

# CPLR E-Newsletter



Public Law and Human Rights Forum  
香港城市大學  
City University of Hong Kong



Welcome to the sixth volume of the CPLR E-Newsletter! We are excited to share our latest news with you!

In the first half of 2026, CPLR has continued to actively deliver on its mission to facilitate intellectual exchange, promote cutting-edge research, and foster regional and global collaboration in our fields of study. We have hosted several significant academic events, including Book Review Seminar on Capital Drug Laws in Asia, Webinar Series on The New Indonesian Criminal Code and Human Rights, and the National Security Law and Implementation: Comparing Hong Kong and Macau Symposium.

We are delighted to update you on our events, members' publications, appointments, research grants, media presence, and upcoming event.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support! We invite you to explore our dynamic progress in the pages ahead!



## In this newsletter you can expect:

Highlights of Events

Publications

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Media Presence

Upcoming Events

CPLR Members

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## Highlights of Events (Jan - Jun 2026)



### **Legislating for Solidarity: On the Ethnic Solidarity and Progress Promotion Law and Its Constitutional Foundation**

9 February 2026

**Speaker:** *Prof. Zhai Han, Associate Professor, School of Law, Huazhong University of Science and Technology*

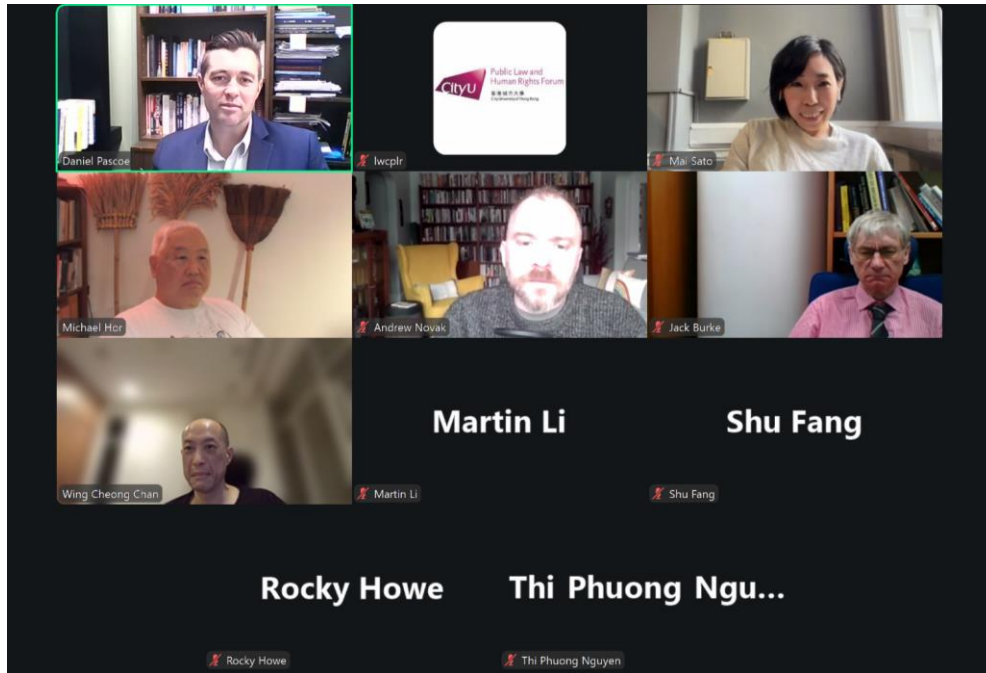
**Moderator:** *Prof. Tao Huang, Core Member of CPLR, School of Law, CityUHK*

**Coordinator:** *Prof. Guobin Zhu, Director of CPLR, School of Law, CityUHK*

'Solidarity', as a legal value, engages with the intellectual traditions of different nations in comparative law, and as an academic concept, it also spans, quite unusually, the knowledge domains of both public and private law. As a related semantic phenomenon, the discourse of 'ethnic solidarity' has long been present in China's ethnic policies and constitutional texts. Upon its future promulgation, the Ethnic Solidarity and Progress Promotion Law will not only serve as a significant legislation for further advancing the rule of law in the governance of ethnic affairs in China but will also provide an academic opportunity to reflect on how written constitutions respond to the state-building through the intellectual lens of 'solidarity'.

**Prof. Zhai Han** examined "solidarity" as a constitutional value and discussed the legislative background and constitutional foundations of the forthcoming Ethnic Solidarity and Progress Promotion Law. She outlined the evolution of ethnic governance in China from policy-oriented approaches to a more law-based framework, and analysed the normative structure of state duties under the Constitution.

Please click here ([Eng/Chi](#)) for the recap of this event.



## CPLR Book Review Seminar Series (5): Capital Drug Laws in Asia

25 March 2026

**Editors:** *Prof. Wing-Cheong Chan*, Professor of Law, Singapore Management University  
*Prof. Mai Sato*, Professor and Director of the Institute for Crime and Justice Policy Research, Birkbeck, University of London  
*Prof. Michael Hor*, Professor, The University of Hong Kong

**Reviewer:** *Prof. Andrew Novak*, Associate Professor, George Mason University

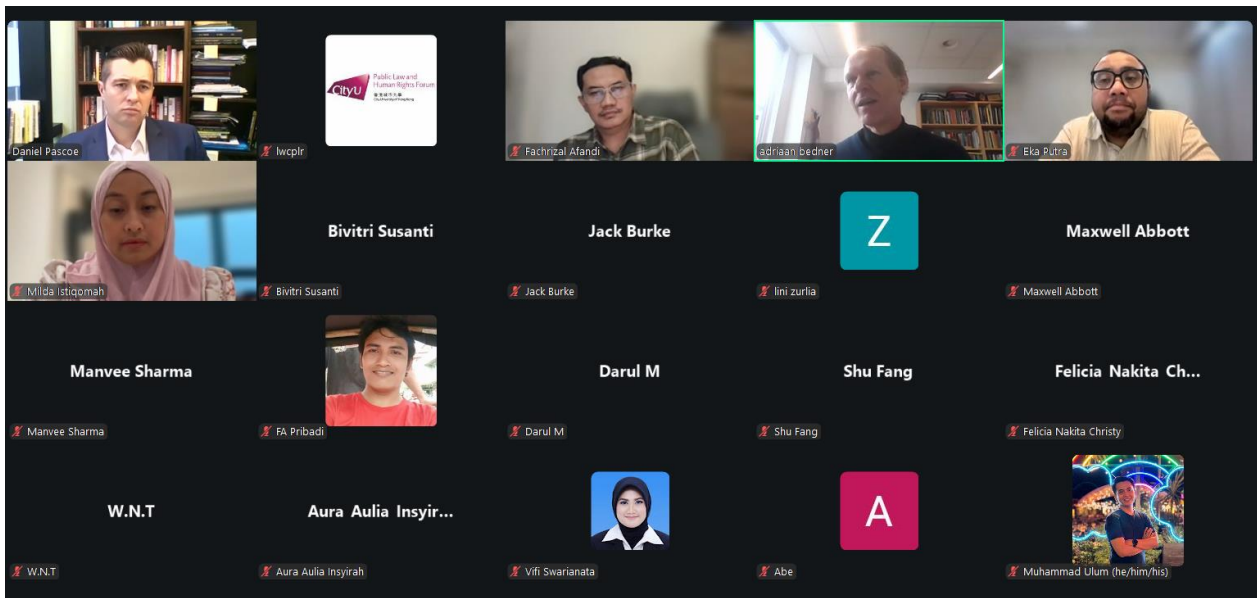
**Moderator:** *Prof. Daniel Pascoe*, Associate Director of CPLR, School of Law, CityUHK

The book *Capital Drug Laws in Asia* documents, analyses and makes accessible the law and policy related to illicit drugs in various Asian jurisdictions. The focus is specifically on the measures undertaken in Asia to combat drug offences and, in particular, the use of the death penalty for such offences. It will enhance the ability of public policy and law makers, non-governmental organisations and the general population to engage in the debate on the appropriate approach towards illicit drugs.

(Chan Wing Cheong, SMU; Michael Hor, HKU; Mai Sato, Birkbeck) for an online discussion with the author of the Asia Pacific Law Review book review, Andrew Novak (George Mason University). Staff, students and members of the public attended as part of an online audience.

Please click [here](#) for the recap of this seminar.

This seminar, the fifth in the CPLR's book review seminar series, brought together the three editors of the volume *Capital Drug Laws in Asia*



## CPLR Webinar Series on Asian Perspectives on Human Rights (5): The New Indonesian Criminal Code and Human Rights

26 March 2026

**Speakers:** *Dr. Eka Nugraha Putra, Research Fellow, National University of Singapore*  
*Prof. Milda Istiqomah, Associate Professor, Brawijaya University*  
*Prof. Fachrizal Afandi, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice, Brawijaya University*  
*Prof. Adriaan Bedner, Professor of Law and Society in Indonesia, Leiden University*  
*Ms. Bivitri Susanti, Lecturer, Indonesia Jentera School of Law*

**Moderator:** *Prof. Daniel Pascoe, Associate Director of CPLR, School of Law, CityUHK*

Indonesia's long-awaited New Criminal Code, which recently came into effect after decades of debate, has been described simultaneously as a historic move away from Dutch colonial law and as a major turning point for the relationship between criminal law, morality, religion, custom, and the state. At the same time, a range of civil society organisations and scholars have raised concerns that several provisions risk undermining fundamental rights, including freedom of expression, religious freedom, and equality before the law.

Particular controversy surrounds offences relating to insults to the president and state institutions, blasphemy and religious orthodoxy, and cohabitation and adultery. These tensions place Indonesia at the centre of wider debates about decolonisation of law, legal

pluralism, and the compatibility of culturally grounded criminal law reforms with international human rights standards.

This seminar brought together five Indonesian and foreign scholars to reflect critically not only on the text of the New Code, but also on its broader theoretical and comparative implications for criminal justice, pluralism, and human rights protection in the region.

Please click [here](#) for the recap of this seminar.



## “National Security Law and Implementation: Comparing Hong Kong and Macau” Symposium

18 April 2026

This event, co-organised by the Public Law and Human Right Forum and the Institute of Hong Kong & Macau Affairs, Development Research Center of State Council, has brought together a distinguished assembly of legal scholars from Chinese Mainland, Hong Kong, and Macau to conduct a comparative analysis of the legal frameworks and practical implementation of national security laws within the two Special Administrative Regions (SARs). Hong Kong's national security regime reflects a layered constitutional and legislative evolution, with the first pillar implemented through Hong Kong National Security Law in 2020 and Safeguarding National Security Ordinance in 2024. In contrast, Macau fulfilled its constitutional obligation under Article 23 of the Macau Basic Law in 2009 through the Law on Safeguarding National Security (Law No. 2/2009), which is subsequently updated in 2023, representing a predominantly regional legislative approach.

The symposium commenced with an opening ceremony moderated by **Prof. Guobin Zhu** (Director of CPLR, City University of Hong Kong). Opening remarks were delivered by **Prof. Feng Lin** (Dean of the School of Law, City University of Hong Kong), **Dr. Kwok-kwan Cheung, SBS, JP** (Deputy Secretary for Justice, HKSARG), **Prof.**

**Zhenmin Wang** (Dean of the Institute for State Governance, Tsinghua University), and **Prof. Yanying Bi** (Director of the Institute of Hong Kong and Macau Affairs).

The Symposium focused on four themes: Constitutional foundations and legislative environments of the two SARs; Judicial application and common law adaptation; Crime and Punishment; Institutional development and reflection. Each session includes speeches delivered by 4-6 speakers and discussion on the related topic.

Please click here ([Eng/Chi](#)) for the recap for this symposium.

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## Publications

### Prof. Guobin Zhu

- Guobin Zhu, Björn Ahl and Larry Backer (eds), *Cambridge Handbook of Chinese Constitutional Law*, Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2026.
- Guobin Zhu, Edmund CHENG Wei and Adrienne Lam (eds), *Construction of the Rule of Law in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area – Law and Governance* [《粤港澳大湾区法治建设 – 法律与治理》], in Chinese, *Hong Kong: Joint Publishing (HK) Co. Ltd.*, April 2026, 257 pages.
- Guobin Zhu, Adrienne Lam, “‘Law relating the Greater Bay Area’: Establishing the Legal System for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area”, co-authored with Adrienne Lam, in ZHU Guobin, Edmund CHENG Wei and Adrienne LAM (eds.), *Construction of the Rule of Law in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area – Law and Governance*, in Chinese, Hong Kong: Joint Publishing (HK) Co. Ltd., April 2026, pp. 46-65.
- Lone, F.N., Zhu, G., & Carty, A. (Eds.). (2025). *Human Rights and Gender Based Violence in Asia: A Comparative Critical Analysis* (1st ed.). Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003463788>
- Guobin Zhu, Celeste T. Y. Lo, “The Fifth Anniversary of the Implementation of the Hong Kong National Security Law: Legal Integration, Compatibility, Complementarity, and Systemic Enhancement”, *China Review (Zhongguo Pinglun)*, No. 10, 2025, pp. 110-119. A CSSCI journal.
- Guobin Zhu, Adrienne Lam, “‘Law relating the Greater Bay Area’: Establishing the Legal System for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area”, *Chinese Review of Foreign-Related Rule of Law (Shewai Fazhi Luncong)*, Vol. 1, 2025, pp. 252-271.

### Prof. Fozia Nazir Lone

- Fozia Nazir Lone, *Essence of Water: Evolving Perspectives on International Water Law and Governance*, in David Williamson, Gary Lynch-Wood & Agne Prochorskaite, (eds) *Research Handbook on Environmental Regulation* (Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd., UK) 2026 (Chapter 17, p 274-289)
- Lone, F.N., Zhu, G., & Carty, A. (Eds.). (2025). *Human Rights and Gender Based Violence in Asia: A Comparative Critical Analysis* (1st ed.). Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003463788>
- Fozia Nazir Lone and Antony Carty, “Unveiling Women’s Rights in Asia: Advancements and Uphill Battles”, in Lone, F.N., Zhu, G., & Carty, A. (Eds.). (2025). *Human Rights and Gender Based Violence in Asia: A Comparative Critical Analysis* (1st ed.). Routledge. 1–28.
- Fozia Nazir Lone, “Gender-Based Violence in Ongoing Conflicts: A Nuanced Analysis on Empowering Women for Sustainable Peace in Kashmir”, Lone, F.N., Zhu, G., & Carty, A. (Eds.). (2025). *Human Rights and Gender Based Violence in Asia: A Comparative Critical Analysis* (1st ed.). Routledge, 177–208.
- Fozia Nazir Lone, “From Outcast to Mainstream: Pioneering Change in International Law through Global South Perspectives, Stoic Doctrines and Indigenous Norms”, (2025) XXII (1–2) *Soochow Law Journal* 75–142.

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## Prof. Daniel Pascoe

- Daniel Pascoe, National Narcotics Agencies in Southeast Asia: Relics of the Regional 'War on Drugs', in W.-C. Chan, M. Sato, & M. Hor (Eds.), *Capital Drug Laws in Asia* (Cambridge University Press, 2025) 167-199.
- Daniel Pascoe and Ajeng Larasati (eds), *State-Sanctioned Killings for Drug Offences in East and Southeast Asia* (Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, 2026).
- Daniel Pascoe and Mai Sato, "State Killings by Commission", in Daniel Pascoe and Ajeng Larasati (eds), *State-Sanctioned Killings for Drug Offences in East and Southeast Asia* (Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, 2026).
- Daniel Pascoe, 'Myanmar and Vietnam' in Daniel Pascoe and Ajeng Larasati (eds), *State-Sanctioned Killings for Drug Offences in East and Southeast Asia* (Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime 2026)
- Daniel Pascoe and Mai Sato, "The death penalty, due process violations, murder by decree and extra-legal killings: A typology of 'murder by governments'", (2025) 8 *Oxford Death Penalty Research Unit (DPRU) Research Papers*.

## Prof. Meng Fang Mandy

- Meng Fang, "Environmental Regulation of Plastic Pollution at a Crossroads: The Evolution and Limits of China's Legal Response", (2026) 43(2) *Wisconsin International Law Journal* 91-126.
- Meng Fang, "Between Carbon Neutrality, Energy Security, and Industrial Competitiveness: Local Content Requirements in Offshore Wind Energy and the WTO", (2025) 42 *Chinese (Taiwan) Yearbook of International Law and Affairs* 200-214.
- Meng Fang, "In Pursuit of Decarbonization: The European Union Batteries Regulation and the World Trade Organization Law", in Elisa Baroncini (ed), *The WTO as Major Driver of Sustainable Development and Its Reform Process* (Bologna University Press, 2025) 175-185.

## Prof. Tao Huang

- Tao Huang, "Content moderation by LLM: from accuracy to legitimacy", (2025) 58 *Artificial Intelligence Review*.
- Tao Huang, "Institutional Metaphors and the Meta Oversight Board", (Dec 2025) 58(5) *Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law* 1325-1372.
- Tao Huang, "NetChoice, Regulatory Competition, and the Real Battle Behind Social Media Regulations", (Feb 2025) 27(1) *Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment and Technology Law* 157-203.

## Prof. Enshen Li

- Enshen Li, "Penal Policies and Practices in China", in Alessandro Corda (ed), *Research Handbook on Penal Policy* (Edward Elgar, 2026) (forthcoming).
- Enshen Li, Y Liu and SY He, "Accessing Crime Data in Hong Kong: Haunted by Fragmentation", (2025) *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*.
- Enshen Li, "Regulating Misdemeanours in China", (2025) 50(2) *Brooklyn Journal of International Law* 122-160.

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## **Prof. Noam Zamir**

- Noam Zamir and Michael Waibel, *Substantive Protections in International Investment Law* (Hart Publishing, 2026) (forthcoming).
- Noam Zamir, "The Allocation of Costs in Investor-State Arbitration", (2025) 53(1) *Denver Journal of International Law and Policy* 155–182.

## **Prof. Jack Burke**

- Jack Burke and Shaun McCarthy, "Implications of Ageing in Western Australia from a PLT Perspective. Not Just a Number?" (February 2026).
- Jack Burke, "Be the Best That You Can Be. Whole Person Development at the CityUHK School of Law", *Hong Kong Lawyer* (April 2026).

## **Prof. Thomas Crofts**

- Thomas Crofts, A. Dyer, M. Peng and A. Loughnan, "II. National Reports: 1. Australia", in E. Hoven and T. Weigend (eds), *Justice in Criminal Law: Global Perspectives* (Duncker & Humblot, Berlin, 2026) 9–51 (*Beiträge zum Internationalen und Europäischen Strafrecht / Studies in International and European Criminal Law and Procedure*, vol. 62).
- Thomas Crofts, "Policing of Intimate Image Abuse: Legal professionals and service provider perspectives on the impact of intimate images abuse offences", (30 Mar 2026) *Journal of Criminology*.
- Thomas Crofts, V. Bettinson and N. Wake, "Public Perceptions on the Self-Defence Claims of Domestic Abuse Victim-Survivors", (10 Feb 2026) *Journal of Law and Society*.

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## Appointments

### Prof. Guobin Zhu

- Prof. Guobin ZHU has been reappointed as an Advisor of Our Hong Kong Foundation for a new term of three years from 1 January 2026.
- Prof. Guobin ZHU has been appointed by the Shenzhen Qianhai Administration as an Expert at the Expert Committee of the 15th Five-Year Plan for the Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Cooperation Zone.
- Prof. Guobin ZHU has been appointed as Justice of the Peace (JP) by the Chief Executive of the HKSAR, effective from 1 July 2025.

### Prof. Daniel Pascoe

- Prof. Daniel PASCOE has visited the Faculty of Law of Adolfo Ibáñez University in Chile as Visiting Research Fellow during Semester B, 2025.

## Research Grants

### Prof. Fozia Nazir Lone

- Prof. Fozia Nazir LONE has received research grants Empowering Indigenous Communities: A Critical Exploration of Sustainable Hydropower in Transboundary River Management, the Centre for Public Affairs and Law (CPAL) Research Grants for Interdisciplinary Research, City University of Hong Kong Dr LONE, Fozia Nazir (SLW) PI; DONG Liang (PIA/ SEE) Co-PI, DURATION – (August 1, 2024 - January 31, 2027) 18 MONTHS; BUDGET – HK\$ 199,206

### Prof. Tao Huang

- Prof. Tao HUANG has received research grants as for the project 'AI + Law Joint Innovation Lab – Research on Retrieval-Augmented Generation for Law' in 2025.

## Media Presence

### Prof. Meng Fang Mandy

- Prof. Mandy Meng FANG has published an article 'From Defense to Offense in WTO Disputes: China's Shifting Role in the Global Clean Energy Industrial Competition' on Georgetown Journal of International Law Blog with Simon Lester, available at: <https://www.law.georgetown.edu/international-law-journal/blog/from-defense-to-offense-in-wto-disputes/>

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## Awards

### Prof. Meng Fang Mandy

- Prof. Mandy Meng FANG has received the City University of Hong Kong School of Law Outstanding Research Award 2025.

## Upcoming Events

- The GBA Legal and Policy Forum 2026: The Construction of the Greater Bay Area from International and Comparative perspectives (9-10 October 2026)
- Series of commemorative events to mark the upcoming 30th anniversary of the implementation of the Hong Kong Basic Law

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## CPLR Members



**Prof. Guobin Zhu**

Director



**Prof. Fozia Nazir Lone**

Associate Director



**Prof. Daniel Pascoe**

Associate Director



**Prof. Meng Fang Mandy**

Core Member



**Prof. Tao Huang**

Core Member



**Prof. Enshen Li**

Core Member



**Prof. Noam Zamir**

Core Member



**Mr. Jack Burke**

Core Member



**Prof. Thomas Crofts**

Core Member

### **PhD Students**

Ms. Guo Ai  
Ms. Nguyen Thi Phuong  
Ms. Sarkar Arpita  
Ms. HU Yuchuan  
Mr. YANG Xinlei  
Ms. Li Manyu  
Mr. Shader Mulki  
Mr. WONG Ching Yu Edward  
Mr. DING Jiacan  
Ms. HU Ziyang

### **Post-Doctoral Fellows**

Dr. Celeste Lo

### **PhD Alumni**

Prof. ISLAM Md Rabiul (Faculty of Law,  
Jahangirnagar University)

### **Research Assistant**

Ms. Amanda Tam

## **Associate Members**

Prof. Anthony Carty (School of Law, Beijing Institute of Technology)  
Dr. Kai Deng (School of Law, City University of Hong Kong)  
Prof. Mingtao Huang (School of Law, Wuhan University)  
Dr. PY Lo (Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong)  
Prof. Xiaonan Yang (School of Law, Sun Yat-sen University)  
Prof. Xiaobo Zhai (Faculty of Law, University of Macau)  
Prof. Xiaoshan Zhang (School of Law, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies)  
Dr. Antonios Kouroutakis (Law School, IE University)

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