



Public Law and Human Rights Forum

香港城市大學
City University of Hong Kong

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Public Law and Human Rights Book Review Seminar Series (IV) **Rethinking Chinese PoliticsII**

Rianne BAI
20 Jan 2023

On 20 Jan 2023, the Public Law and Human Rights Forum (CPLR) and Asia Pacific Law Review (APLR) hosted the third seminar in the Public Law and Human Rights Book Review Series to discuss the book “Rethinking Chinese Politics”, published by Cambridge University Press in 2021: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/rethinking-chinese-politics/D7623CCAA7ADEE7A03453F69C9154BA4>



From left to right: Prof. Tom Kellogg, Dr. Daniel PASCOE, Prof. Joseph Fewsmith
Audience 1, Prof. Virginia Harper HO, Audience 2



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The seminar started at 9:30am and ended at around 10:30 with 45 registered attendees from City University of Hong Kong, the Chinese University of Hong Kong and other universities in Mainland China. Four professors of law and political science took part in the seminar.

The webinar was moderated by Dr. Daniel PASCOE (Associate Professor, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong; CPLR Associate Director). He welcomed all participants and introduced the book's author Prof. Joseph Fewsmith (Professor of International Relations and Political Science, Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, Boston University) and the reviewer Prof. Tom Kellogg (Professor, Georgetown Law School, Georgetown University). Prof. Virginia Harper HO (Professor, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong) also participated in this seminar.

Prof. Joseph Fewsmith introduced his book by tracing four decades of Chinese elite politics from Deng to Xi, showing how each leader built and consolidated power. Prof. Fewsmith suggested that China's one-party political structure has led to internal power struggles, with the supposed institutionalisation of Party leadership succession norms being less fixed than some scholars have assumed. In the discussion session, Prof. Kellogg and Prof. Fewsmith discussed past and present Chinese leaders, the Chinese political system, China as an actor in international law and other geopolitical issues. Prof. Fewsmith then answered a few questions from the audience.

Dr. PASCOE concluded by thanking all the contributors and audience members. We look forward to the fifth Public Law and Human Rights Book Review Seminar, planned for later this semester.