

**Zoom Webinar Book Talk**  
***Constitutional Change in the Contemporary Socialist World***  
***(OUP, 2020)***

with the author, Ngoc Son Bui

Tuesday, 24 November 2020, 17:00 – 18:30 (Hong Kong Time)

This webinar is organized by the Centre for Comparative and Public Law at The University of Hong Kong and will be held via Zoom Meeting. Prior registration will be required.

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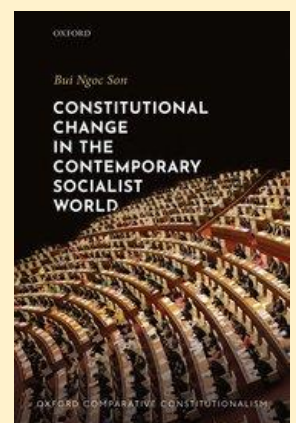
After the collapse of the Soviet bloc, there are only five socialist or communist countries left in the world – China, Cuba, Laos, North Korea, and Vietnam – which constitute about one-quarter of the world's population. Yet, there is little scholarship on their constitutions. These countries have seen varying socioeconomic changes in the decades since 1991, which have led in turn to constitutional changes. This book will investigate, from a comparative and interdisciplinary perspective, how and why the constitutional systems in these five countries have changed in the last three decades. The book then breaks the constitutional changes down into four questions: what are the substantive contents of constitutional change, what are the functions, what are the mechanisms, and what are the driving forces? These questions form a framework to process the changes the five countries have gone through, such as making new constitutions, amending current ones, introducing more rights, allowing citizens to engage in changes, enacting legislation, and defining the constitutional authority of the three state branches and their relationship with the Communist Party. While all five countries have adapted their constitutional systems, the degree, mechanisms, and influential factors are not identical and present considerable variations. This book examines and explores these differences and how they developed.

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**Ngoc Son Bui** is an Assistant Professor at The Chinese University of Hong Kong Faculty of Law. He has previously been a senior research fellow at the Centre for Asian Legal Studies of the National University of Singapore Faculty of Law, and a visiting researcher/scholar at Harvard Law School and Tsinghua University. He has degrees in comparative constitutional law and theory, comparative law, and Asian law. He is the author of journal articles and book chapters on illiberal constitutionalism and constitutional change. He is the author of the chapter on party-based regimes in the forthcoming Oxford Handbook of Constitutional Law in Asia.

**Discussant:** Prof Albert Chen, Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong

**Chair:** Dr Xia Ying, Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong



For Registration, please click [HERE](#)

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