The Complexity of Change: Some Legal and Policy Implications

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The University of Texas at Austin School of Law

roadmap

- Caveat
- Context
- Challenges
- Analysis
- Looking forward

context

- What were they thinking?
- How do we know?
- What did Galloway have to say?
- OST Travaux preparatoires
- US OST ratification hearings

challenges

- Things go so slow/Difficulties reaching consensus
- Broad scope \rightarrow perceived gaps
- You say potato, I say pot-ah-to
 - Hard law, soft law
 - Roles of law, roles of policy
 - Science & technology <-> Legal & policy

analysis

- Are the challenges confronting us now functions of early choice?
- Are they flaws or flexibility?
- Are they solvable through structural solutions?

looking forward

- Change is ongoing
- Updates and revisions should never cease
 But careful what you wish for!
- Focusing on filling gaps in the moment can distract us from investing our resources (energy, brain cells, funding) in developing constructive mechanisms that can scale.

coordinates

• Dr. Diane Howard

– Diane.Howard@law.utexas.edu