

JUSTICE STEPHEN BREYER TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES FACING MODERN JUDICIARY IN NEW BOOK

2015-04-21 – Alfred A. Knopf will publish a new book by Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer in September. *THE COURT AND THE WORLD: American Law and the New Global Realities*, will look at the challenges facing the American judiciary in a world of unprecedented complexity, interdependence, and friction.

“The interdependence of today’s world presents a considerable challenge for our judiciary and my aim in this book,” Breyer writes, “is to show how and why the Supreme Court must increasingly consider the world beyond our national frontiers.” Chief among the topics that Breyer addresses is our national security. “How can the Court effectively protect basic liberties in the face of threats to our security?” he asks. Breyer also examines the application of American law in a variety of international contexts, including commerce, copyright, human rights, treaty obligations, and securities fraud.

While the United States must necessarily determine its own laws through the democratic process, increasingly, the smooth operation of American law—and, by extension, the advancement of American interests and values—depends on its working in harmony with that of other jurisdictions. “Since I have been a member of the Court,” Breyer observes, “the number of cases concerning foreign or international matters has grown exponentially. As a result, we must now consider relevant legal, as well as factual, circumstances arising beyond our shores.” “The important divisions in the world today are not geographical, racial, or religious,” Breyer

writes, “but between those who believe in a rule of law and those who do not.”