

Organisers



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上海國際仲裁(香港)中心
SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION (HONG KONG) CENTER

Cross-Cultural, Legal and Choice of Law Issues in Multi-Jurisdictional Contracts



- ◆ 18 March 2026 (Wed)
- ◆ 18:30–20:00
- ◆ 25/F, 8 Queen's Road Central, Central, Hong Kong

18:00–18:30
Light refreshments
will be served

Bridging two major legal traditions, this seminar in Hong Kong brings together leading Chinese and Brazilian scholars to dissect the evolving landscape of multi-jurisdictional contracts. Participants will explore critical legal dimensions, including the strategic choice of law, the complexities of cross-border enforcement, and the cultural nuances inherent in international contract negotiation. As Hong Kong continues to serve as a premier hub for international arbitration and transnational law, this event offers a unique platform to harmonise Brazilian Civil Law perspectives with Chinese legal practices in the era of global trade. This collaboration fosters a deeper understanding of how to navigate legal risks and foster sustainable business partnerships between these two strategic global players.



Free Registration

CPD POINTS
BEING APPLIED FOR

Enquiries: events@aail.org

Asian Academy of International Law (AAIL)

AAIL 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 and beyond. Specialising in providing training programme relating to international law and platforms for discussion about topical subjects of international law. Visit www.aail.org for more information.



Moderators

(Listed in alphabetical order)



Thomas Law

President

*National Coordination for Brazil–China Relations of the
Brazilian Bar Association*

Dr Thomas Law is a Brazilian lawyer and legal scholar; a guest lecturer and adjunct professor at Pontifícia Universidade Católica de São Paulo (PUC-SP). He holds a Postdoctoral Degree from the University of São Paulo (USP) and a Ph.D. in Commercial Law from PUC-SP. Dr Law serves as President of the Brazilian Institute of Legal Sciences (IBCJ) and as President of the National Coordination for Brazil–China Relations of the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB). He is also a State Counselor of the São Paulo Bar Association (OAB-SP), contributing actively to the development of legal thought and international legal relations



Roberta Portella

Professor of Law

The International Trade Association of Brazil

Roberta Portella is a Professor of Law in the LL.M. and MBA programmes at Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV), Brazil, where she teaches International Law, and International Economic Regulation. Her academic work focuses on international trade relations, international treaties, the World Trade Organization (WTO), international economic regulation, intellectual property law, customs law, international contracts, and dispute settlement in international trade, with particular emphasis on mediation and arbitration. She holds a Master's degree in International and Comparative Law from the University of São Paulo (USP) and has extensive professional experience in cross-border legal practice. Professor Portella is a dual-qualified lawyer admitted to practise in Brazil and Portugal, specialising in the legal aspects of the international exchange of goods and services. Her professional practice includes advising domestic and international clients on inbound and outbound investment, international litigation, international contracts, trade policy, export controls, economic sanctions, and government and regulatory affairs in Brazil. Professor Portella is the founding partner of R. Portella Advogados and of the AEB Chamber for International Conflict Mediation. She also serves as an arbitrator at the Maritime Chamber of Arbitration in Brazil. In addition, she holds several institutional roles, including Vice-President for Regulatory Affairs of AfroChamber – the Brazilian–African Chamber of Commerce, Vice-President of the Foreign Trade Commission of the São Paulo Bar Association (OAB/SP), and Legal and Institutional Affairs Adviser to the Brazilian Foreign Trade Association (AEB), the country's leading organisation dedicated to international trade. She holds an LL.M. in Business Law from IBMEC, an MBA in International Trade and Business from FGV, and a Bachelor of Laws from Universidade Cândido Mendes (Rio de Janeiro). She is fluent in Portuguese and English and has been a guest speaker in Brazil and abroad, including at Fordham University and the University of California, Berkeley.



Speakers

(Listed in alphabetical order)



Cláudio Finkelstein

Coordinator/Professor

Pontifícia Universidade Católica de São Paulo

Vice-President

Brazilian Academy of International Law

Cláudio Finkelstein is a practicing attorney, arbitrator and professor; Editor of *Revista Brasileira de Direito Constitucional e Internacional*; Vice-president of the Brazilian Society of International Law and full professor of International Arbitration at PUC-SP, where he currently holds the chair of Arbitration Law.



Adrian Lai JP

Deputy Secretary-General and Co-Convenor of the Advisory Board

Asian Academy of International Law

Barrister

Des Voeux Chambers

Adrian is a practising barrister, arbitrator, accredited mediator and certified public accountant. He is instructed as Counsel in a wide range of civil contentious matters, with particular focuses on arbitration, professional negligence and disciplinary matters. He sits as arbitrator – sole arbitrator, co-arbitrator or presiding arbitrator – in international commercial arbitrations conducted under various rules including those of HKIAC, CIETAC, ICC and UNCITRAL. He is named on the panels of many arbitral bodies. In addition to international commercial arbitrations, he has also participated in investor-State arbitrations and State-to-State arbitrations. Adrian is a designated national correspondent of China to the UNCITRAL, reporting on the Hong Kong SAR's implementation of the New York Convention and the UNCITRAL Model Law (as adopted in the Arbitration Ordinance). He also sits on the Advisory Committee on Promotion of Arbitration of the Department of Justice of the Hong Kong SAR. Adrian has keen academic interest in international law, which is beneficial to his handling of cases involving points of international law. In his capacity as the Deputy Secretary-General of Asian Academy of International Law, Adrian participates as an observer in the work of the UNCITRAL Working Group III on Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform.

