The Talk Series aims to keep the policy, economic and professional communities informed of the latest knowledge and perspectives on China’s Belt and Road Initiative. Each talk has two lectures delivered by outstanding international experts on specific legal aspects of BRI in the context of transnational economic integration.

**Talk 1: Transnational Economic Integration, Belt & Road, and the Chinese Courts**

**Transnational Economic Integration and the Belt & Road Initiative**

**Professor Gonzalo Villalta Puig**  
Head of the School of Law and Politics  
The University of Hull

**Impact of Belt & Road on the Chinese courts**

**Professor Susan Finder**  
Distinguished Scholar in Residence  
School of Transnational Law  
Peking University

**Date**: 23 November 2018 (Friday)  
**Time**: 2:15 pm – 5:15 pm  
**Venue**: Professor and Mrs Enoch Young Lecture Theatre (Room 204)  
2/F Admiralty Learning Centre, HKU SPACE  
18 Harcourt Road, Admiralty, Hong Kong  
(Exit A, Admiralty MTR Station)  
**Fee**: HK$1,200  
Medium of Instruction: English

**Who Should Attend**  
- Lawyers  
- Policy Analysts / Researchers  
- Business Advisors / Risk Managers  
- Investors  
- CEOs and Directors  
- Business Managers / Business Owners  
- Accountants / Auditors / Finance Directors  
- Company Secretaries  
- Any other interested

**Enquiry**  
- 2520 4665  
- lydia.yung@hkuspace.hku.hk  
- https://hkuspace.hku.hk
“One Belt, One Road, Many Laws” Experts Talk Series

23 November 2018
Professor and Mrs Enoch Young Lecture Theatre (Rm 204),
Admiralty Learning Centre, HKU SPACE

Schedule
2.15pm Registration
2.30pm Welcoming by Professor William Lee, Director, HKU SPACE
2.45pm Lecture 1: Transnational Economic Integration and the Belt & Road Initiative
3.30pm Coffee break*
3.45pm Lecture 2: Impact of Belt & Road on the Chinese courts
4.30pm Coffee break*
4.45pm Plenary discussion
5.15pm End

*Coffee/ tea and simple snacks will be served.
+A statement of attendance will be issued for participants.

The “One Belt, One Road, Many Laws” Experts Talk Series aims to keep the policy, economic and professional communities informed of the latest knowledge and perspectives on China’s Belt and Road Initiative. Each talk has two lectures delivered by outstanding international experts on specific legal aspects of BRI in the context of transnational economic integration. Professionals, policy analysts, investors, policy-makers and individuals interested in the BRI and transnational economic activities are welcome.

Talk 1: Transnational Economic Integration, Belt & Road, and the Chinese Courts

Lecture 1: Transnational Economic Integration and the Belt and Road Initiative
Professor Gonzalo Villalta Puig
Head, School of Law and Politics, University of Hull

This lecture analyses the significance of Free Trade Areas (FTAs) to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) of the People’s Republic of China (PRC). BRI is a plan to construct a transportation and telecommunications network that connects the PRC with the rest
of the world. Under the slogan of ‘unimpeded trade’, it is also a plan to open FTAs, which facilitates access to markets for PRC goods and services. The lecture argues that, as a solution to the problems of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to liberalise trade at the multilateral level, China should attempt to open FTAs with its largest trading partners along the trade routes that BRI covers. It further argues that the China should work for those FTAs to be comprehensive, high-quality deals that closely replicate the Free Trade Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the People’s Republic of China (ChAFTA), which is PRC’s most ambitious FTA to date. The lecture also examines the relationship that the PRC has with each of its largest trading partners within the scope of BRI and gives special attention to the barriers in those relationships, which any prospective FTA, however unlikely, would aim to remove.

Lecture 2: Impact of Belt & Road on the Chinese courts
Professor Susan Finder
Distinguished Scholar in Residence, School of Transnational Law, Peking University

The Belt and Road Initiative has an important impact on internationalizing the Chinese courts. This impact is multi-dimensional and covers the followings: increasing China’s voice in formulating legal rules; the need for Chinese courts to resolve cross-border disputes; and Chinese courts being used to further foreign policy goals. Another aspect is integrating Chinese legislation (related to courts) and judicial practices with the rest of the world. In this lecture, the following important aspects will be discussed: innovations in substantive law; innovations in procedural law; global/regional arrangements; institutional arrangements and judicial foreign policy.

About the Speakers

Professor Gonzalo Villalta Puig
Professor Gonzalo Villalta Puig is Head of the School of Law and Politics and Professor of Law at The University of Hull. He is the inaugural holder of The University of Hull established Chair in the Law of Economic Integration for his research into the constitutionalisation of free trade in non-unitary market jurisdictions. He was formerly Professor of Law and Outstanding Fellow of the Faculty of Law at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, which he served as Associate Dean (Research).
Professor Villalta Puig is a Fellow of the European Law Institute, an Overseas Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law and an Associate Member of the International Academy of Comparative Law. He chairs the International Association of Constitutional Law’s Research Group for Constitutional Studies of Free Trade and Political Economy and is a member of the Committee on the Procedure of International Courts and Tribunals of the International Law Association. He is Associate Editor of the Global Journal of Comparative Law (Brill Nijhoff).

Professor Villalta Puig serves on the Council of The University Hull and is a member of the Executive of The Committee of Heads of UK Law Schools.

Professor Susan Finder
Professor Susan Finder is Distinguished Scholar in Residence, School of Transnational Law, Peking University and is a scholar of China’s judicial system (in comparative perspective). Her current research concentrates on Supreme People’s Court and Chinese judicial reforms, much of which is published on her blog, the Supreme People’s Court Monitor (最高人民法院观察). The blog is widely cited in books, academic journals, PhD theses, and government reports. Before joining the School, Professor Finder worked for twenty years in China-related practice at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer (and other firms), in legal publishing, and (briefly) as a securities regulator.

Professor Finder received her undergraduate degree from Yale College, her Juris Doctor degree from Harvard Law School, and a Master of Laws degree from Columbia Law School. She was a visiting scholar at Peking University Law School as well. Professor Finder regularly is invited to make presentations and publish in mainland China and abroad. She has spoken at conferences sponsored by the Supreme People’s Court, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and Chinese University of Political Science and Law, among other institutions. She has spoken at some of the leading American law schools (including Columbia Law School, New York University, and the University of Pennsylvania), in all three Hong Kong law schools, as well as elsewhere in the world. Professor Finder is also on the panel of arbitrators of several Chinese arbitration institutions, including the Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration and the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission. Much of her scholarship is published on her blog, the Supreme People's Court Monitor. The Harvard Law School Law Library lists the blog as one of the best resources for Chinese legal research.

Professor Finder is appointed to the Expert Committee, China International Commercial Court of the Supreme People’s Court, PRC.