AT THE FACULTY OF LAW. THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Constitutional Remedies in Asia Conference Friday, 15 Dec 2017, 1000-1730 11/F Cheng Yu Tung Tower, HKU

Where courts are empowered to review the constitutionality of legislation, the standard practice is for the judiciary in Asia to invalidate the law, when it is deemed unconstitutional, to the extent of its inconsistency.

In common law systems, the invalidation operates immediately and retrospectively. This traditional understanding of remedial redress dates back to William Blackstone who argued that it is a settled and invariable principle in the laws of England, that every right when withheld must have a remedy, and every injury its proper redress. Furthermore, judicial commitment to the separation of powers principle – a general rule observed in both civil and common law Asia – would dictate that courts leave it to the legislature to introduce corrective legislation post-invalidation.

However, with the rise of the modern state, and the realist swing towards remedial discretion, both common law and civil law courts in Asia have devised novel constitutional remedies that complement this strike-down power, usually in the absence of explicit constitutional or statutory authorization. In this Conference, we shall examine four such constitutional remedies: (1) Prospective Invalidation; (2) Suspension Order; (3) Remedial Interpretation; and (4) Judicial Directive. In enforcing these four remedies, the courts have either intentionally delayed or expedited a remedy that generally follows from the judicial declaration of an unconstitutional practice, thereby blurring the traditional dichotomy between adjudication and legislation.

1000 Overview of Constitutional Remedies in Asia

Dr. Po Jen Yap

Panel 1: Prospective Invalidation in Asia

Prospective Invalidation in Indonesia

Dr. Stephanus Hendrianto (Boston College)

Prospective Invalidation in Bangladesh

Mr. Jashim Ali Chowdhury (University of Chittagong)

Commentary:

Prof. Simon Butt (University of Sydney) Prof. Mark Tushnet (Harvard Law School)

1330 Panel 2: Suspension Orders in Asia

Suspension Order in Taiwan

Dr. Ming-Sung Kuo (University of Warwick)

Suspension Order in Hong Kong

Ms. Swati Jhaveri (National University of Singapore)

Suspension Order in Indonesia

Dr. Fritz Siregar (Jentera School of Law, Indonesia)

Suspension Order in South Korea

Prof. Woo-Young Rhee (Seoul National University)

Commentary:

Prof. Robert Leckey (McGill)

Prof. Mark Tushnet (Harvard Law School)

1600 Panel 3: Remedial Interpretation and Judicial Directives in Asia

Conditional Constitutionality in Indonesia

Prof. Simon Butt (University of Sydney)

Structural Injunctions and Judicial Directives in India

Dr. Chintan Chandrachud (UK)

Commentary:

Prof. Kent Roach (University of Toronto)