



Human Rights Seminar Series

Panel Discussion on Hong Kong's Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination

18 December 2018 (Tuesday), 12:30 - 2:00 pm Academic Conference Room, 11/F., Cheng Yu Tung Tower, Centennial Campus, HKU

The International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) has applied to Hong Kong since 1969. This core international human rights treaty requires states parties to submit periodic reports to an independent expert monitoring body, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The Committee then reviews these reports, conducts dialogues with government representatives, and issues Concluding Observations expressing concerns and making recommendations. Civil society organizations often submit their own "shadow" reports providing additional information to inform the Committee's deliberations.

The Committee reviewed China's most recent periodic report in August 2018 and published its Concluding Observations in September. This included a separate portion prepared by the Hong Kong government.

Panelists, including members of a Hong Kong civil society delegation that attended and observed the August review in Geneva, will share their experiences and reflections on issues raised in the Committee's Concluding Observations including poverty rates among ethnic minority communities in Hong Kong, inequality in education, and the treatment of migrant workers, refugees and asylum seekers, among others.

Panelists include:

- Phyllis Cheung, Executive Director, Hong Kong UNISON, a leading local NGO that upholds racial equality and the rights of ethnic minority residents in Hong Kong.
- Puja Kapai, Associate Professor, Convenor of the Women's Studies Research Centre, Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong
- Emily Lau Wai-hing, former Chairperson of the Democratic Party (2012-2016) and Legislative Councillor (1991-1997, 1998-2016)
- Law Yuk-kai, Director of the Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor
- Kelley Loper, Associate Professor, Director of the Centre for Comparative and Public Law

This seminar is part of a series of events that will be hosted by the Centre of Comparative and Public Law in the coming year to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 20th Anniversary of the LLM in Human Rights Programme in the Faculty of Law at The University of Hong Kong.

For Registration, please click <u>HERE</u>
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