



## **CCCL & CPLR Organized Second International Online Symposium on The Peaceful Settlement of the Sino-Indian Boundary Dispute: A Pragmatic Multidisciplinary Framework**

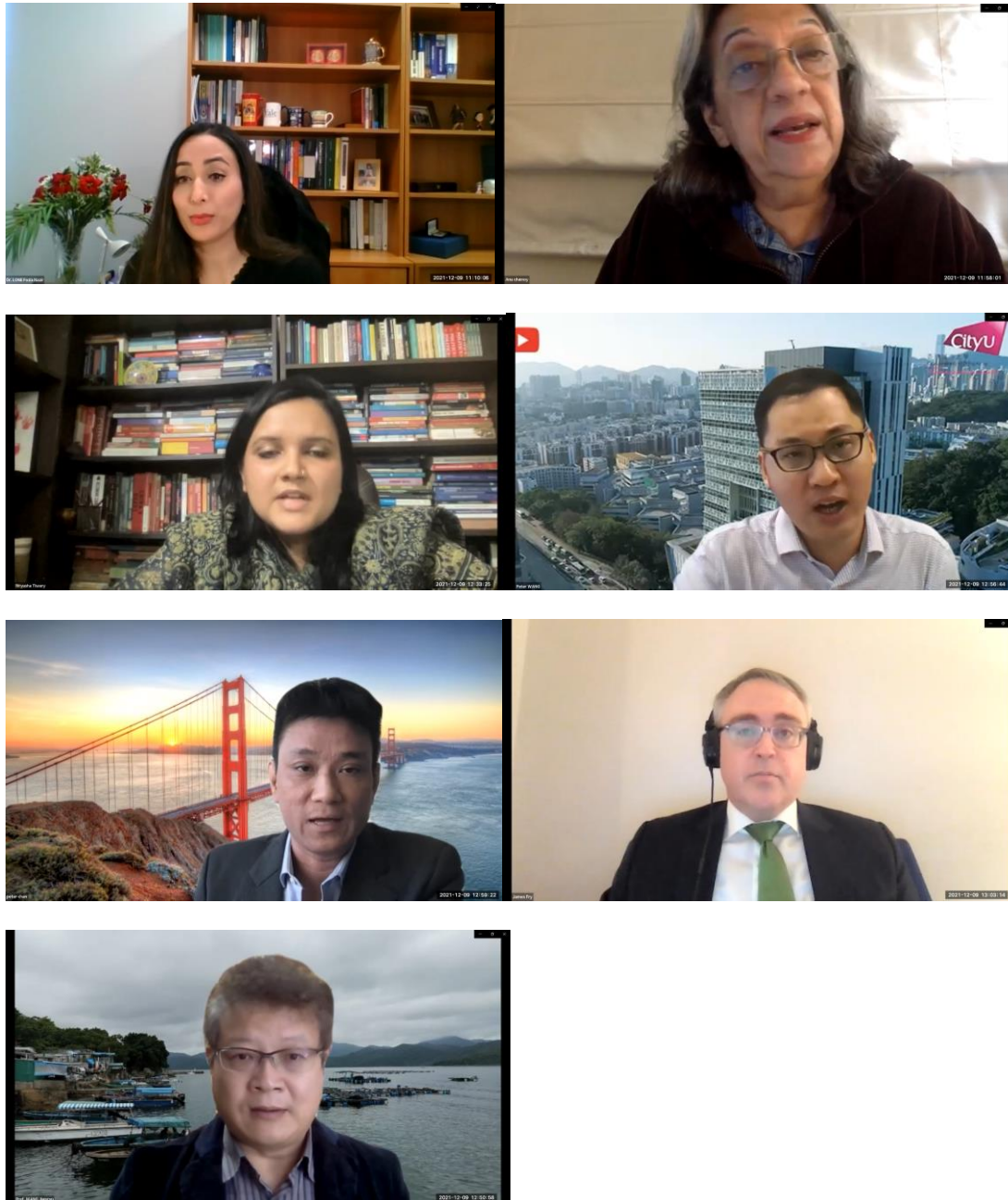
Katy Ng  
13 Dec 2021

On March 4, 2021, CCCL, in partnership with CPLR, hosted a symposium on Sino-India Border Disputes (SIBD) from the perspectives of international law and international relations. The purpose of the conference was to research, analyze, and propose solutions to the face-to-face clash between China and India in the Galwan River Valley in June 2020. Adopting a forward-thinking approach, on December 9, 2021, CCCL organized the second follow-up online symposium in collaboration with its sister research center, CPLR, to bring together a group of 13 scholars and experts to continue the SIBD conversation that began at the first symposium. It will investigate whether efficient territorial delineation necessitates an interdisciplinary approach that considers both legal (international law, treaties, *uti possidetis*, and effective control) and non-legal (political, historical, economic, and geographical) claims of both parties.

Prof. Wang Jiangyu (Professor and Director of CCCL) gave the opening remarks, in which he greeted all presenters, moderators, and discussants to the symposium and explained the background of the event. Following that, three discussion panels were held.

The first panel, chaired by Prof. Wang Jiangyu, was entitled "The Sino-Indian Border Disputes: Full Paper Presentations." In this panel, the three speakers, namely Dr. Fozia Nazir Lone (Assistant Professor, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong), Prof. Anuradha M Chenoy (Retired-former Dean, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi), and Dr. Rityusha Mani Tiwary (Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, University of Delhi & Assistant Editor, China Report, SAGE, Institute of Chinese Studies), gave a full paper presentation about their proposal on a possible peaceful approach towards settlement. Dr. Fozia Lone gave a critical evaluation of numerous variables from the contextual framework for recognizing a peaceful resolution to the border demarcation procedure between these two Asian giants. Prof. Chenoy's analysis offers some conflict resolution models between massive and current powers, as well as reasons why two countries require a pragmatic approach. Dr. Rityusha Mani Tiwary offered an ethnographic lens that would allow for critical and emancipatory analyses of the border and boundary in the context of India and China, allowing people to

reconsider the intractable nature of disputes. Dr. Peter Wang (Associate Professor, City University of Hong Kong School of Law), Dr. Peter Chan Chi Hin (Associate Professor, City University of Hong Kong School of Law), and Dr. James D. Fry (Associate Professor of Law, Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong) have been invited to join as discussants and provide academic feedback.



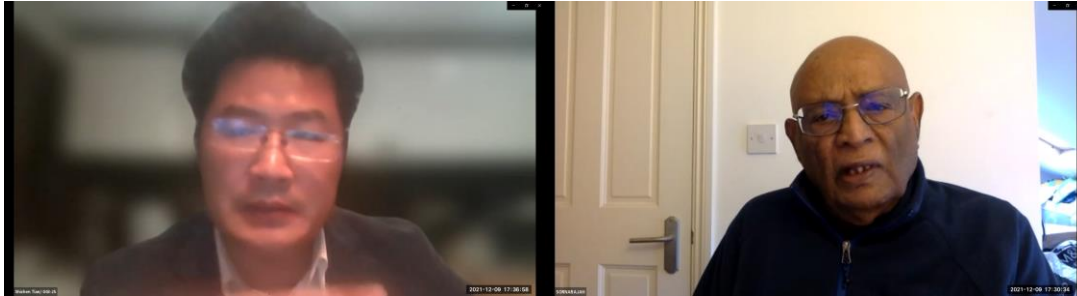
*Speakers, Discussants & Moderator of Panel 1:*

*First row from left: Dr. Fozia Zazir Lone, Prof. Anuradha M Chenoy; Second row from left: Dr. Rityusha Mani Tiwary, Dr. Peter Wong; Third row from left: Dr. Peter Chan, Dr. James D. Fry; Fourth row: Prof. Wang Jiangyu*

The second panel, chaired by Prof. Tsimplis Michael (Professor, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong) and titled "Resolution of the Sino-Indian Border Dispute: Some Academic and Practical Reflections from the Perspective of International Relations and Law," featured two presentations by Prof. Alka Acharya (Centre for East Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University) and Prof. Anthony Carty (Professor, School of Law, Beijing Institute of Technology). On this panel, Prof. Alka Acharya discussed the ramifications of the current impasse in the India-China relationship, which is primarily defined by the stalemate on the eastern portion of the disputed boundary. Prof. Anthony Carty addressed the necessity for an interdisciplinary, anti-formalistic approach in a new concept of boundary in international law.

The third panel, chaired by Prof. Ling Bing (Professor & Associate Director, Centre for Asian and Pacific Law, School of Law, The University of Sydney) and titled "Possible Approaches to the Peaceful Settlement of the Sino-Indian Boundary Dispute: A Multidisciplinary Framework," followed three presentations by Prof. Wang Jiangyu, Capt (retd) Andy (Shichen) Tian (Founder and President, Global Governance Institution; Director, Center for International Law of Military Operations (CILMO)) and Prof. M Sornarajah (Emeritus Professor, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore). Prof. Wang Jiangyu focused on China's strategy and what it indicates for the SIBD. Capt (Retd) Andy Tian presented a concept that included practical features such as non-disputable zones that might be identified and natural resource boundary areas. Prof. M. Sornarajah analyzed the relevance of people in constituting boundaries. He stressed that, in the situation of such conflicting boundaries, it is vital to obtain the preferences of the people in the development of new boundaries, given the agreement that people are a fundamental factor in current international law.





*Speakers & Moderator of Panel 2 & 3:*

*First row from left: Prof. Alka Acharya, Prof. Anthony Carty; Second row from left: Prof. Tsimplis Michael, Prof. Wang Jiangyu; Third row from left: Capt (retd) Andy Tian, Prof. M Sornarajah; Fourth row: Prof. Ling Bing*

While the eight presentations delivered during the three panels were informative and thought-provoking, the group discussion following each panel's presentations was equally impressive: critical and inspirational comments were delivered on the speakers' presentations, and acute questions were posed for the speakers' response and further discussion among all participants.

Finally, the symposium's convenor, Dr. Fozia Nazir Lone, and CCCL Director, Prof. Wang Jiangyu, gave concluding statements, thanking all the attendees for their time and contributions, as well as the speakers' excellent presentations and valuable contributions.

After a thorough review, the full papers will seek publication in the Chinese Journal of Comparative Law to contribute to the much-needed high-impact scholarship in this field.