

ASIA-EUROPE LAW AND BUSINESS SYMPOSIUM

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VIRTUAL
26 - 27 MAY '22

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SYNOPSIS

This Symposium builds on the cooperation between the French Embassy in Singapore and the Singapore Academy of Law to facilitate exchange between legal leaders in Europe and Asia on both the law of business and the business of law. The Symposium aims to promote a greater awareness of civil and common law systems and their implications for doing business in Europe, Asia and beyond. The sessions in this year's Symposium continue to reflect on the commonalities and distinctiveness between the two legal systems to highlight their complementary natures. Areas of focus for the law of business this year include data protection and enforcement of foreign judgments.

As gateways to the major economic blocs of their respective regions, and with France at the helm of the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, France and Singapore are well-placed to play a leadership role in facilitating greater dialogue, setting standards of excellence and deepening co-operation between the two regions in the areas of cross-border data transfer, legal thought leadership, legal certainty and legal innovation.

For the Asian and European legal communities, it is a time of significant opportunity to facilitate legal convergence on issues of law that have an impact on the ease of doing business in and with Asia, and particularly ASEAN. The increasing global nature of legal services in cross-border trade and business is also having an impact on the role of and demands on law firms and other legal services providers.

Join public and private sector leaders as we deepen dialogue and understanding, and share best practices across Asia and Europe, for how we can begin to converge on areas of law and legal business transformation as to bring about better business certainty and fresh opportunities for cross-pollination and innovation in the legal sphere.

LIFTED KEY

Legal Practitioner	Leadership, Business & Strategy
In-House Counsel	Leadership, Business & Strategy

Training Level: General

For enquiries regarding this event, please visit [here](#) or email les@sal.org.sg. Please note that this event does not carry any SILE CPD Points.

26 MAY 2022 (GMT+8)

2.00 PM [VIRTUAL] **WELCOME REMARKS**
French Ambassador His Excellency Marc Abensour

2.15 PM [VIRTUAL] **OPENING REMARKS**
The Honourable Justice Aedit Abdullah, Supreme Court of Singapore

2.30 PM [VIRTUAL] **CONVERGENCE OF DATA PRIVACY AND RULES STANDARDS FOR CROSS-BORDER DATA TRANSFERS FRAMEWORK**

The use of digital technology and data underpins digital transformation that is happening in all quarters. Indeed, digital trade is increasingly the most dynamic sector in the global economy. Any decision, whether by legislators, regulators, businesses or even individuals, on data can have wide-ranging implications. This session seeks to explore the interaction between data protection and cross-border trade, how legislative, regulatory and business responses in major economies facilitate or to some extent hinder global trade, and what the future holds for this symbiosis between data and trade

Moderator: Dr Clarisse Girot, Honorary Senior Fellow, Asian Business Law Institute

Panellists:

- Associate Professor Pierre-Emmanuel Audit, Paris-Panthéon-Assas University
- Mr David N. Alfred, Director & Co-Head, Data Protection, Privacy & Cybersecurity, Drew & Napier LLC
- Ms Sherry Gong, Partner, Hogan Lovells International LLP
- Mr Amber Sinha, Executive Director, The Centre for Internet and Society, India

4.30 PM [VIRTUAL] **PRINCIPLES FOR THE RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF FOREIGN JUDGMENTS**

The proliferation of cross-border trade means more and more commercial transactions involve parties situated in different parts of the world. When such transactions go sour and parties resort to court litigations, there is an increasing prospect of the winning party having to enforce its judgment in a jurisdiction other than where the judgment is obtained. This session looks at the regimes for foreign judgments recognition and enforcement in Asia and Europe, discusses the challenges practitioners face in real life, and asks whether signing international conventions is the panacea and whether an European-style harmonised regime is possible in the Asia-Pacific.

Moderator: Ms Sabine d'Angély Lavail, Legal VP TotalEnergies Singapore and Head of Legal Marketing & Services Asia-Pacific Middle East, TotalEnergies

Panellists:

- Associate Professor Adeline Chong Swee Ling, Singapore Management University, Yong Pung How School of Law
- Mr Olivier Monange, Attorney at Law - Arbitrator, DS AVOCATS
- Mr Fransiscus Rodyanto, Partner, SSEK Legal Consultants

6.00 PM **END OF DAY 1**

27 MAY 2022 (GMT+8)2.30 PM
[VIRTUAL]**LEADERSHIP IN A TIME OF UNCERTAINTY - INSIGHTS FROM LEGAL LEADERS IN ASIA AND EUROPE**

Over the past two years, how we live and work has changed in unprecedented ways. Beyond the impact that the pandemic has had on the pace and extent of digitalisation, attitudes towards modes of working, professional aspirations and expectations of businesses to conduct themselves in sustainable ways have shifted. Increased geopolitical uncertainties have added to the complexity. In all of this, what have been some of the consequences faced by law firms and legal departments? How are legal leaders navigating these consequences and equipping their people and wider organisation to be able to respond to challenges and opportunities with agility? We hear from senior legal leaders of law firms and legal departments from Asia and Europe as they examine with real-life examples, the characteristics of leadership needed in a time of uncertainty to manage change and navigate complexity.

Moderator: Professor Philip Anderson, Professor of Entrepreneurship, INSEAD

Panellists:

- Ms Anna Wyrzykowska, President, International Association of Young Lawyers
- Mr Kia Meng Loh, Chief Operating Officer, Senior Partner, Dentons Rodyk
- Mr Ahmed Fikri Assegaf, Senior Partner, Assegaf Hamzah & Partners
- Ms Julie Couturier, President, Paris Bar Association
- Mr Salim Moollan QC, Barrister, Brick Court Chambers

4.30 PM
[VIRTUAL]**ENVOLVING BUSINESS MODELS: WHAT DOES ADDING-VALUE TO THE CLIENT MEAN FOR BUSINESS OF LAW?**

Legal Services as a sector has been dominated for hundreds of years by a guild-like approach from the ways in which we have developed our legal talent to the expertise-centric value proposition that we have offered to our clients. Arguably, this model of legal services delivery is a default in civil law and common law jurisdictions. In this session, legal leaders from both systems share insights to the ways in which the business of law is evolving, particularly from a business model standpoint. What kinds of 'new law' models of business exist? What is the impact of 'alternative' legal service providers on the legal services landscape? And what kinds of value propositions are being offered to enhance the competitive advantage of legal services providers from the traditional to the non-traditional? Finally, in what ways are legal business innovation being encouraged and what are some key takeaways from these approaches? Join us in this candid discussion about how we create and communicate value for clients as an interconnected global legal industry - especially in cross-border legal business between Asia and Europe.

Moderator: Mr Azman Jafaar, Managing Partner, RHTLawAsia LLP

Panellists:

- Mr Jacques Bouyssou, General Secretary, Paris Place de Droit
- Ms Hanim Hamzah, Regional Managing Partner, ZICOLaw
- Dr Paul Weingarten, Partner, Rödl & Partner
- Ms Isabel Parker, Executive Director, Digital Legal Exchange and author of "*Successful Digital Transformation in Law firms: A Question of Culture*"
- Mr Thierry Aballea, Avocat/ Attorney at Law, Paris Bar and Ewen Law

6.00 PM
[VIRTUAL]**CLOSING REMARKS BY**

- Mr Rama Tiwari, Chief Executive, Singapore Academy of Law
- French Ambassador His Excellency Marc Abensour

6.15 PM

END OF DAY 27.00 PM
[IN-PERSON]**NETWORKING COCKTAIL HOSTED AT THE FRENCH EMBASSY (BY INVITATION ONLY)**