conforms to the highest standards of ethical and professional behaviour. This Research Handbook on Law and Ethics in Banking and Finance focuses on the role that law should play and the effectiveness of newly introduced regulations and supervisory actions as a driver for ethical conduct so as to reconnect the interests of bankers and financiers with the interests of society.

‘This book is a work of leadership. It offers a brilliant combination of thought and experience about the law and ethics that finance and banking cannot do without. This is about ethics and law embedded in international respect, market culture, business purpose, corporate model and personal integrity. It is about the ends that finance and banking enable us to achieve, about finance earning trust, and about finance serving society, customer, employer and colleague. It is also about insisting that complexity is either understood or reduced. Let the global financial crisis remind us that this is a book on which we must build.

– Sir Robin Knowles, High Court of England and Wales

‘This book is path-breaking in addressing one of the key issues of our time, the role of ethics in finance. It provides the reader with a comprehensive and challenging analysis of the main aspects of the current debate. The editors have brought together some of the sharpest minds in the field who offer an in-depth, critical and in places novel analysis of the role of law, self-regulation and standards in guiding and channelling behaviour.

The book is a tour de force in considering how ethical considerations can inform the financial system. Finance must serve society in a way which is fair, just and ethical. The book is a timely reminder of this function and a call to those involved to exercise diligence in their own self-interest and for the greater good.

– Sir Ross Cranston FBA, London School of Economics, UK