Exploring the Regulation of Civil Unmanned Aviation in China: Recent Developments and Future Challenges

by Dr Pai Zheng
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Chairperson: Professor Alan Tan
NUS Law

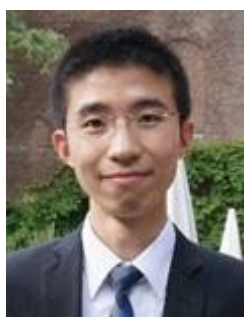
22 April 2019 (Monday)
12pm to 1pm

Lee Sheridan Conference Room, Eu Tong Sen Building
NUS Law (Bukit Timah Campus)

ABSTRACT

The civil unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) - also known as 'drones' - technology and industry of China have experienced considerable improvements and developments in recent years, which raises new regulatory concerns in respect of aviation and public safety, security, airspace integration, liability, and the interests of the UAS industry and consumers. Although the rulemaking in China relating to civil UAS is still at an initial stage, significant progress has been made from 2010 to 2019. This research aims to examine the recent developments of the Chinese regulations in respect of civil UAS and to identify their legal challenges in the context of both the Chinese legal system and international air law. After introducing the domestic regulatory regime, authorities concerned and sources of Chinese aviation law in general, this research will review the recently promulgated civil UAS rules and regulations in detail, and discuss the legal issues pertaining to (1) UAS terminology and categorisation, (2) airworthiness, (3) personnel licensing - in particular with the remote pilot, (4) civil UAS - in particular small and light civil UAS - operations, (5) commercial flight operations of civil UAS, (6) air traffic management (ATM) and unmanned traffic management (UTM), (7) manned-unmanned airspace integration, (8) civil, administrative and criminal liability and (9) harmonisation and unification of differentiated UAS regulations. In addition, the relationship between the Chinese civil UAS regulations and international air law, in particular the Chicago Convention 1944 and Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) adopted by the Council of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), will also be analysed. This research will then address the unresolved legal problems and challenges in respect of these recent Chinese civil UAS regulations, and propose solutions via a positive and comparative approach by studying the civil UAS rules and regulations of a different jurisdiction, such as Singapore and the United States.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Dr Pai Zheng is an assistant professor of international law at East China University of Political Science and Law (ECUPL), Shanghai, China. He lectures on international air law, public international law and international moot court competition courses for undergraduate and postgraduate students. He is also an editorial member of the international journal Air & Space Law published by Kluwer Law International, a commissioning editor of the Chinese journal China Aviation Law Review published by Law Press China, an expert and lecturer at the Institute of Air and Space Law Aerohelp, St. Petersburg, Russia, a research fellow at the ECUPL Centre for Rule of Law Strategy Studies, and the academic coordinator of the Aviation Law Association of Shanghai Law Society. Dr Zheng obtained an LLM from ECUPL with a specialization in public international law, an LLM advanced studies in air and space law from Leiden University, the Netherlands, and a PhD in Law (magna cum laude) from ECUPL. He has published several articles in English and in Chinese in the field of air and space law and he published his doctoral thesis Carrier Liability in International Air Passenger Transportation with Law Press China in 2016. Dr Zheng is currently researching legal issues of unmanned aviation, including a consulting project about the local legislation on civil unmanned aircraft systems.

REGISTRATION

There is no registration fee for this seminar, but seats are limited.
There is selected light lunch provided upon registration.

Closing Date: **Wednesday, 17 April 2019**

For enquiries, please contact Chris Chan at asli@nus.edu.sg

To register, go to https://goo.gl/XA95MB

Or scan the QR code