National Treatment by Legal Convergence. Changing Landscape of Chinese Regulatory Environment for Foreign Direct Investment

The year 2020 ushers a new era for China’s regulatory of foreign direct investment. This lecture examines the significances of this historical change from the perspectives of continued evolution of the regulatory environment for foreign direct investment into China over the past 40 years with particular focus on China’s efforts to converge its laws and regulations governing foreign direct investment into its domestic legal system in order to live up to the national treatment principle within the World Trade Organization framework.

Guest Speaker Thomas Man
Distinguished Professor from Practice, Associate Dean, Peking University School of Transnational Law.
Professor Man’s academic interests encompass evidence law, comparative constitutional law and judicial process, cross-border business transactions and legal history. He obtained his Ph.D. from The Johns Hopkins University and J.D. from Indiana University – Bloomington. He is admitted into law practice in Illinois and Indiana, United States. In addition to various academic appointments with Peking University and Harvard-Yenching Institute of Harvard University, Professor Man has 17 years of law practice in cross-border M&A, corporate transactions and corporate compliance with a number of leading international law firms in Chicago, Shanghai and Beijing, including as a partner with Baker & McKenzie, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, Hogan Lovells and Morrison & Foerster. During his law practice, he participated and led numerous cross-border transactions, including several projects that were named “Deal of the Year” in the China market by leading law publications. He was listed as a “Leading Lawyer” in the Mergers & Acquisition and Project Finance categories by International Financial Law Review in 2011. Professor Man has published the book English Colonization and the Formation of Anglo-American Polities and numerous articles in leading academic and professional journals. Professor Man also teaches as an adjunct professor at China University of Political Science and Law and a member of the Council of Directors for the International Association of Evidence Science.

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