



To Editor/ Assignment Editor,  
(For immediate release)

## **INTERPRETATION OF ARTICLE 104 OF THE BASIC LAW BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS**

### **STATEMENT OF THE LAW SOCIETY**

The Law Society notes the interpretation of Article 104 of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China ("Basic Law") by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China ("NPCSC").

The Law Society's stance has always been that frequent interpretations of the Basic Law by NPCSC gives an impression that the independence of the judiciary has been undermined. The Law Society acknowledges that the power of interpretation of the Basic Law is vested in the NPCSC under Article 158(1) of the Basic Law. The Law Society believes the NPCSC should exercise restraint in invoking its power under that Article to maintain confidence in One Country Two Systems and the Rule of Law in Hong Kong.

The Law Society has full confidence in the proper functioning of our judicial system under One Country Two Systems in accordance with the Basic Law.

**THE LAW SOCIETY OF HONG KONG**

**8 NOVEMBER 2016**

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#### **About the Law Society of Hong Kong**

The Law Society of Hong Kong is a professional body of solicitors in Hong Kong vested with the statutory powers to regulate the professional conduct of solicitors. It establishes and promotes professional standards and the solicitors' code of conduct and practice and ensures its compliance. The Law Society assists its members to promote Hong Kong legal services and offers its views from time to time on legal issues that are of public concern. For more information, please visit: [www.hklawsoc.org.hk](http://www.hklawsoc.org.hk)