

Jointly Present

Roundtable Discussion on The Structure and Nature of Constitutional Rights

19 January 2017, Thursday, 9.30am – 3.30pm

Lee Sheridan Conference Room, Eu Tong Seng Building, Faculty of Law, NUS (Bukit Timah Campus)

ABSTRACT

The speakers at this roundtable will be looking at key issues relating to the structure and nature of constitutional rights. In particular, speakers address:

- Issues relating to how courts define rights and how rights are balanced against other interests (state or community) where the two come into conflict with each other.
- The structure and design of tools the courts use to adjudicate limits on rights (including proportionality balancing and notions of ‘reasonableness’ of state action).
- The way in which we talk about rights and whether there are patterns that emerge in the conversations that take place about rights in different jurisdictions and systems.
- The structure and design of constitutional remedies used by courts to deal with rights infringements.

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

- 9:30am** Registration & Coffee
- 9:50am** Welcome by Dan Puchniak, Director of Centre for Asian Legal Studies
- 10:00am** **Panel 1 – Nature and Content of Rights**
Chair : Mike Dowdle, Associate Professor, National University of Singapore
- **Patriotism and Belief: Judicial Approaches to Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion in Japan and Singapore**
Jack Lee, Assistant Professor, Singapore Management University
 - **Judicial consideration of freedom of religion: hopeful or hapless?**
Arif Jamal, Assistant Professor, National University of Singapore
- 11:00am** **Panel 2 – Structuring Limits on Rights**
Chair: Maartje De Visser, Associate Professor, Singapore Management University
- **Proportionality & Comparative Constitutional Practice**
Rosalind Dixon, Professor, University of New South Wales
 - **Comparing Uses of Proportionality in Constitutional and Administrative Law Cases**
Swati Jhaveri & Jaclyn Neo, Assistant Professors, National University of Singapore
 - **The Content of Socio-Economic Rights and the Separation of Powers: Conflation or Separation?**
David Bilchitz, Professor, University of Johannesburg
- 12:30pm** Lunch
- 2:00pm** **Panel 3 – Models of Rights and Remedies**
Chair: Andrew Harding, Professor, National University of Singapore
- **The Global Language of Human Rights: A Computational Linguistic Analysis**
David S Law, Professor, Sir Y.K. Pao Chair in Public Law, The University of Hong Kong
 - **New Democracies and Novel Remedies**
Po Jen Yap, Associate Professor, The University of Hong Kong
- 3.30pm** End of Workshop

PARTICIPATION IS BY INVITATION ONLY

For more information, please contact Ms Elizabeth Chua at clt@nus.edu.sg