

State Immunity

Date & Time: 07 December 2018 (Friday) 18:00-19:30

Venue: Room 1501-02, 15/F Hong Kong Club Building, 3A Chater Road, Central, Hong Kong.

This event is FREE! Online registration → <https://events.aail.org/en/event/SI/>

The Talk

State immunity is a well-established principle of international law and has been reaffirmed in the relatively recent decision of the International Court of Justice in *Germany v. Italy*. This principle is not something unknown to the local legal community and played its role in domestic cases like *FG Hemisphere v. DRC* and *Lee Mei Chunn v. Republic of Philippines*. In this seminar, Adrian will give a brief introduction of the principle including the origin, the process of codification, the exceptions created thereto, waiver and its application in domestic cases.

The Speaker

Mr Adrian LAI – Deputy Secretary General, Asian Academy of International Law

Adrian is a practising barrister in Hong Kong; he is also a Certified Public Accountant of Hong Kong and holds the specialist qualification in insolvency matters. Adrian maintains a predominantly civil practice and has been engaged as Counsel on matters relating to arbitration, banking, commercial, company, construction, professional accountants / auditors' negligence and professional disciplinary proceedings. Through practice Adrian has developed a wealth of experience and expertise on arbitration matters. He is on the Panel of Arbitrators of Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre and has been appointed as sole or co-arbitrator on international commercial arbitrations. Apart from sitting as an arbitrator, Adrian has been engaged as Counsel to advise or appear in international or domestic commercial arbitration, investor-State arbitration and State-State arbitration. Insofar as arbitration related litigations are concerned, he appeared as Counsel on important cases such as *FG Hemisphere v. Congo*, *Pacific China Holdings v. Grand Pacific Holdings*, *Shangdong Hongri v. Petrochina Int'l*, *S v. B, Re Insignia Technology*, *Gongbenhai v. HKIAC* and *TNB v. China National Coal*. He is often invited to speak on topical issues of arbitration. Adrian maintains an academic interest in international law. He graduated with a Master's degree on Public International Law and also attended The Hague Academy of International Law. He also spoke on the topics of "Jurisdictional Immunities and Chinese State-Owned Enterprises" at the Colloquium on International Law and international investment dispute resolution on other occasions.

The Organiser

The Asian Academy of International Law ("the Academy") is an independent and non-profit-making body set up in Hong Kong to further the studies, research and development of international law in Asia. By providing specialised training to practitioners, national judges, government officials and students in various areas of international law, the Academy aims to enhance and reinforce Asia's role and participation in the formulation of international law and international relations. While the Academy focuses on capacity building among Asian countries, it also endeavours to facilitate collaboration among practitioners and academics. Recently, the Academy has been granted observer status to UNCITRAL Working Group III.