



Public Law and
Human Rights Forum

香港城市大學
City University of Hong Kong

Monday 14 March 2022
20:00-21:30 HKT
Online via Zoom
Scan the QR Code to Register!



Defining and Defending the Rule of Law in Asia

CPLR Webinar Series on Asian Perspectives on Human Rights

The amount of ink that has been dedicated to issues concerning the rule of law around the world cannot be overstated. The rule of law has been examined from, inter alia, philosophical perspectives, focusing on the definition of the rule of law (e.g. in its thin and thick conceptions), historical perspectives (e.g. the development of the rule of law in common law and civil law traditions) and the extent to which different societies maintain the rule of law. In many jurisdictions, along with the associated terms 'human rights' and 'democracy', the rule of law has even attained the status as a 'master narrative' to which political actors of all stripes are invested. Nevertheless, critics assert that the 'rule of law' is under increasing threat in East and Southeast Asia, criticism that extends to jurisdictions such as Hong Kong, Cambodia, Myanmar and the Philippines, just to name a few.

This 90-minute online seminar aims to consider the definition and protection of the 'rule of law' in the Asian context, focusing specifically on the sub regions of East and Southeast Asia. Scholars working on these jurisdictions will discuss the following questions:

- What does the public in your jurisdiction associate with the term 'rule of law'?
- How is the 'rule of law' defined by lawyers, politicians and civil society in your jurisdiction? Is this different from its definition(s) popular within academic scholarship?
- Is there an 'Asian rule of law'?
- What are the challenges to the rule of law in East and Southeast Asia? How can the rule of law be better defended in these regions?
- What role do universities have to play in strengthening the rule of law?



MODERATOR:

Daniel Pascoe, Associate Professor, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong

PANELLISTS:

Jothie Rajah, Research Professor, American Bar foundation

Giao Vu Cong, Associate Professor, Department of Constitution and Administration, Vietnam National University, Hanoi

Raphael Pangalangan, Assistant Professor & Associate Dean, Jindal Global Law School

Cristina Bonoan, Senior Lecturer, College of Law, University of the Philippines

Kristina Simion, Research Fellow, Swedish Institute of International Affairs' Asia Programme

Benjamin Lawrence, Post-Doctoral Fellow, School of Law, National University of Singapore

Registration Link: <https://cityu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tjMqd-qhrjsqEtf30sB5o2KzM4qNa0Kx5R4F>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting!