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31 MARCH 2021 16:00-19:00 (GMT+8)



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Famed for its solid legal framework, Hong Kong's preponderant role as a leading international legal hub for deal-making and dispute resolution services in the Asia-Pacific region is evident to the world at large. With major corporations and institutions attracted to this harbour city located at the centre of the region, the law of Hong Kong has been favoured on countless occasions for its business-friendliness, not only enabling seamless operation procedures for investments but also yielding arbitration awards that are enforceable across many jurisdictions.

It is beyond doubt that Hong Kong will continue to thrive and excel, capitalising on its fair, transparent, and independent legal system, the game-changing arrangements with the Mainland China as an irreplaceable gateway, the powerful financial infrastructure, the huge pool of talents offering a comprehensive range of top-tier and professional legal services, as well as the abundant opportunities brought forth by the vibrant capital market.

Riding on the success of 'Why Hong Kong Is Irreplaceable', a series of four webinars is in the making, aiming to showcase the core strength of Hong Kong as an international legal, deal-making, and dispute resolution hub. Seasoned legal and business experts will be lending fresh perspectives to the well-known stamina of Hong Kong and at the same time, unveiling its lesser-known strengths.

Come, join us on this expedition to know Hong Kong by the fact, not by the face!

SPEAKERS



Ms Teresa CHENG GBS SC JP

Secretary for Justice

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China

Ms Teresa Cheng, SC, is the Secretary for Justice of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. Prior to her appointment as the Secretary for Justice, Ms Cheng was a Senior Counsel in private practice, a chartered engineer, a chartered arbitrator, and an accredited mediator. She was frequently engaged as arbitrator or counsel in complex international commercial or investment disputes. Ms Cheng was one of the founders and Chairman of the Asian Academy of International Law. Apart from being a Past Chairperson of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre, Ms Cheng is also a Past Vice President of the International Council of Commercial Arbitration and a Past Vice President of the ICC (International Chamber of Commerce) International Court of Arbitration. In 2008, she became the first Asian woman elected through a global election as President of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. She served as Deputy Judge/Recorder in the Court of First Instance of the High Court of Hong Kong from 2011 to 2017. She is a member of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes Panel of Arbitrators, and was a member of the World Bank's Sanctions Board. Ms Cheng is a Fellow of King's College in London, and was the Course Director of the International Arbitration and Dispute Settlement Course at the Law School of Tsinghua University in Beijing.



Dr Anthony NEOH QC SC JP ChairmanAsian Academy of International Law

Dr Anthony Neoh is a senior member of the Hong Kong Bar specialising in international litigation, arbitration and financial regulatory matters. In 1979, he commenced practice at the Hong Kong Bar after serving for 13 years in the Hong Kong Civil Service. From 1991 to 1994, he was a member of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange Council and its Listing Committee, and chaired its Disciplinary Committee and Debt Securities Group, and was Co-Chairman of the Legal Committee of the Hong Kong and China Listing Working Group. He was the chief architect of the legal structure for the listing of Chinese enterprises in Hong Kong. He is former Chairman of the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission from 1995 to 1998; during this time, he was the first Asian to be elected Chairman of the Technical Committee of the International Organization of Securities Commissions. From 1999 to 2004, he was Chief Advisor of the China Securities Regulatory Commission, at the personal invitation of former Premier Zhu Rongji. On 1 June 2018, Dr Neoh was appointed as Chairman of the Hong Kong Independent Police Complaints Council to serve a term of two years. He was the Convenor of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) Expert Group on the Finance Academy and now serves as Member of the HKMA Preparatory Committee for the Finance Academy. He is also the Co-Chairman of 2018 B20 Financing Growth and Infrastructure Task Force, and Co-Chairman of The China Securitization Forum.

(Listed in alphabetical order)



Ms Olga BOLTENKO
Partner
Fangda Partners

Ms Boltenko is a partner at Fangda Partners. She is an investment and trade lawyer with over ten years' experience in public international law and investor-State dispute resolution. She has acted as legal counsel in investor-State disputes under the auspices of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), and the London Court of International Arbitration. Also, she has served as tribunal secretary in dozens of commercial disputes in a wide array of industries, including oil and gas, infrastructure, construction, telecommunications, and pharmaceuticals across Asia and beyond. Ms Boltenko is a chairperson of the ICC Hong Kong Commercial Law and Practice Committee. She is admitted to the roll of solicitors in Hong Kong and she is qualified to practice law in the Russian Federation. She teaches a postgraduate programme in arbitration and dispute resolution at The University of Hong Kong. She is listed as an arbitrator with the HKIAC (Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre), SIAC (Singapore International Arbitration Centre), AIAC (Asian International Arbitration Centre), RSPP (Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs), and CIETAC (China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission) panels of arbitrators.



Mr Nick CHAN MH Partner Squire Patton Boggs

Nick Chan is an experienced private equity/venture capital, mergers and acquisitions, commercial and compliance, TMT (technology, media and telecommunications), employment, competition and regulatory lawyer with a computer science background and a regional practice covering over twenty countries. He focuses on telecommunications, broadcasting, information and emerging technologies, healthcare, aviation, energy, real estate, entertainment, advertising, logistics, global sourcing, petroleum and related industries. Nick has served inhouse with regional responsibilities at global technology companies. Nick is the Vice Chairman of eBRAM International Online Dispute Resolution Centre.



Mr Matthew HODGSON
Partner
Allen & Overy

Matthew Hodgson is an international arbitration specialist. He is qualified in England and Wales, Hong Kong as well as New York. He is also a Solicitor Advocate, with Higher Rights of Audience before the Senior Courts of England and Wales and the Courts of Hong Kong. He has acted in commercial disputes under all major arbitral rules including those in relation to energy and infrastructure projects, financial instruments and private equity transactions, and in the telecommunications and technology sectors. He has represented investors and States (including Azerbaijan, Korea, Pakistan, and Poland) in 15 investment treaty arbitrations. He represented investors in the first claim to find that a complex financial product is a protected 'investment' (Deutsche Bank/Sri Lanka) and the first successful ICSID (International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes) claim against the Philippines (BDC). He has also sat as arbitrator in cases under the HKIAC (Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre), ICC (International Commerce Centre) and SIAC (Singapore International Arbitration Centre) rules. Who's Who Legal 2021 describes him as 'a mainstay of international arbitration in the Asia Pacific market who is "very knowledgeable and experienced at investment treaty disputes".



Ms Charmaine K00
Partner
Deacons

Charmaine Koo is the Co-head of Deacons' Intellectual Property (IP) Department and the Head of IP Litigation and Enforcement, Commercial IP and Entertainment and Media Practice Groups. Charmaine is admitted as a solicitor in Hong Kong, Canada and England and Wales. She has a B.Sc. in biology from the University of Toronto, an LLB from Queen's University, an LL.M. from the University of Cambridge and a Graduate Diploma in IP Law and Practice from the University of Bristol. Charmaine's practice covers all aspects of IP work including anti-counterfeiting strategies and enforcement of IP rights. She advises on complex IP enforcement advice, litigation and arbitration, and has won a number of high-profile court cases resulting in ground-breaking decisions in the Hong Kong IP field. Charmaine represents many of the world's leading brands, advertising agencies, entertainment businesses, Internet service providers and content providers in relation to a wide range of innovative IP or internet issues. Charmaine has been recognised as a leading lawyer by some of the most reputable global legal directories such as Chambers and Partners, The Legal 500 and World Trademark Review 1000, among others.



Mr Adrian LAI

Deputy Secretary General and Co-Convenor of the Advisory Board

Asian Academy of International Law

Adrian is a practising barrister in Hong Kong; he is also a Certified Public Accountant of Hong Kong and holds the specialist qualification in insolvency matters. Adrian maintains a predominantly civil practice and has been engaged as Counsel on matters relating to arbitration, banking, commercial, company, construction, professional accountants/auditors' negligence and professional disciplinary proceedings. Through practice, Adrian has developed a wealth of experience and expertise on arbitration matters. He is on the Panel of Arbitrators of Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre and has been appointed as sole or co-arbitrator on international commercial arbitrations. Apart from sitting as an arbitrator, Adrian has been engaged as Counsel to advise or appear in international or domestic commercial arbitration, investor–State arbitration and State–State arbitration. Insofar as arbitration–related litigations are concerned, he appeared as Counsel on important cases such as FG Hemisphere v Congo, Pacific China Holdings v Grand Pacific Holdings, Shangdong Hongri v Petrochina Int'l, S v B, Re Insigma Technology, Gongbenhai v HKIAC and TNB v China National Coal. He is often invited to speak on topical issues of arbitration. Adrian maintains an academic interest in international law. He graduated with a Master's degree in Public International Law and also attended The Hague Academy of International Law.



Mr Edward LIU
Legal Director
Hill Dickinson LLP

Edward is qualified as a solicitor in England and Wales as well as a lawyer in China. His main area of practice involves commercial and shipping litigation and arbitration. He is extensively experienced in advising and handling international commercial disputes, covering areas such as sale of goods/trade and commodities, energy and offshore projects, shareholder and equity-related disputes, international investment (particularly connected with Belt & Road projects), commercial fraud, regulatory investigations and compliance, worldwide enforcement of judgments and arbitration awards, etc. Edward is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb), a listed arbitrator of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC), a supporting member of the London Maritime Arbitrators Association (LMAA), and a member of the Hong Kong Maritime Arbitration Group (HKMAG). Since 2018, Edward has started to accept appointments as arbitrator and was appointed as arbitrator by HKIAC (including as a sole arbitrator) on many occasions. He has served as a member of several advisory bodies of the Hong Kong Government, including the Advisory Committee on Promotion of Arbitration, Steering Committee on Mediation, Aviation Development and Three-Runway System Advisory Committee, Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board, and as an adjudicator of the Registration of Persons Tribunal.



Mr Paul STARR

Partner, Practice Leader of Hong Kong Dispute Resolution/Infrastructure, and Joint Coordinator of International Arbitration Team

King & Wood Mallesons

Paul Starr is asialaw's Hong Kong Disputes Star of the Year and Joint Coordinator of King & Wood Mallesons' worldwide arbitration practice. Paul is Practice Team Leader in Hong Kong for Construction and Dispute Resolution. An honours graduate in law from Peterhouse, the University of Cambridge, UK, Paul won a scholarship and the University's prestigious Squire Law Prize. The Chambers Asia Pacific 2021 states that 'Paul Starr is widely acknowledged as the leading dispute resolution practitioner in Hong Kong, China and the Pacific region'. The Global Arbitration Review describes Paul as 'simply the best lawyer for dispute resolution in construction and industrials in the East Asia and Pacific region'. The Legal 500 Asia Pacific singles Paul out as 'an excellent strategist'. Paul serves as member of the Advisory Board of the Asian Academy of International Law, the Hong Kong Red Cross, and the professional services committee of Hong Kong Trade Development Council.



Mr Ronald SUM
Head of Dispute Resolution (Asia)
Addleshaw Goddard (Hong Kong) LLP

Mr Sum concentrates his practice in all areas of dispute resolution, specialising in China-related matters, cross-border disputes, complex commercial disputes, international trade, insurance and reinsurance, product liability and product recall, with specific focuses on arbitration, litigation, mediation and investigations. Mr Sum is qualified as a solicitor in Hong Kong, England and Wales, and Australia and sits on the panels of arbitrators of various institutions, acting as both counsel and arbitrator in many proceedings. Apart from being an experienced international arbitrator, he is also an accredited mediator of the Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association Limited (HKMAAL), China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC), and The Law Society of Hong Kong. Mr Sum is the immediate past chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce: Arbitration and ADR Sub-Committee and a director of the eBRAM International Online Dispute Resolution Centre and Vis East Moot Foundation. In addition to serving on the Hong Kong Mediation Council, the Hong Kong Government Advisory Committee on the Promotion of Arbitration, and the Steering Committee on Mediation, Mr Sum has been appointed as an investor-State mediator under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA).



Ms May TAI
Managing Partner (Asia)
Herbert Smith Freehills

May specialises in cross-border China-related and Asian disputes, as well as contentious regulatory matters. She regularly advises governments, government-owned entities, and commercial clients (including financial institutions and energy companies) in Asia, Europe, and the US, including acting as counsel and advocate in arbitrations under various rules and court proceedings. She has acted as an arbitrator in SIAC (Singapore International Arbitration Centre) and HKIAC (Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre) proceedings, and has also sat as an Emergency Arbitrator under the ICC (International Chamber of Commerce) Rules. May speaks five languages fluently, including Bahasa (Malaysian and Indonesian), Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese), and English. She is a CEDR (Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution) accredited mediator and an arbitrator in the HKIAC List of Arbitrators, and is also qualified as a solicitor in England and Wales as well as in Hong Kong. May is based in Hong Kong but divides her time between Herbert Smith Freehills' Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Beijing offices, managing and leading the three Greater China offices in her role as managing partner.



Mr Thomas WALSH
Partner
Clifford Chance

Thomas specialises in international arbitration and litigation and acts as both counsel and arbitrator. He has acted in disputes across Asia Pacific, having been based and working in the region since 2010. He has a broad range of experience, which extends across various industries and includes commercial, mergers and acquisitions, and joint venture disputes. He has a particular focus on private equity and fund-related disputes as well as those relating to the construction, energy, and aviation sectors. He is the head of the firm's Korean disputes practice and a senior member of its Greater China practice. Thomas is recognised as one of the leaders in Asia in international arbitration by Who's Who Legal: Arbitration – Future Leaders, Chambers and Partners, and The Legal 500. He has served in different roles at a number of professional bodies, including the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb), the Council for International Arbitration of KCAB (Korean Commercial Arbitration Board), ICC (International Chamber of Commerce) Hong Kong Appointments Committee, etc.



Mr Ing Loong YANG
Partner
Latham & Watkins LLP

Ing Loong Yang is a partner in the Hong Kong office of Latham & Watkins LLP, focusing on international arbitration and complex commercial litigation in Asia, particularly on cross-border disputes involving Greater China. Qualified in Hong Kong, Singapore, England & Wales, and New York, Mr Yang has extensive experience representing clients in numerous international arbitrations as well as sitting as arbitrator under the rules of ICC, HKIAC, SIAC, CIETAC, and UNCITRAL. He is a Chartered Arbitrator of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, with appointments to many panels of international arbitral institutions, namely: HKIAC, SIAC, CIETAC, BAC, SHIAC, SCIA, KCAB, AIAC (formerly known as KLRCA), HIAC, and JCAA. He currently serves as a Council Member of the HKIAC and the Chairperson of its Appointments Committee. He has been recognised as a leading practitioner in international arbitration in the region by *Chambers, Legal 500, WWL Arbitration* and *Benchmark Litigation*. He also actively supports the dispute resolution development in Asia through robust and proactive thought leadership.



Mr Friven YEOH
Partner
Sidley Austin LLP

Friven Yeoh is a co-leader of Sidley's Global Arbitration, Trade and Advocacy practice and also leads its Asia Litigation and Regulatory group. He has extensive experience in the resolution of complex business disputes across industries and has represented clients in international arbitrations conducted under various institutional and *ad hoc* arbitration rules including those of the ICC, HKIAC, CIETAC, SIAC, JCAA, LCIA, SCC, UNCITRAL and CAS. He has also represented clients in a variety of commercial litigation and regulatory investigations involving product risk and liability, energy, corporate affairs, competition, and financial services matters. Friven has also served as tribunal chair or co-arbitrator in many international arbitrations before major arbitral institutions. Recently, Friven was awarded 'Litigation Star' in the Commercial and Transactions, Dispute Resolution and International Arbitration categories by *Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific 2020*. He has also been recognised as a global leader by *Who's Who Legal: Litigation*, and *Who's Who Legal: Arbitration*, and a leading practitioner by *Chambers Asia Pacific* and *Chambers Global*. Friven is fluent in English, Cantonese and Mandarin Chinese.

TIME (GMT+8)	PROGRAMME
16:00-16:10	Welcome Remarks
	Dr Anthony NEOH QC SC JP Chairman, Asian Academy of International Law
16:10-16:30	Keynote Speech
	Ms Teresa Cheng GBS SC JP Secretary for Justice, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China
	Panel I: Hong Kong – A Paramount Hub of International Commercial Arbitration
16:30–17:15	Convenor • Mr Nick Chan MH Vice Chairman, eBRAM International Online Dispute Resolution Centre Panellists (Listed in alphabetical order) • Ms Charmaine Koo Partner, Deacons • Ms May Tai Managing Partner (Asia), Herbert Smith Freehills • Mr Thomas Walsh Partner, Clifford Chance Q & A
17:15–18:00	Panel II: Hong Kong – A Preponderant Base of China-Related Arbitration
	Convenor • Mr Paul Starr Partner, Practice Leader of Hong Kong Dispute Resolution/Infrastructure, and Joint Coordinator of International Arbitration Team, King & Wood Mallesons Panellists (Listed in alphabetical order) • Mr Edward Liu Legal Director, Hill Dickinson LLP • Mr Ronald Sum Head of Dispute Resolution (Asia), Addleshaw Goddard (Hong Kong) LLP • Mr Friven Yeoh Partner, Sidley Austin LLP
18:00-18:45	Panel III: Hong Kong – A Prominent Seat of Investment-Related Arbitration
	Convenor • Mr Adrian Lai Deputy Secretary General and Co-Convenor of the Advisory Board, Asian Academy of International Law Panellists (Listed in alphabetical order) • Ms Olga Boltenko Partner, Fangda Partners • Mr Matthew Hodgson Partner, Allen & Overy • Mr Ing Loong Yang Partner, Latham & Watkins LLP
18:45-19:00	Conclusion
	Dr Anthony NEOH QC SC JP Chairman, Asian Academy of International Law