



CCCL Seminar: Output Effect of Private Antitrust Enforcement (29 Sept 2022)

30 Sept 2022

Katy Ng

On 29 September 2022, the Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (CCCL) of the City University of Hong Kong's School of Law hosted a virtual seminar to assist students in understanding the output effect of private antitrust enforcement. **Dr. Lai Sin Chit Martin, Assistant Professor at City University of Hong Kong School of Law** have been invited as our awesome speaker to explain his argument.

The seminar kicked off with a welcoming speech by **Prof. Wang Jianguy**, Director of Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law at the City University of Hong Kong School of Law.

Dr. LAI Sin Chit Martin specializes in Competition Law and Law & Economics, with a particular interest in enforcement-related issues. His research has appeared in respected journals such as the Journal of Competition Law and Economics, the University of Pennsylvania Journal of Business Law, and the Berkeley Business Law Journal. Martin has received his BEcon & Fin and MEcon from the University of Hong Kong, Juris Master from Tsinghua University, and LLM and SJD from the University of Pennsylvania.

In the seminar, he presented his article entitled same as the seminar title. A considerable body of literature evaluates the impact of antitrust laws on economic growth. Most of these empirical studies identify a positive impact; however, the existing literature only studies the effect of the existence of antitrust laws, not their enforcement. Therefore, his goal of the research is to evaluate the causal effect private antitrust enforcement has on GDP but his presentation only focused on the short-run effect. Surprisingly, the results show there that there is a negative relationship between private antitrust enforcement and real GDP per capita in the short run. He believed that the negative output effect discovered in the U.S. might be an exceptional case attributed to the high legal courts defendants face. He, at last, suggested that the US government could reduce penalties and costs of private actions; at the same time, in other countries, it is unrecommended to discourage to promote private actions.

Following Dr. Lai's thought-provoking speech, we moved on to a discussion conducted primarily by **Dr. Fang Meng**, Assistant Professor at the City University of Hong Kong School of

law, who presented her insightful views on the topic. The majority of those in attendance took the opportunity to voice their opinions, many of which were thoughtful and innovative. Prof. Wang concluded the seminar with a closing speech in which she thanked the speakers for their valuable contributions and all of the participants for their attendance, which made the seminar a success.



Dr. Lai Sin Chit Martin and Dr. Fang Meng (from left to right).



Prof. Wang Jiangyu.