

CCCL NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we embrace the vibrant summer of 2024, I am pleased to share our latest newsletter. This edition highlights the significant achievements of the Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL) from July 2023 to May 2024. We invite you to explore the recent developments within our Centre, including updates on our dedicated members and dynamic research initiatives.

Over the past several months, CCCL has organized a series of enlightening symposiums and public lectures featuring distinguished scholars and professionals from around the world. These events have provided a valuable platform for the exchange of insightful ideas, diverse perspectives, and leading-edge research, particularly in the fields of Chinese and comparative law. By bringing together participants from various cultural and academic backgrounds, these lectures have fostered cross-cultural understanding and built bridges across different legal jurisdictions. This collaborative environment enhances connections among academics, judges, practitioners, and students, enriching the global legal community.

We are thrilled to announce the initial success of our series on "History of International Law: Chinese and Global Perspectives," which is set to culminate in a forthcoming book titled "Histories of International Law in China: All Under Heaven?" scheduled for publication by Oxford University Press in 2025. In November 2023, we successfully hosted the first session of the conference series. This event brought together esteemed contributors such as Professors Ignacio de la Rasilla, Cai Congyan, Jacques deLisle, Christopher Robert Rossi, Frédéric Mégret, Luigi Nuzzo, and Qu Wensheng, among others, fostering a rich dialogue that bridges scholarly insights from both Chinese and global contexts.

CCCL has demonstrated a strong commitment to enhancing governance and facilitating legal advancements in the Greater Bay Area (GBA) by organizing two pivotal conferences in 2024. The first conference, held in January, was the "International Conference on Legal and Institutional Cooperation in the Greater Bay Area," co-hosted with the Guangzhou Institute of GBA (GIG). This conference focused on fostering legal and institutional cooperation across the GBA's diverse jurisdictions. It brought together experts and stakeholders from various sectors to discuss strategies for harmonizing legal frameworks and promoting economic integration. Professor Zheng Yongnian delivered the keynote address, providing insightful perspectives on the region's unique challenges and opportunities.

Following closely, in March 2024, CCCL co-organised the 8th Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Legal Symposium. This symposium served as a significant platform to further deepen the discussions on regional integration and legal collaboration. It assembled a wide array of participants, including scholars, government officials, and think tank researchers, who engaged in robust discussions on enhancing legal practices and frameworks within the GBA.

Together, these conferences underscore CCCL's active role in shaping the legal landscape of the Greater Bay Area, showcasing its dedication to fostering dialogue, enhancing legal understanding, and driving forward the strategic goals of economic and legal integration within this dynamic region.

Furthermore, we are pleased to spotlight the successful operation of the CCCL Young Scholar Forum under the competent leadership of Prof. Martin Lai. This forum has evolved into a vibrant platform for promising young researchers, spanning a diverse array of subjects such as trusts, intellectual property law, legal histories, and custom law. It offers a rich tapestry of scholarly discussions that foster intellectual growth and innovation.

Since 2009, CityU School of Law, the Supreme People's Court of the People's Republic of China, and the National Judges College have jointly organized judicial education programs for Chinese judges. In November 2023, CCCL and JERI co-hosted this year's "Meeting with Chinese Judges" seminar. The event featured senior judges from Mainland China who shared their insights and experiences, shedding light on aspects of their work that might seem mysterious to outsiders. They provided a platform to discuss key elements of the legal system, their daily professional activities, and the differences between the legal systems of Mainland China and Hong Kong SAR. This seminar fostered greater mutual understanding and facilitated knowledge sharing within the legal community, enhancing the participants' appreciation of cross-jurisdictional legal practices.

Simultaneously, our members have been diligent in publishing in top-tier academic outlets and featuring on global media platforms. This expands our reach to a broader audience, facilitating deeper engagement with our message and policy discussions.

As we transition into summer, a season of renewal, we are greeted with fresh optimism. This marks more than just the start of a new semester—it heralds a new chapter in our journey. We are excited about the possibilities ahead and deeply value your continued participation in our activities and steadfast support.

Sincerely,

WANG Jiangyu

Professor & Director Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law



Inside This Issue

Message from the Director1-2News of CCCL Members30-31Major Past Event3-29Publications32-34

MAJOR PAST EVENTS (July 2023 - June 2024)

Symposiums/Conferences

The 8th Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Legal Symposium (7-8 March 2024)

On March 7, the 8th Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Legal Symposium was held at City University of Hong Kong. The symposium was guided by the China Law Society and jointly organized by the Guangdong Province Law Society, the School of Law at City University of Hong Kong, and the Faculty of Law at the University of Macau. It was hosted by the School of Law at City University of Hong Kong and the Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law(CCCL). The conference focused on "High-Level Legal Governance to Ensure the High-Quality Development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area in the New Era" and featured enthusiastic discussions. Mr. Zhang Sujun, Vice President of the China Law Society, attended the meeting.

The opening ceremony of the symposium was hosted by Professor Wang Jiangyu, Director of CCCL. Opening remarks were respectively given by Mr. Zhang Sujun, Vice President of the China Law Society; Professor Lee Chun Sing, Provost and Deputy President of City University of Hong Kong; Mr. Huang Wenping, Vice President of the Guangdong Province Law Society; Professor Io Cheng Tong, Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Macau; Ms. Heidi Chui, Cuncil Member and GCLAC Member of the Law Society of Hong Kong; and Mr. Richard Khaw SC, Co-Chairman of the Mainland Affairs Committee of the Hong Kong Bar Association, who also served as a Deputy High Court Judge.

In his speech, **Mr. Zhang Sujun** emphasized that the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area is a significant national strategy, personally planned, deployed, and promoted by President Xi Jinping. He highlighted that in recent years, the Greater Bay Area has been proactive in creating a market-oriented, lawful, and internationalized top-tier business environment. This initiative has substantially

raised the level of market integration and international competitiveness within the region, yielding notable interim results. The legal interactions and research endeavors among Guangdong, Hong Kong, and Macao have also deepened.

The Greater Bay Area is tasked with the critical role of "One Point, Two Locations" acting as a strategic pivot for establishing a new development pattern, a demonstration area for high-quality development, and a frontrunner in Chinese-style modernization. This role is essential and cannot be substituted. Zhang expressed his hope that both the theoretical and practical legal communities will rigorously study and apply Xi Jinping's legal thoughts. He urged them to address the practical needs of legal construction in the Greater Bay Area, further deepen their research and explorations, and ensure the high-quality development of the region through advanced legal governance.

He stressed the importance of fully and accurately implementing the "One Country, Two Systems" policy, balancing development with security to guarantee the high-quality development of the Greater Bay Area. Additionally, he called for enhanced research on foreign-related legal theories to bolster the development of legal services and support the high-level opening up of the Greater Bay Area with sophisticated legal practices.

The keynote session of the seminar was chaired by **Professor Ding Chunyan**, Associate Dean and Professor of the School of Law at City University of Hong Kong, with speakers including **Professor Mo Jihong**, **Professor Jiang Chaoyang**; **Professor Guo Tianwu**, and **Ms. Chung Lai-ling**. They discussed major issues and hotspots in the legal construction of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, focusing on how to further deepen the "soft connectivity" of legal services rules among Guangdong, Hong Kong, and Macao, and providing legal

support for building the Greater Bay Area in the new era.

The seminar was meticulously organized with four topics, with 23 experts actively participating in in-depth discussions.

The first topic, "Research on the Experience of Governing Hong Kong and Macao According to Law," was chaired by Professor Wang Yu, Associate Director of the Centre for Constitutional Law and Basic Law Studies at the University of Macau. Professors from various universities including Professor Zhu Guobin from City University of Hong Kong, Professor Dai Jitao from Guangdong University of Finance and Economics, and others shared their insights. Experts discussed the correct understanding and implementation of the "One Country, Two Systems" policy, the legal system of the Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Regions, and how to ensure their effective legal operation.

The second topic, focused on "Pathways of Legal Cooperation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area," was chaired by **Professor Huang Hui** from the Faculty of Law, the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Discussions centered on legal cooperation, coordination of rules, and mechanisms among the three regions, with insights into natural resource governance, international arbitration, and the real estate market.

The third topic, "Legal Guarantees for Market Integration in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area," was chaired by **Professor Jiang Wuzhen**, Dean and Professor at South China University of Technology School of Law. The discussions aimed at collaborative legislation, legal cooperation, bankruptcy mutual assistance, cross-border protection of intellectual property, and civil and commercial litigation rules, emphasizing the use of governance mechanisms to enhance market vitality and competitiveness under the "One Country, Two Systems" framework.

The fourth topic, "Legal Guarantees for Cross-Border Data Flow in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area," was chaired

by **Professor Cai Zhenshun**. It included extensive explorations into medical research data, electronic medical records, and financial data, discussing effective pathways for data flow, the establishment of legal regulations, data sharing, and data security.

The closing ceremony of the seminar was chaired by Professor Wang Yu with a summary speech by Professor, the Secretary-General of the Guangdong Law Society. In her closing remarks, Ms. Jin Yan reflected on the productive discussions and insights shared throughout the event, expressing satisfaction with the depth and breadth of knowledge exchanged among the distinguished participants. She highlighted the enthusiasm and engagement of all attendees, noting that the seminar had not only fostered a deeper understanding of legal issues in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area but also sparked collaborative ideas for future research and policy-making.



CCCL and GIG: International Conference on Legal and Institutional Cooperation in the Greater Bay Area (27 – 28 Jan 2024)

The Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL) at the City University of Hong Kong School of Law successfully organized a crucial academic symposium on January 27, 2024. The focus of the symposium was on promoting and researching the integration of the Greater (GBA), providing Area valuable recommendations for policy formulation. CCCL, in collaboration with the Guangzhou Institute of GBA (GIG), will host conferences in Hong Kong and Guangzhou to delve into the of legal and institutional complexities

cooperation within the Greater Bay Area. These conferences aim to offer academic support for policy formulation, stimulate scholarly discussions, and contribute to the seamless economic integration of the Greater Bay Area.

The symposium commenced with a welcome address by **Professor Lin Feng**, followed by **Professor Wang Jiangyu** introducing the content of the event. The diversity within the Greater Bay Area poses challenges to business operations, especially concerning legal and institutional coordination. The urgency of a standardized legal framework is evident in navigating the complexities of cross-border enterprises, necessitating the adoption of international best practices.

Prof. Zheng Yongnian shared insights into the common challenges faced by Hong Kong and the mainland in terms of international situations, geopolitics, business environments, nationalism, economic trade and protectionism. He emphasized the severe issues Hong Kong encounters, such as addressing its isolation, the dilemma of internal and external circles, and centrifugal forces within the Greater Bay Area. To resolve these problems, he proposed a series of viewpoints, including openness, collaboration, and promoting internal and external coordination.

Professor Lin Feng focused on the current status of the legal clarification system between the mainland and Hong Kong and the involvement of the Greater Bay Area courts in cases related to Hong Kong law. He highlighted the differences in legal systems, with the mainland relying more on legal reasoning and Hong Kong focusing on factual presentation. He explored the role of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Financial Law Court, particularly in cross-border securities regulation, evidence collection, and preservation, providing a solid legal foundation for Greater Bay Area legal cooperation.

Professor Zhu Guobin analyzed the legislative differences among cities in the Greater Bay Area, particularly emphasizing the trend of the Hong Kong government

pursuing its own interests in legislation. He noted the relative lag in legal legislation in the Hong Kong-Macao region compared to Province's abundant Guangdong local regulations. Additionally. he proposed recommendations for multi-level a coordination mechanism, emphasizing the coordination and standardization of rules. Professor Ding Chunyan focused on the U.S. legal model and suggested adopting a unified and coordinated legislative approach for the Greater Bay Area. She emphasized the importance of soft law coordination, especially in areas such as trade secrets.

Professor Ding Chunyan believed that using demonstration laws and case judgments could reduce legal risks while highlighting the need for coordinated and integrated legal systems.

Professors Lin Yu-Hsin Lauren and **Dr. Xiao Shanyun** emphasized the role of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Financial Law Court, noting its contribution to creating a portion of hard law. They particularly highlighted the strengthening of cross-border securities regulation, evidence collection, and preservation, providing robust legal support for cross-border financial activities.

Professor Shen Taixia discussed the application of socialist and capitalist experiences in the Greater Bay Area, particularly focusing on human rights, personnel freedom, and diverse dispute resolution mechanisms. She proposed fully leveraging the experiences of both systems in institutional design to promote the region's harmonious and stable development.

Professor Wang Shucheng Peter addressed Hong Kong's diversity, attractiveness, and coordination issues with Macao. He mentioned Hong Kong's role in maintaining overall diversity and the importance of bottom-up initiatives in promoting Greater Bay Area construction. Professor Wang emphasized the significance of local initiatives, highlighting the importance of coordination and cooperation in advancing the Greater Bay Area.

Dean He Dongni stressed the importance of

market integration in the Greater Bay Area, attracting global high-end talent and capital. She proposed a cooperative model similar to the European Union and pointed out the need for multi-level coordination in achieving high-level integration.

Research Fellows Yi Da and Li Jiahao discussed the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, the signing of the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA), and the institutional integration involving the intervention of the central government. They focused on multilevel coordination mechanisms, emphasizing the closed-loop system of "decision-execution-supervision-evaluation-feedback-

improvement" and the challenges between top-level design and practical implementation.

Research Fellow Yan Xing focused on foreign trade, highlighting Guangdong's leading position domestically and discussing the advantages of the Greater Bay Area in the digital trade field. He mentioned the challenges in resolving issues related to non-uniform standards and industry cooperation in the Greater Bay Area while emphasizing the need for better internationalization of cross-border e-commerce standards.

Research Fellow Lai Ge addressed the demand for trade capacity in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), particularly emphasizing that China might be the next member to join. She discussed the political consensus, technical difficulties, and compliance issues that need to be addressed in the process of joining the CPTPP.

Professor Liu Qiao discussed the envisioned China-ASEAN unified market, emphasizing the close connection between China and ASEAN in bilateral trade. He focused on the role of the Greater Bay Area in the unified market, providing recommendations for promoting the development of a common market, especially emphasizing the free flow of personnel and factors.

Professor Chan Chi Hin Peter addressed mutual assistance in corporate bankruptcy

procedures. Compared to mainland courts, Hong Kong is more willing to provide assistance, with simpler conditions, while the mainland's requirements are more complex. She highlighted the imminent effectiveness of the Hong Kong mutual recognition agreement, whereas the Macao agreement has not seen practical application.

Dr. Du Ruyi focused on the potential choice of the Greater Bay Area not to adopt the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG). She mentioned the risks posed by the institutional foundation of "one country, two systems" to the uniformity of substantive law. The professor emphasized the need to establish model laws in the Greater Bay Area, particularly in priority areas.

Research Fellow Lu Yan addressed public service issues in the Greater Bay Area, pointing out problems such as overlapping functions of supervisory authorities and unclear functional positioning, resulting in poor delivery capability of public service systems. She called for strengthening information system interoperability and digital sharing capabilities.

Professor Wang Jiangyu delved into the relationship between normative integration and the level of regional economic integration, emphasizing the mutual influence of bottom-up and top-down processes. He highlighted the challenges faced by Greater Bay Area integration, including the asymmetry of different economic systems and the decisive impact of political leadership on integration decisions.

Research Fellow Pan Xuanming focused on innovative financing, exploring how venture capital can drive China to overcome the technology trap. His research particularly highlighted the impact of innovative financing on new technologies and industries and how venture capital can nurture new points of economic growth.

Professor Han Sirui assessed China's risk investment regulation status through data, focusing on how well China's risk investment

regulation performs in responding to new challenges. The research, based on data, discussed whether the regulatory system could adapt to the rapid development of innovation.

Zhenzhen Chen Dr. examined the collaboration between the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITIB) and the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC) to promote cross-border data flow within the Greater Bay Area. The research primarily studied the of the Memorandum execution Understanding on Promoting Cross-Border Data Flow in the Greater Bay Area signed by the two entities.

Professor Michael Tsimplis approached the formulation of global standards from the perspective of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). He focused on how IMO protects the shipping sector from external cost impacts, providing some recommendations for IMO in setting international standards.

Professor Fang Meng researched the low-carbon transition in the Greater Bay Area, particularly focusing on the development of the renewable energy market. She analyzed the challenges faced in promoting the renewable energy market in the Greater Bay Area and proposed suggestions to facilitate the low-carbon transition.

Research Fellow Zhu Yuanbing explored how companies can create greater value for shareholders in competitive advantage areas, pointing out that comparative advantage and differentiation are two main types of competitive advantages. However, he emphasized the need to consider the unique "9+2" environment in the development of the Greater Bay Area and find new theories suitable for the region.

After an engaging exchange of ideas and thoughts among policy and legal experts, the symposium concluded with insightful summaries by **Professor Wang Jiangyu** and **Dean He Dongni**. They sincerely thanked all the speakers for their valuable insights, making the symposium fruitful and providing beneficial insights for in-depth research on

legal and policy issues in the Greater Bay Area.



Professor Zheng Yongnian



Professor Lin Feng



Professor Ding Chunyan



Professor Zhu Guobin

since university inauguration



Professor Lin Yu-Hsin Lauren



Lecturer Xiao Shanyun



Professor Shen Taixia



Professor Wang Shucheng Peter



Ms. He Dongni



Research Fellow Yi Da



Research Fellow Yan Xing



Research Fellow Lai Ge



Research Fellow Ke Yian

25 years
since university inauguration

Hong Keng



Professor Liu Qiao



Professor Chan Chi Hin Peter



Professor He Tianxiang



Professor Du Ruyi



Research Fellow Lu Yan



Research Fellow Pan Xuanming



Professor Han Sirui



Dr. Chen Zhenzhen



Professor Michael Tsimplis



Professor Fang Meng



Research Fellow Zhu Yuanbing

CCCL Lecture Series: Histories of International Law: Histories of International Law in China all Under Heaven? (10 - 11 November 2023)

In the wake of a global surge in interest in historical studies of international law, an expansive body of literature has emerged, chronicling history intricate the international legal systems. Works such as the "Series in the Theory and History of International Law" by Oxford University Press (OUP) and "Studies in the History of International Law" by Brill stand as examples of this formidable literary renaissance. Yet, amidst this flourishing narrative, a prevailing concern looms - much of the scholarly work continues to harbor perspectives, Eurocentric limiting the comprehensive understanding the of historical forces at play. This backdrop of exploration historical underscores the imperative to transcend the Eurocentric lens and delve into diverse global narratives, particularly those emanating from the rich tapestry of China's historical, political, and cultural experiences. Responding to this critical need, the Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL), situated within the School of Law at the City University of Hong Kong (CityU), has forged a collaboration with Wuhan University Law School and Fudan University Law School. Together, they have orchestrated a symphony of international minds, assembling group legal a distinguished scholars specializing in both Chinese and international legal history.

Professor Lin Feng, Dean of the School of Law at City University of Hong Kong, inaugurates the conference with his opening remarks, effectively setting the thematic tone for the

proceedings. He emphasizes the significance of the collaboration between City University of Hong Kong, Wuhan University Law School, and Fudan University Law School as a crucial step toward incorporating Chinese perspectives into the global discourse on the history of international law. His address advocates for a united effort to deepen the understanding of international legal systems through diverse and inclusive academic research.

Professor Ignacio de la Rasilla unravel the intricacies of his speech with a focus on the evolving dynamics between China and the international legal sphere, he delves into the pivotal shifts in historical perspectives, exploring how China navigates its position as a significant player in national and semiperipheral contexts within the global framework of international law.

Professor Christopher Robert Rossi is set to introduce the intricate tapestry of historical dynamics between the United States and China within the realm of international law. His discourse aims to shed light on pivotal shifts in perspectives, navigating the nuanced historical interactions that have defined China's role on the global stage of international law. Professor Huang delved into the evolving dynamics between China and the international legal sphere. His insights promised to reveal the pivotal shifts in historical perspectives, offering a profound understanding of how China strategically positions itself as a significant player, both nationally and in semi-peripheral contexts, within the intricate tapestry of global international law.

Professor Ryan Martinez Mitchell focuses on historical intricacies, who peels back the layers, delving into the evolving dynamics between the Republic of China and the league of nations. His speech promises to unveil the pivotal shifts in historical perspectives, shedding light on how China navigates its role as a significant player within the global framework of international law.

Professor Qu Wensheng and **Professor Wan Li** explore the interplay between historicism and the translation of international law.

Unraveling the intricate threads of historical context, their speech promises to offer profound insights into how Chinese scholars of that era grappled with the complex interweaving of traditional Chinese thought and the burgeoning field of international law.

Professor Cai Congyan and Dr. Liu Jie delve into the foundational years of the Chinese communist party, unraveling the intriguing intersection between political ideology and international law during the interwar period. Specifically, they shed light on the profound impact of the introduction of Marxist theory of International Law to China, offering a unique perspective on how ideological currents shaped the nation's legal landscape during this transformative era.

Professor Li Mingqian illustrates the intriguing historical intersections among China, the western standard of civilization, and the pivotal hague peace conferences of 1899 and 1907. Exploring how China navigated within the framework of Western standards during this transformative period, and illuminated the profound impact of the Hague Conferences on the country's diplomatic landscape, offering a nuanced perspective on China's engagement with international norms.

Professor Jacques deLisle takes the stage, offering profound insights into the transformative era of China's opening up and reform policy. His speech delves into China's re-engagement with the international legal order during this pivotal period, unraveling the intricacies of how policy shifts have shaped the nation's stance within the global legal landscape. In a compelling discourse,

Professor Pasha L. Hsieh clarifies the historical complexities surrounding the professionalization of the discipline of international law during the republican period. Investigating this transformative era, his speech examines the evolution of international law as a discipline within the context of the Republic, highlighting key developments, challenges, and the rise of professionalism in the field.

Professor Wang Jiangyu takes the podium to to dissect the complex connection between China, the Cold War, and the realm of international law. In his compelling speech, he navigates the historical context, highlighting how China's legal landscape was shaped amid the turbulent backdrop of the Cold War era. From geopolitical shifts to legal frameworks, Professor Wang examines the detailed interactions between China's evolving stance and the international legal order during this pivotal period.

Professor Luigi Nuzzo explores the intricate relationship between lease agreements and international law, specifically examining their impact during the critical transition of the 20th century. Profoundly exploring the history of Western colonialism in China, Nuzzo sheds light on the legal dimensions that shaped the landscape of this pivotal era, offering a nuanced understanding of the intersection between legal frameworks and geopolitical shifts.

From the nation's foundational moments to the exclusion of the People's Republic of China, **Professor Su Jinyuan**'s insights are set to provide a nuanced understanding of China's evolving role on the global diplomatic stage. Get ready for a riveting exploration of historical dynamics, geopolitical shifts, and the impact on China's international relations.

Dr. Straton Papagianneas discusses the intriguing era of the cultural revolution and its aftermath, exploring the intricate relationship between China and international law during this transformative period. His speech shed light on the legal landscape, offering insights into the challenges and shifts in China's approach to international law amidst the socio-political upheavals of the Cultural Revolution and its enduring repercussions.

Professor Eva Pils illuminates the historical connections linking China to the concepts of democracy and human rights, and the nation's evolving relationship with these foundational principles. Her speech served as a thorough examination of China's journey through history, offering a detailed understanding of the historical context that has shaped its

stance on democracy and human rights.

In the illuminating discourse led by **Professor** Lauri Mälksoo, the spotlight turns to the intricate web of Soviet-Sino relations within the historical backdrop of Cold War international law. Delving into the annals of intricacies diplomatic and legal entanglements, Professor Mälksoo's speech unravel the nuances that defined the complex relationship between the Soviet Union and China during the Cold War era. This exploration sheds light on the oftenoverlooked legal dimensions of geopolitical dynamics, offering a fresh perspective on the intersection history, of politics, and international law during this pivotal period.

Professor George R.B. Galindo and Dr. Felipe Yonezawa explore the intriguing field of British historiography of international law on China. Decoding the layers of historical narratives, their speech offers a detailed examination of how British perspectives have influenced the understanding of China's interactions with international law over time. From colonial influences to diplomatic intricacies, they navigate the intricate tapestry of historical accounts, shedding light on the evolving between British dynamics interpretations and China's role in the global legal landscape.

Professor Frédéric Mégret and **Dr. Cong Wanshu** unravels the historical threads of the Qing Dynasty, they explore the nuanced landscape of Chinese emigration and the early stages of transnational protection. Through meticulous examination, they shed light on the roots of China's policies towards its diaspora, offering invaluable insights into the complex interplay between historical circumstances and the evolving dynamics of international relations during the Qing era.

Professor Chen Yifeng presents a captivating analysis of China's diplomatic landscape during the tumultuous 1950s-1960s. The speech reveals the complex path of China as it maneuvered through global affairs. Professor Chen illuminates how China, amidst changing international dynamics, wrestled with developing a foreign policy vocabulary that

transcended traditional international law, signifying a pivotal time in the nation's diplomatic history.

Professor Luo Guoqiang and Professor Wang Chao take the stage to introduce the profound contributions of Professor Zhou Gengshen. A luminary in Chinese legal history, Zhou Gengshen's contributions to international law during the transformative period from the late Qing Dynasty to the Republic of China era were unveiled.

Dr. Zhuo Zenghua illuminats the audience on the life and contributions of Xiang Zhejun, who became an instrumental figure in legal education, imparting his knowledge at esteemed institutions such as Peking University and Beijing Jiaotong University. Witnessing the dynamic political landscape of his time, he took on pivotal roles in various government bureaus, including the ministries of Justice and Foreign Affairs, after the establishment of the Nationalist Government in 1927.

Professor Zou Guoyong and Dr. Li Jue delve into the life of Li Haopei, a luminary in the realm of international law. From serving as a professor and department head at National Wuhan University (1939-1945) to later becoming the professor and dean at National Zhejiang University (1945-1949), Li Haopei's journey through academia is a tapestry of dedication.

Dr. Hao Yayezi and **Ms. Yu Hong** introduce a renowned diplomat and international law scholar, Ni Zhengyu earned high praise from the influential jurist Li Shengjiao. Driven by an unwavering commitment to justice, Ni Zhengyu played a pivotal role in the Tokyo Trials, leveraging his profound knowledge and exceptional debating skills to present compelling accusations against the key perpetrators of Japanese aggression in China.

Professor Xiao Yongping and **Professor Zhu Lei** illustrate Han Depei as a visionary trailblazer who pioneered a distinctive modern theory of international private law in China. Acknowledged as a founding figure in the realm of international private law in the

People's Republic of China, Professor Han Depei's lifetime achievements become a narrative tapestry, weaving together the complexities of conflict law, unified substantive law, and the direct application of national laws in foreign civil and commercial relations.

Dr. Yang Ken explores the life of the distinguished legal scholar Wang Tieya, born in 1913, who emerges as a prominent figure in the realm of international law. Set against the backdrop of China's Open Door Policy, Wang's influence reached well beyond national borders. His remarkable journey led him to become a visiting scholar at Columbia Law School from 1980 to 1989, a visiting professor at The Hague Academy of International Law in 1984, and a dedicated educator at the University of British Columbia in 1988, followed by the University of California in 1989.

Chao **Professor** Wang introduce the Professor Qiu Shaoheng's journey, which unfolds as he served as the Secretary of the Chinese Delegation and Assistant Inspector at the Tokyo Far East International Military Tribunal from February to December 1946. Noteworthy is his role as an advisor to the Special Court of the Supreme People's Court in the trial of the "Lin Biao and Jiang Qing Counter-Revolutionary Clique" from November 1980 to January 1981.

As the symposium's vibrant discussions reached their zenith, Professor Wang Jiangyu, Professor Ignacio de la Rasilla, and Professor Cai Congyan took center stage for the grand finale. In a moment of collective gratitude, the symposium concluded with heartfelt expressions from the trio of hosts. They sincerely thanked all the speakers for their valuable insights, making the symposium fruitful and providing beneficial insights for diverse global narratives, particularly those emanating from the rich tapestry of China's historical, political, and cultural experiences.



Prof. Lin Feng







Dr. Liu Jie

CCCL NEWSLETTER VOL. 1, ISSUE 1 (2024)



Dr. Yang Ken



Prof. Ryan Martinez Mitchell



Prof. Christopher Robert Rossi



Prof. Frédéric Mégret



Prof. Wang Chao



Dr. Cong Wanshu



Dr. Huang Xinyu



Dr. Hao Yayezi



Dr. Yu Hong



Prof. Wang Jiangyu

Seminars/Lectures

CCCL Visiting Scholar Seminar: Constitutional Basis of General Personality Rights in China's Civil Code (18 April 2024)

The enduring concept of "personality," rooted in Roman law, persists today with its fundamental connotation largely unchanged. It delineates the distinction between the "personal body" as a subject and the "biological individual" as mere matter, safeguarding legal both and moral subjectivities. However, this binary understanding of personality, criticized by Marxism and postmodernism, poses inherent risks due to its origins in Roman law.

In light of this profound inquiry, Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law orchestrated a thought-provoking presentation. Mr. Shuchen Liu, Ph.D. Candidate from the School of Law at Renmin University, graced the event with his profound insights and extensive expertise. Joining him were distinguished guests: Prof. Huang Tao and Dr. Xiao Shiling from the School of Law at City University of Hong Kong, enriching the discourse with their valuable perspectives.

Mr. Shuchen Liu delivered a clear, insightful speech, emphasizing the significance of "personal freedom" prioritizing over "personal dignity" in defining personality rights. He elucidated that personal freedom pertains to individual autonomy, while personal dignity involves external recognition of internal diversity. This distinction underscores the obligation of both public power and third parties to respect individual privacy and equality in the public sphere. Comparing German judgment standards to highlighted China's approach distinct ideological paths concerning personal freedom and human dignity.

As the presentation drew to a close, the profound insights imparted by Dr. Shuchen Liu, coupled with the captivating discussions between Prof. Huang Tao and Dr. Xiao Shiling, bestowed upon the participants a heightened comprehension of the constitutional underpinnings of general personality rights

within the Civil Code. The culmination of the speech served as a poignant climax, emblematic of China's triumphant journey in exploring the evolution of personality rights.



Mr. Liu Shuchen



Prof. Huang Tao



Dr. Xiao Shiling

CCCL Guest Seminar: Space Resources and Property Rights on Celestial Objects: New Frontiers in international Law and Politics (18 April 2024)

Essentially built upon a series of international agreements signed between 1960s and 1980s, for most of its existence, international space law has gained renewed traction more recently, particularly with an increase in private actors' participation in space activities since the turn of the century. In response to this pressing matter, Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law convened a lecture featuring esteemed speaker, **Dr. Güneş Ünüvar** from the University of Luxembourg.

Dr. Ünüvar, a member of the Board of Directors of the NGO Moon Village Association (MVA) as its Legal Advisor, brought a wealth of knowledge and unique perspectives to the

speech. Serving as the discussant for this enlightening session was **Prof. Yu Chen**, while **Prof. Fang Meng** guided the symposium's proceedings with finesse and expertise.

In a captivating presentation led by Dr. Güneş Ünüvar, the intricate tapestry of legal frameworks guiding humanity's foray into space was illuminated. Dr. Ünüvar navigated the complexities of international agreements, spotlighting the pivotal role of the Outer Space Treaty established in 1967. This foundational document, alongside subsequent agreements like the Moon Agreement and the Principle of Non-Appropriation, lays the groundwork for exploration collaborative space while addressing crucial issues such as resource ownership and exploitation rights. With initiatives such as the Artemis Accords and the International Lunar Resources Agreement (ILRS) shaping the trajectory of space governance, Dr. Ünüvar emphasized the pressing need for a balanced and equitable framework as humanity ventures into the uncharted realms of the cosmos.

During the culminating Q&A session, **Prof. Yu Chen** sparked vibrant interaction with the audience, cultivating a dynamic exchange of ideas. Her incisive inquiries and astute responses elevated the symposium, offering participants a profound exploration of the intricate nuances surrounding space resources and property rights.

As the seminar reached its conclusion, the profound insights shared by Dr. Güneş Ünüvar and the engaging discussions led by Prof. Yu Chen left participants with a deepened understanding of the intricate intersections of international law and politics in the realm of space exploration and utilization. Under the adept moderation of Prof. Fang Meng, the event concluded on a high note, marking a significant step forward in our collective exploration of the legal frameworks shaping human activities beyond Earth's atmosphere.



Dr. Güneş Ünüvar



Prof. Yu Chen



Prof. Fang Meng

CCCL Guest Seminar: Introduction on Empirical (Qualitative) Research Methods (28 March 2024)

On March 28, 2024, Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL) at the City University of Hong Kong hosted a pivotal seminar titled "Empirical Research Methods in Legal Studies," led by Dr. Zhao Longxuan, an esteemed Assistant Professor from the College of Arts and Media at Tongji University. This educational event aimed to enlighten legal studies students about the intricacies and applications of empirical research methodologies.

Dr. Zhao is an Assistant Professor in the College of Arts and Media at Tongji University. His research covers an interdisciplinary area of communication studies, sociology, and gender/sexuality

studies, especially focusing on critical algorithm studies, interpersonal communication, social media, and qualitative research methods. His work can be found in such journals as Social Media + Society, Chinese Journal of Communication, and Qualitative Inquiry.

Dr. Zhao Longxuan initiated the seminar by delineating the distinctions between qualitative and quantitative research methods. His explanation provided clarity on how each method approaches data and contributes differently to legal studies.

The seminar featured an in-depth exploration of mainstream data collection and analysis techniques. Dr. Zhao presented various methods, emphasizing their relevance and application in current research settings, which was particularly beneficial for students looking to apply these techniques in their future studies.

A significant portion of the discussion was dedicated to the ethical considerations in research design. Dr. Zhao stressed the importance of ethics, positionality, and reflectivity in crafting meaningful legal research, ensuring that students are aware of the moral implications of their work.

Prof. Chen Yang from the City University of Hong Kong contributed as a discussant, focusing on how the empirical methods discussed could be effectively integrated into legal studies. This session provided practical insights into the application of empirical research within the legal field, bridging theory with practice.

The seminar concluded with an interactive Q&A session, where Dr. Zhao and Prof. Chen addressed various queries from the audience. This session was vibrant, with keen participation from students eager to discuss the nuances of implementing empirical research methods in their projects.

Participants left the seminar with enhanced understanding and appreciation for empirical research methods in legal studies. The clarity of explanations and the practical focus on ethical research design were particularly highlighted as beneficial aspects of the seminar.

Under the moderation of **Prof. Wang Jiangyu**, Director of CCCL, the seminar was not only a learning opportunity but also a platform for fostering a deeper understanding of empirical methodologies in legal contexts. Dr. Zhao Longxuan's expertise and Prof. Chen Yang's practical insights made this seminar a significant event for students aspiring to excel in legal research.



Dr. Zhao Longxuan



Prof. Chen Yang



Prof. Wang Jiangyu

of Hong Kong

Young Scholar Forum: Custom without the State (28 March 2024)

States' role in shaping customary international law is often overstated. Judges in international courts and tribunals identify rules that may not accurately reflect state behavior due to limited evidence. This discrepancy impacts the formation of customary law, with states sometimes adjusting their behavior to fit improperly identified rules.

In addressing this pressing concern, Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law orchestrated a captivating Young Scholar Forum. Leading the discourse was the esteemed Prof. Massimo Lando from the University of Hong Kong, whose erudition illuminated the room. Prof. Lando, an assistant professor at the University of Hong Kong's Faculty of Law and a seasoned international lawyer, previously served as an Associate Legal Officer at the International Court of Justice. Dr. Suhong Yang, representing the International Court of Justice, lent profound insights as the discussant, while the adept guidance of Prof. Martin Lai of City University of Hong Kong added finesse to the symposium's orchestration.

In a compelling presentation, Prof. Massimo Lando delved into the intricate dynamics of formation. challenging custom conventional notion of states as central architects. He elucidated how states' practice and opinio juris are often inadequately utilized in identifying customary rules, leading to discrepancies between identified rules and those that have organically formed. Prof. Lando emphasized the pivotal role of clear and publicly available rules in setting conduct standards within communities. Moreover, he highlighted how once identified, customary rules dictate state behavior, sometimes prompting states to conform to improperly identified rules set by international courts and tribunals, reshaping the traditional narrative of custom formation.

During the pivotal Q&A session, Dr. Suhong Yang ignited a lively dialogue, infusing the symposium with a fresh wave of insight and inquiry. His probing questions and discerning responses enriched the discourse, providing attendees with a deeper understanding of the complexities inherent in the formation of customary international law.

As the symposium drew to a close, the illuminating perspectives presented by **Prof. Massimo Lando** and the stimulating discourse facilitated by **Dr. Suhong Yang** resonated deeply with participants, offering profound insights into the intricate dynamics of customary international law. Guided by the skilled moderation of **Prof. Martin Lai**, the event culminated on a note of intellectual enrichment.



Prof. Massimo Lando



Dr. Suhong Yang



Prof. Martin Lai

25 years
since university inauguration

CCCL Guest Seminar: IPO 101: From a Practical Perspective of Hong Kong IPO (25 March 2024)

An initial public offering (IPO) marks a significant milestone for a company as it ventures into higher stages of development. Through this process, companies not only raise capital and enhance their visibility but also expand their investor base, thereby strengthening their market position and competitiveness. However, the IPO journey entails complex and rigorous procedures, regulatory requirements, and the need to navigate various challenges and changes in the market, ensuring sustained and robust growth post-listing.

To provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the current landscape of Hong Kong IPO from a practical perspective, Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law invited Mr. Kung-Wei Liu, a Partner at Allen & Overy, to share his insights and experiences at the seminar. Mr. Liu delved into the advantages and drawbacks of IPO, along with key risks faced by Chinese companies investing in USlisted markets. He emphasized the benefits of IPO, such as access to funds, exit options for early-stage investors, improved corporate image, and liquidity for issuer shares. However, he also highlighted challenges like impacts on ownership/control, exposure to market sentiment/investor pressure, ongoing regulatory obligations, and costs, management time required **IPO** implementation.

As the seminar drew to a close, the profound insights shared by Mr. Liu, coupled with **Prof. Yu-Hsin Lin**'s engaging facilitation, left attendees with a deeper appreciation of the practical realities of Hong Kong IPO. Under Professor Lin's adept guidance, the seminar culminated in a crescendo, symbolizing successful explorations of Hong Kong IPO and their pivotal role in the global financial markets.



Partner Kung-Wei LIU



Prof. Lauren Yu-Hsin LIN (left) and Partner Kung-Wei LIU (right)

CCCL Distinguished Lecture: China as IP Game Changer? (20 January 2024)

Over the last four decades, China has undergone a remarkable transformation from an intellectual property (IP) follower to a game changer. The story of China's journey in the realm of intellectual property is both fascinating and complex. The nation's progression is intricately woven into its political and economic shifts. Narrating this tale requires navigating the swirling currents of China's dynamic reality, where any perspective is inevitably shaped by one's global views and background. Responding to this critical need, Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL) has forged a talk.

Prof. Liu Kung-Chung from Singapore
Management University, renowned for his
extensive expertise in intellectual property
law, brought a wealth of knowledge and a
unique perspective to the symposium. Serving
as the discussant for this enlightening session
was Prof. Eliza Mik from the Chinese

University of Hong Kong. Guiding the symposium's proceedings with finesse and expertise was **Prof. He Tianxiang** from the City University of Hong Kong.

In an enlightening presentation, Professor Liu Kung-Chung provided a historical perspective on the People's Republic of China's (PRC) journey from establishing legal foundations to ascending the intellectual property (IP) high ground. Delving into the National Intellectual **Property** (2008-2020),Strategy highlighted the nation's evolution into an IP powerhouse. Professor Liu then explored the PRC's current position as a global IP gamechanger, focusing on its strategic initiatives outlined in the "Guidelines on Building an IPR Power (2021-2035)." The comprehensive set of IP laws, integration into the Civil Code, administrative protection mechanisms, and assertive judicial system were discussed, underscoring the PRC's influence across various industries. The talk concluded with insightful suggestions for the PRC's continued advancements in the realm of intellectual property.

During the concluding Q&A session, **Prof. Eliza Mik** actively engaged with the audience, fostering a dynamic exchange of ideas. Her insightful queries and thoughtful responses added an enriching dimension to the symposium, allowing participants to delve deeper into the complexities of China's evolving intellectual property landscape.

As the symposium drew to a close, the profound insights shared by Prof. Liu Kung-Chung and the engaging discussions led by Prof. Eliza Mik left participants with a appreciation heightened for China's transformative journey in intellectual property. Under the adept moderation of Prof. He Tianxiang, the event concluded on a high note, symbolizing a successful exploration of China's legal evolution and its pivotal role in shaping the global intellectual property landscape.



Prof. LIU Kung-Chung



Prof. Eliza MIK



Prof. HE Tianxiang

CCCL Young Scholar Forum: Can Functionalism Address Unjust Territorial Acquisition? (28 December 2023)

The Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL) at the City University of Hong Kong School of Law organized a thought-provoking legal research seminar titled "Can Functionalism Address Unjust Territorial Acquisition?" on December 28.

The primary aim of the seminar was to scrutinize the adequacy of functionalism in evaluating state legitimacy, particularly in scenarios involving unjust territorial acquisitions. The seminar sought to enrich the understanding of both the practical and theoretical implications of applying functionalism to real-world political issues.

The seminar began with a welcoming address by **Prof. Martin Lai**, who greeted all participants and set the stage for an engaging discussion. **Dr. Teng Li**, the featured speaker, presented his critique of traditional functionalism, which typically evaluates state

legitimacy based solely on governance effectiveness without considering the moral dimensions of how territories were acquired. He proposed a novel approach he termed "Historical Functionalism," which incorporates historical injustices into the evaluation of state legitimacy and advocates for a rectification process led by affected communities.

Mr. Xiaobin Huo, serving as the discussant, offered a critical examination of Historical Functionalism. He highlighted the challenges associated with implementing such a theoretical framework in practical governance, particularly questioning how historical narratives can be objectively integrated into legal frameworks without exacerbating existing conflicts. Furthermore, Huo discussed the potential role of international law in adopting Historical and enforcing Functionalism through international courts and agreements.

The seminar featured an interactive Q&A session, where attendees, including students, faculty, and legal professionals, engaged in spirited discussions. Topics ranged from the philosophical underpinnings of justice to the practical implications of the proposed legal theories in international relations and domestic governance. Professor Lai concluded the seminar by emphasizing the importance of continued scholarly discussion to refine and develop innovative legal theories capable of addressing complex global issues.

Overall, the seminar was well-received, with participants appreciating the depth of the discussions and the introduction of innovative approaches like Historical Functionalism. CCCL plans to continue exploring these issues in future seminars, aiming to bridge the gap between theoretical research and practical legal applications. This session highlighted the dynamic nature of the Young Scholar Forum at CCCL, showcasing its role in fostering critical discussions that challenge and expand the boundaries of legal and political scholarship.



Dr. Li Teng



Prof. Martin Lai



Mr. Huo Xiaobin

CCCL&JERI: Meeting Chinese Judges: Courts, Judges, and Judicial System (13 November 2023)

On November 13, 2023, the Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL) at the City University of Hong Kong School of Law, in collaboration with the Judicial Education and The Centre for Judicial Education and Research cum Identification of Hong Kong Law (JERI), held this year's joint lecture on the Mainland China's courts, judges, and judicial system from the Judges' perspective.

The seminar began with welcoming remarks to all attendees by Professor Wang Jiangyu.

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The guest speakers included:

Liu Feng, President of the Primary People's Court of Dongpo District of Meishan City, Sichuan Province

Lu Yunyun, Vice President of the Intermediate People's Court of Changzhou City, Jiangsu Province

Huang Jiachen, Judge of the Third Civil Division of the High People's Court of Hainan Province

Guo Jianjun, Director of Adjudication Management Office of Tianjin Maritime Court

Ji Lei, Deputy Chief Judge of the Juvenile and Family Division of the Second Intermediate People's Court of Shanghai

The judges shared their personal experiences in the courtroom, recounting interesting stories that led to their reflections on the rule of law.

Judge Lu Yunyun introduced the digitalization of the court system in Changzhou, emphasizing the importance of a one-stop, multi-faceted dispute resolution platform and the continuous improvement of the current litigation service information system.

Judge Liu Feng used a video presentation to explore the conflicts between societies of strangers and acquaintances, governance by authorities versus governance by local gentries, and national laws versus local conventions, offering his perspectives on these issues.

Director Guo Jianjun narrated the oftenmysterious stories of maritime judges, broadening the audience's understanding of the functions, structures, and developments over the past 40 years of maritime courts, as well as the distinctions between mainland maritime law, international maritime law, and maritime conventions.

Judge Huang Jiachen, starting from Hainan, discussed the reforms and developments of

the courts in Hainan under the background of the free trade port, reflecting the progressive spirit of contemporary judges.

Judge Ji Lei used classic dramas, operas, and musicals as a backdrop, drawing on classics such as "The Merchant of Venice" and "Bao Zheng's Journey to the West," to illuminate his views on private lending relationships and other issues through dramatic conflicts.

After the thought-provoking speeches by the judges, the seminar transitioned to a discussion session led by Prof. Lin Feng, the dean of the City University School of Law and director of JERI. He offered his insightful comments based on the judges' presentations, and other participants also eagerly shared their views, contributing unique and thought-provoking perspectives.

The seminar was concluded by Prof. Wang Jiangyu, who sincerely thanked all the speakers for their valuable contributions, ensuring the success of this enriching event.



Lu Yunyun

"在生人在会局馬人建全
"本商业是等与少农企业
"提代文师局特党司协
"商家是非与并提及的
"提代文帝与英宗世的
"提代文帝与英宗世的
"发致帝理与生种治理

Liu Feng

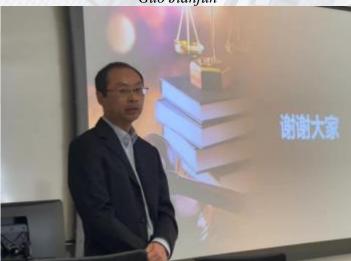
CCCL NEWSLETTER



Ji Lei



Guo Jianjun



Huang Jiachen



Prof. Lin Feng



Prof. Wang Jiangyu

CCCL Guest Seminar: Framework and Legal Analysis of Investment Hotspots for Enterprises and Individuals in Singapore (24 October 2023)

The Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL) at the City University of Hong Kong hosted a seminar on corporate law on October 24, 2023. The purpose of this seminar was to enrich the understanding of the students and researchers about the regulatory framework of corporate structures in Singapore and to delve into its implications on investment practices.

The seminar was inaugurated with a welcoming speech by **Prof. Wang Jiangyu**.

Ms. Yu Lan, who graduated from Peking University Law School in 2007 with a Master of Laws degree and from Columbia University Law School in 2018 with another Master of Laws degree, joined Han Kun Law Offices in 2023. Before that, she practiced for over a decade at Demoulin & Associates in Singapore. Her practice focuses on private wealth, wealth management, financial services, and cross-border transactions. Yu has assisted over 80 high-net-worth/ultra-high-net-worth

individuals/family offices in Singapore with tax exemption applications under scheme 130/U, establishment of family trusts, succession planning, asset management licensing, and immigration matters. She provides legal advice to many Chinese-backed multinational corporations on mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, corporate governance, and cross-border transactions. Yu frequently assists Chinese companies in establishing institutions and corporate restructuring in Southeast Asia and provides

legal advice on executive responsibilities and labour compliance.

Yu opened her speech by introducing the advantages of Singapore, including its wellestablished legal system, stable political and economic environment, low tax rates, low crime rates, and its role as an economic hub in the Asia-Pacific region. She then described common forms of company structures in including private limited Singapore, companies, public limited companies, public guarantee limited companies, and registration options for foreign companies, such as setting up subsidiaries, branches, or representative offices.

She went in-depth into common issues faced when establishing companies in Singapore and stock transfers, proposing solutions for these issues. The focus of the lecture then shifted to the analysis of Singapore's enterprise and individual investment hotspots and legal issues. She introduced core concepts such as UBO, VIE, nominee holding, VCC, and trust structures, explaining them in a simple yet profound manner.

The seminar then moved into a discussion session led by Mr. Yang Haifeng, a partner and committee head at Silkroad, Anchorite & Sage Law Firm. He shared his insights based on Yu's presentation, and other participants also took this opportunity to express their views, contributing unique and thoughtful perspectives.

The seminar concluded with closing remarks by Prof. Wang Jiangyu, who sincerely thanked all speakers for their valuable contributions and all attendees for their participation, which made the seminar a resounding success.







Prof. Wang Jiangyu

CCCL Guest Seminar: Comparative Regulation of Cryptocurrencies in Hong Kong and Singapore (20 October 2023)

Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL) at the City University of Hong Kong School of Law held an enlightening legal research seminar on October 20, 2023. The seminar, titled "Comparative Regulation of Cryptocurrencies in Hong Kong and Singapore," aimed to enhance attendees' understanding of the regulatory landscapes of cryptocurrencies in these two key Asian financial hubs and to explore the implications for the broader legal and financial sectors.

The seminar was opened with a warm welcome by **Prof. Wang Jiangyu**, who introduced the keynote speaker, **Mr. Lance Ang**, and outlined the seminar's objectives.

Mr. Lance Ang, a renowned legal scholar currently teaching Law at the Singapore University of Social Sciences and serving as Of Counsel for Adsan Law LLC, led the seminar. He embarked on the discussion by explaining the concept of cryptocurrency and its influence on monetary sovereignty. Mr. Ang also highlighted the differences between traditional money and cryptocurrencies,

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setting the stage for the upcoming regulatory analysis.

Following this, Mr. Ang dove into the core of the discussion, comparing the regulatory approaches of Hong Kong SAR, Singapore, and Mainland China towards cryptocurrencies:

Hong Kong SAR's Regulatory Approach: He outlined Hong Kong's regulatory stance, focusing on its risk-based approach and the role of the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) in overseeing cryptocurrency-related activities.

Singapore's Regulatory Approach: Mr. Ang then transitioned to discussing Singapore's regulatory framework, emphasizing the Monetary Authority of Singapore's (MAS) balanced approach that encourages innovation while mitigating risks associated with cryptocurrencies.

Mainland China's Regulatory Approach: Lastly, he examined China's stern regulatory stance, detailing the recent crackdown on cryptocurrencies and the country's rationale behind these stringent measures.

After outlining the regulations in each jurisdiction, Mr. Ang provided a comprehensive summary and analysis. He highlighted the distinct features of each regulatory approach, reflecting on their effectiveness and potential implications for the future of cryptocurrencies.

The seminar proceeded to an engaging discussion session led by Prof. Wang Jiangyu. Participants actively expressed their viewpoints, often providing valuable insights and stimulating debate.

The seminar concluded with Prof. Wang expressing his sincere appreciation to Mr. Ang for his enlightening presentation and to all attendees for their active participation. The event successfully broadened the understanding of the comparative regulation of cryptocurrencies in Hong Kong SAR, Singapore, and Mainland China, contributing significantly to the ongoing discourse on the intersection of law, technology, and finance.



Mr. Lance Ang



Prof. Wang Jiangyu

Young Scholar Forum: Examining the English Necessary Interest Rule in the Charitable Trust Setting (28 Sept 2023)

The Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL) at the City University of Hong Kong School of Law held a legal research seminar entitled "Examining the English Necessary Interest Rule in the Charitable Trust Setting" on 28 Sept 2023. The seminar's objectives were to deepen the attendees' comprehension of court interpretations of the necessary interest rule and to explore its theoretical implications for understanding the conceptual nature of English express trusts.

The seminar commenced with a welcoming speech by **Prof. Martin Lai**, who addressed all the participants. The keynote speaker for the seminar was **Dr. Jing Hui**, an Assistant Professor at the Department of Law, University of Hong Kong. Jing completed his PhD at the University of Melbourne, where his doctoral thesis was awarded the Melbourne Law School Harold Luntz Graduate Research Prize for Best PhD Thesis. Prior to his PhD, Jing obtained his master's degree (by research) in intellectual property law from Peking University and his LLB from China University

of Political Science and Law, graduating in the top 5% of his class. Dr. Jing Hui has published in journals including Legal Studies, the American Journal of Comparative Law, and the Journal of Equity, and he has contributed chapters to several edited collections. Before embarking on an academic career, Jing worked at the China National Foreign Trade Financial & Leasing Company and at the Beijing Office of Zhong Lun Law Firm from 2014 to 2017.

Dr. Jing began his speech by outlining the necessary interest rule's origin and function. The rule was instituted by Parliament through section 115 of the Charities Act 2011 (England and Wales), which enabled 'any person interested' in a charitable trust to act against negligent trustees in their administration of supported charitable assets. He explanation of the rule's evolution with a number of case studies.

introduced three Dr. Jing important observations in his seminar:

English courts typically distinguish between 'interest in the charity' and 'beneficial interest in trust properties' under an express trust, reflecting their conceptualization of charitable trusts' purpose nature.

The courts are given significant discretion to determine if a person is eligible to initiate charity proceedings, based on the specifics of a case. This flexibility indicates the courts' for primary concern the proper administration of charitable trusts.

A person's interest being sufficient to meet the threshold commencing for charity proceedings does not guarantee entitlement to begin the proceeding. This demonstrates that the 'right' of a qualified person to bring charity proceedings is not absolute and is at the court's discretion.

Following Dr. Jing's thought-provoking speech, the seminar proceeded to a discussion session led by Prof. Wu Zhicheng from Renmin University. He offered his own profound insights based on Dr. Jing's presentation, and other participants actively expressed their viewpoints, often providing valuable and

thought-provoking arguments.

The seminar was closed by Prof. Martin Lai, who conveyed his sincere gratitude to all the speakers for their invaluable contributions. He also thanked the attendees for their active participation, which was instrumental in achieving the seminar's fruitful outcomes. This gathering of bright minds made the event both illuminating and successful, adding a new dimension to the understanding of the English necessary interest rule in the charitable trust setting.



Dr. Jing Hui



Prof. Martin Lai



Prof. Wu Zhicheng

CCCL Guest Seminar: The Refusal to License Intellectual Property as an Antitrust Violation in China: How Should the Current Approach be Improved? (July 27 2023)

The Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL) at the City University of Hong Kong School of Law held a legal research seminar on intellectual property rights on July 27, 2023. The seminar aimed to enhance the understanding of intellectual property law and antitrust law among the students and researchers of the School. **Dr. Wu Peicheng** from Zhejiang University was invited as the keynote speaker.

The seminar commenced with a welcoming speech by **Prof. Huang Tao**, who addressed all the participants.

Dr. Wu Peicheng is 'Zhejiang University 100 Young Professor' at Zhejiang University Guanghua Law School. He received his Bachelor of Laws degree from Southwest University of Political Science and Law. Later, he obtained his doctoral degree in Economic Law at the Shanghai Jiao Tong University. He further pursued another Ph.D. in Law at the University of New South Wales in Australia. Dr. Wu Peicheng has made significant research contributions in the field of competition law, intellectual property law and digital law, and his articles have been published in renowned journals both in China and abroad.

Dr. Wu Peicheng first elaborated on the historical background of Sino-US trade relations, stating that China's development of intellectual property and the application of competition law may lead to tension in the Sino-US trade relationship. Currently, China's approach to handling refusal to license intellectual property under antitrust law is not mature enough. Therefore, the central issue of this seminar was to explore the circumstances under which the refusal to license intellectual property in China constitutes a violation of antitrust law and how to improve the current practices.

Dr. Wu then discussed the existing antitrust practices and problems regarding refusal to license intellectual property in China. In China,

Article 22 of the Antitrust Law lists several abusive practices that may lead to anticompetitive consequences, including refusing to trade without legitimate reasons. However, this provision does not clearly specify when the refusal to trade is illegal. Dr. Wu Peicheng used the case of *Xu Shuqing v. Tencent*, tried by the Supreme People's Court, to illustrate this issue. He discussed how the Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR), the competition authority in China, introduced the "essential facility doctrine" to determine whether the refusal to license intellectual property can be considered an illegal refusal to deal. However, SAMR has not applied this concept in any specific cases yet.

Dr. Wu also discussed the approach taken by the United States in such cases, which involves a limited application of an antitrust duty to deal. He cited the case of Aspen Skiing Co. v. Skiing Corp., Aspen Highlands which demonstrates that it is rare to find refusal to deal as an antitrust violation in the United States. He also mentioned the Verizon v. Trinko Case, indicating that it is unlikely for the United States to deem a refusal to deal illegal after that decision. In contrast to the United States, the European Union (EU) adopts the "essential facilities" principle when dealing with refusal to license intellectual property cases.

Dr. Wu discussed the examples of the Bronner test, the Magill case, and the IMS case as instances where the EU demonstrates a positive attitude toward the "essential facilities" principle. He also cited the Microsoft v. European Commission case as an example of the EU's application of competition law in the field of refusal to license intellectual property. Dr. Wu believes that the EU's approach is more suitable for China's current situation, and he insightful perspectives presented improving the current state of affairs. These suggestions aim to enhance the specificity and clarity in handling refusal to license cases, while reducing the authorities' discretion.

In conclusion, China's current antitrust regulations regarding the refusal to license intellectual property are overly broad, leaving room for excessive interpretation. Dr. Wu suggests that China should primarily refer to the EU's competition law to improve the approach to handling refusal to license intellectual property cases.

Following Dr. Wu's thought-provoking speech, the seminar proceeded to a discussion session led by Prof. Lai Sin Chit and Dr. Guan Taorui. They offered their own profound insights based on Dr. Wu's presentation, and other participants expressed actively their viewpoints, often providing valuable and thought-provoking arguments. The seminar concluded with closing remarks from Prof. Huang Tao, who sincerely thanked all the speakers for their valuable contributions and all the attendees for their presence, which led to fruitful outcomes for this seminar.



Prof. Huang Tao



Dr. Wu Peicheng



Dr. Guan Taorui



Prof. Martin Lai

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NEWS OF CCCL MEMBERS (JULY 2023 - May 2024)

May 2024

◆ **Professor Wang Jiangyu** delivered a lecture at Peking University titled Sino-US Competition: Bottom-Line Thinking and Upper-Limit Realities. (中美競爭:底線思維與上限現實)

April 2024

- Professor Wang Jiangyu wrote an article for Lianhe Zaobao on the Sino-US world trade subsidy dispute.
- Professor Virginia Harper Ho was invited to share her insights on the new SEC climate disclosure rules at Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University.
- Professor Lauren Yu-Hsin Lin presented "The Party's Grip on Chinese Firms" at Georgetown University Law Center.

March 2024

- **Professor Wang Jiangyu** authored an article for Ming Pao on the crime of foreign interference (「境外干預罪」的普世性與精准性).
- Professor Wang Jiangyu served as a discussant at the Conference on the Multilateral Trading System and WTO Reform at Peking University.
- Professor Wang Jiangyu was a discussant at the Inaugurate Lecture of the Global Law Distinguished Lecture Series at Wuhan University.
- **Professor Wang Jiangyu** commented at the CGHK Insight Workshop on the 2024 Two Sessions: Revitalizing Connections.

February 2024

• **Professor Wang Jiangyu** was quoted by Lianhe Zaobao discussing the Messi incident.

January 2024

 Professor Wang Jiangyu participated in a forum on Sino-US relations at Renmin University of China.

December 2023

 Professor Lauren Yu-Hsin Lin served as a discussant at the Fall Corporate Roundtable

- hosted by the Institute for Law & Economics at the University of Pennsylvania.
- Professor Lai Sin Chit Martin spoke at the Academic Society for Competition Law (ASCOLA) Asia Regional Workshop 2023.
- ◆ **Professor Wang Jiangyu** spoke at the 2023 Greater Bay Area Service Trade Congress (2023 粤港澳大灣區服務貿易大會).
- Professor Wang Jiangyu was interviewed by Modern Express regarding the US revoking diplomatic exemptions for Hong Kong's Economic and Trade Offices.
- ◆ **Professor Wang Jiangyu** spoke at the Seminar on the Frontiers of Research and Publication Directions in One Country, Two Systems and the Rule of Law in Hong Kong, and at the 75th Anniversary Legal Scholars Forum of Joint Publishing HK. (一國兩制與香港法治的研究前 沿與出版方向研討會暨香港三聯 75 周年慶法 律學者論壇)
- **Professor Wang Jiangyu** spoke at the Seminar on Competition Law for Online Platforms in the Greater Bay Area (粤港澳大灣區網路平臺競爭 法治研討會).
- **Professor Wang Jiangyu** wrote an article for Ming Pao on the judiciary's approach to internet rulings (法院裁決上網的道與術).

November 2023

- Professor Virginia Harper Ho was invited to be at the American Society of Comparative Law Annual Meeting in Miami at Florida International University, College of Law to talk about China's role in transnational green finance and other transnational challenges.
- Professor Wang Jiangyu led a City University of Hong Kong team to first prize at the 11th Asia-Pacific Region Mergers and Acquisitions Simulation Competition.
- Professor Wang Jiangyu was quoted by Lianhe Zaobao, regarding the meeting between Micron CEO and Wang Wentao, stating that China is signalling openness and cooperation, not intending to unprincipledly expand security issues, thereby creating a favourable atmosphere for the next month's US-China presidential meeting.
- Professor Lauren Yu-Hsin Lin delivered a speech titled "The Spectrum of Control: Unveiling Layers of State Influence in Chinese Firms" at Columbia Law School's Society for Chinese Law.
- Professor Lauren Yu-Hsin Lin was invited to give a speech titled "The Spectrum of Control:

- Unveiling Layers of State Influence in Chinese Firms" at the Wasserman Workshop in Law and Finance, Yale Law School, Center for the Study of Corporate Law.
- Professor Lauren Yu-Hsin Lin's research on the China's corporate social credit system was cited by the Economist report titled "Xi Jinping's grip on Chinese enterprise gets uncomfortably tight".
- Professor Julien Chaisse quoted in in an article published in the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences journal on the advantages of Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) in the business sector.

October 2023

- Professor Lauren Yu-Hsin Lin was invited to give a talk titled "Are Chinese Private Firms Truly Private?" at Connell Law School.
- Professor Lauren Yu-Hsin Lin in collaboration with Shanyun Xiao, presented "The Effect of Partial Privatization of Chinese State-Owned Enterprises: A Difference-in-Differences Approach" at the Conference on Empirical Legal Studies at the University of Chicago Law School.
- Professor Lauren Yu-Hsin Lin in collaboration with Shanyun Xiao, presented "Unlocking Value in State-Owned Enterprises: Empirical Insights into Strategic Investor Participation in Chinese Reforms" at the Empirical Legal Studies in Sinophone Region conference, held at Cornell Law School.
- Professor Lauren Yu-Hsin Lin was invited to give a speech titled "Are Chinese Private Firms Truly Private?" at Cornell Law School's Clarke Program in East Asian Law & Culture.
- Professor Virginia Harper Ho was invited to share her insights with George S. Georgiev, Anne Tucker, and Stephen Park at the University of Georgia School of Law for a great panel on ESG and sustainable finance at the GJICL's excellent symposium.
- Professor Wang Jiangyu has been invited by the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade to attend the 21st East Asia Forum.
- Professor Wang Jiangyu participated in the Asia Future Summit in Singapore to discuss Taiwan's unification.
- **Professor Wang Jiangyu** authored an article for Ming Pao on new models of China-Australia interactions (中澳交往成為新模式).
- Professor Julien Chaisse quoted in the Financial Times' FDI Intelligence on the rising threat of cyber-attacks in the global digital economy.

September 2023

- Professor Julien Chaisse quoted in the Nikkei Asia on the challenges facing Vietnam's manufacturing sector amid global supply chain shifts.
- Professor Julien Chaisse was quoted in Tuổi Trẻ, Vietnam's leading English language newspaper, commenting on how U.S. President Joe Biden is expected to embark on a two-day state visit to Vietnam on Sunday at the invitation of Vietnamese Party General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong.
- Professor Wang Jiangyu provided insights on US-India relations for Zhi News.
- ◆ **Professor Wang Jiangyu** delivered a keynote speech at the RCEP Rules and Application Theme Forum (RCEP 規則與運用主題論壇).
- Professor Wang Jiangyu spoke at the 10th IPP International Conference on Multiple Modernities and a New World Order.

August 2023

 Professor Wang Jiangyu wrote an article for Ming Pao on leadership transition in Singapore (新加坡領導班子交接).

July 2023

- ◆ **Professor Wang Jiangyu** was quoted by Ming Pao discussing US-China relations normalization (中美關係:恢復正常').
- Professor Wang Jiangyu was invited by Lianhe Zaobao to comment on Janet Yellen's visit to China, stating that this move lays the foundation for future interactions
- **Professor Wang Jiangyu** spoke at the Third Session of the China Commercial Law Summer Forum on Company Law Revision (第三節中國商法夏季論壇暨中國法學會商法學研究會公司法修訂重大專題研討會).
- Professor Julien Chaisse has written an opinion piece in Financier Worldwide Magazine, the premier publication focusing on corporate finance and board-level business matters, discussing the pressing need for companies, particularly in the financial sector, to bolster their data management and security frameworks amidst growing cyber security threats, to prevent potential data breaches that could lead to significant financial and reputational harm.
- Professor Julien Chaisse quoted in the Nikkei Asia on how Hong Kong's arbitration system, which is meant to offer a neutral platform for resolving disagreements, unintentionally helps



PUBLICATIONS (JULY 2023 - MAY 2024)

CCCL Members' Publications

Julien CHAISSE

- Strategic Evolution: The Changing Face of US Development Finance in World Trade. / CHAISSE, Julien. In: Journal of World Trade, Vol. 57, No. 6, 12.2023, p. 909-932.
- Rethinking umbrella clauses in international investment agreements. / Chaisse, Julien. In: Columbia FDI Perspectives, No. 368, 16.10.2023.
- UTPR: Potential Conflicts with International Law? / Hongler, Peter; Mosquera, Irma; Debelva, Filip et al. In: Tax Notes International, Vol. 111, No. 28, 10.07.2023, p. 140-151.
- ◆ UNITED STATES—ORIGIN MARKING REQUIREMENT, WT/DS597/R. / CHAISSE, Julien; OLAOYE, Kehinde Folake. In: American Journal of International Law, Vol. 117, No. 3, 07.2023, p. 488-493.

Chi Hin Peter CHAN

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Yang CHEN

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- ◆ Chen, Y 2023, 'Demystifying China's trade secrets law in action: a statistical analysis', Queen Mary Journal of Intellectual Property, vol. 13, no. 2, pp. 198-238.
- Chen, Y 2023, 'Navigating the Identity Thicket in China from a Comparative Lens: Conflicting Control Rights over a Person's Name', Hong Kong Law Journal, vol. 53, no. Part 2, pp. 843-875.

Thomas CROFTS

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- ◆ Burton, K., Crofts, T., Duffy, J., & Blake, M. (2023). Criminal Law in Queensland and Western Australia. (3rd ed.) (LexisNexis Questions and Answers). LexisNexis.

Chunyan DING

- Ding, C 2023, "Moral Conviction" plus "Joint Sanctions": The Judgment-defaulter Blacklist System in China', Brooklyn Journal of International Law, vol. 48, no. 2, pp. 389-444.
- Ding, C 2023, Chinese Tort Law in the Era of the Civil Code. in H Jiang & P Sirena (eds), The Making of the Chinese Civil Code: Promises and Persistent Problems. Cambridge University Press, pp. 153-178.
- Ding, C 2023, 'Liability of Internet Service Providers for Cyber Torts under Chinese Law', Tort Law Review, vol. 29, no. 2, pp. 169-183.

Mandy Meng FANG

◆ Fang, MM 2023, 'Regulating EV Batteries' Carbon Footprint: EU Climate Ambition or Green Protectionism?', Environmental Law Reporter, vol. 53, no. 7, 10590.

Virginia HARPER HO

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 - Featured on Oxford Business Law Blog (1 Apr. 2024)
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- "Corporate Groups: Toward Enterprise Accountability," in Handbook of Corporate Liability, Martin Petrin & Christian Witting, eds. (Edward Elgar: 2023)(with Gerlinde Berger-Walliser & Rachel Chambers)

Tianxiang HE

 He, T & Zhang, H 2024, 'Copyright, platforms and NFT digital collections: exploring the proper regulatory mode in China', Journal of Intellectual Property Law & Practice, vol. 19, no. 1, pp. 18-31.

Tao HUANG

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- HUANG, T & ZHENG, S 2023, 'Using Differential Privacy to Define Personal, Anonymous, and Pseudonymous Data', IEEE Access, vol. 11, pp. 109225-109236.

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- ◆ Lai, S & Zhang, J 2024, 'The Tension between Public Interest Litigations and Private Actions under China's Anti-Monopoly Law', Tsinghua China Law Review, vol. 16, no. 1, pp. 19-50.
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Feng LIN

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Laruen Yu-Hsin LIN

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Qiao LIU

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- LIU, Q., 2023, The Making of the Chinese Civil Code: Promises and Persistent Problems. Jiang, H. & Sirena, P. (eds.). Cambridge, United Kingdom; New York, NY: Cambridge University Press, p. 77-93 17 p.

Fozia Nazir LONE

◆ Lone, FN 2023, 'Report on Sino-Indian Border Disputes: International Law and International Relations Perspectives', The Chinese Journal of Comparative Law, vol. 11, no. 2, cxad005.

34

Daniel PASCOE

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the Hong Kong criminal courts', Asia Pacific Law Review, 32(1), pp. 123–148.

Chen YU

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ABOUT CCCL

The Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL) was established in 1994 as an interdisciplinary research institute in affiliation with the School of Law of City University of Hong Kong (CityU Law). As one of the world's oldest research centres on Chinese and comparative legal studies as a discipline, it is devoted to research in both fundamental and cutting-edge issues in the relevant areas. The Centre benefits greatly not only from the institutional support of CityU Law but also from a sizable group of academics in the School of Law who specialize either in a particular area of Chinese law or general Chinese legal studies, as well as, are experts in comparative law. The Centre is blessed by its location in Hong Kong which has a legal system based on English common law and a long-standing rule of law tradition. As an international business and financial hub under the "One Country, Two Systems", Hong Kong has also served as an international legal hub in facilitating rule-based commercial transactions and trans-border dispute settlement, in many cases involving mainland China, and provides the best forum in the world for interactions between Chinese laws and foreign laws. As both CityU and its School of Law are increasingly recognized as world-class educational and research institutions, the Centre is now in an ideal position to be the centre of gravity for Chinese and comparative legal studies in the region and the world.

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