



# **The Importance and the Ways of Cross-Border Legal Cooperation Among Legal Professionals and Bar Associations/ Law Societies**

**Ms Melissa Pang, President**

**Mr Stephen Hung, Past President and Council Member**

**The Law Society of Hong Kong**

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# Entering into friendship agreements

- Memoranda of Understanding (“MOUs”) signed with lawyers associations and legal organisations (as of July 2019):
  - Overseas: 33
  - Greater China Region & Taiwan: 49



MOU signing with Georgian Bar Association and the Bar Association of Slovenia in December 2017



MOU signing with Bar of Attorneys in Gdańsk in June 2017

# Active participation in international conferences

- 21<sup>st</sup> Commonwealth Law Conference in Livingstone, Zambia
- 29<sup>th</sup> IPBA Annual Meeting and Conference in Singapore
- St. Petersburg IX International Legal Forum St Petersburg, Russia
- 30<sup>th</sup> POLA Conference in Kunming, China
- 57<sup>th</sup> AIJA Congress in Roma, Italy
- International Conference of Legal Regulators in Edinburgh, Scotland
- IBA Annual Conference in Seoul, South Korea
- UIA 63<sup>rd</sup> Congress in Luxembourg



# Collaboration with overseas lawyers associations

	Date	Event	Location
1	July 2016	Joint Seminar with Tokyo Bar Association	Tokyo, Japan
2	October 2016	Joint Seminar with Polish National Bar of Attorneys	Warsaw, Poland
3	March 2017	Training Workshop with PERADI	Jakarta, Indonesia
4	June 2017	Joint Seminar with Gdańsk Bar Association	Gdansk, Poland
5	September 2017	Joint Seminar with Malaysian Bar	Hong Kong
6	September 2017	Joint Seminar with Hungarian Bar Association	Budapest, Hungary
7	December 2017	Information Session with Israel Bar Association	Hong Kong
8	May 2018	Joint Seminar with Osaka Bar Association	Hong Kong
9	March & June 2019	Study Tour with Mongolian Bar Association	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia and Hong Kong
10	April 2020	Joint Seminar with UIA	Hong Kong



# Collaboration with overseas lawyers associations (cont'd)

- **Study tour with Mongolian Bar Association (March & June 2019)**
  - First reciprocal study tour with overseas lawyers association



- **Joint seminar with UIA (April 2020)**
  - Theme: *“Competition Law in the 21st Century - Challenges for Competition Law Enforcement in Asia and Key Jurisdictions around the World”*

# Grooming the young professionals

## ■ Young Lawyer Sponsorship

- To attend international conferences and Mainland study tours

## ■ Korean and Japanese Internship Programmes

- Co-organised with Korean Bar Association, Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Korea and Japan Federation of Bar Associations since 2014
- Two-week training in local law firms

## ■ MOU signing with International Association of Young Lawyers (AIJA)



# Belt and Road Initiative

## ■ 1<sup>st</sup> Belt and Road Conference (May 2017)

- Theme: “A Catalyst for Connectivity, Convergence and Collaboration”
- Attended by nearly 600 overseas and local delegates
- 39 lawyers’ associations from 24 jurisdictions signed the *Hong Kong Manifesto*, pledging to promote synergy, strategic partnership and collaboration amongst the signing organisations

## ■ 2<sup>nd</sup> Belt and Road Conference (September 2018)

- Theme: “The ABC to Building a Smart Belt and Road: Law and Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain and Cloud”
- Attended by over 650 overseas and local delegates
- 34 lawyers’ associations from 17 jurisdictions signed the *LawTech Alliance*, pledging to promote a shared ethical A.I. framework among lawyers from the Belt and Road regions

# Belt and Road Conference 2018





# Greater China events

- Organised 32 outbound visits and events to 23 cities in Greater China in 2018
- As of September 2019: 35 outbound and inbound events:
  - Regular lectures for trainee lawyers in the Guangdong province (since November 2018)
  - A common law course for Peking University Law School in Beijing (March & June 2019)
  - Straits Law Forum in Xiamen (August 2019)
  - HKTDC “SmartHK” in Guangzhou (August 2019)

# Greater China events (cont'd)

## ■ Visit to Hainan (August 2019)

- Led a 20-member delegation to visit Hainan free trade zone
- Organised full-day seminar with Hainan Lawyers Associations





# Greater China events (cont'd)

- **Cross Strait Four Regions Young Lawyers Forum (20 Sep 2019)**
  - Theme: *“Retrospect and Prospect – A New Legal Generation in Greater China”*
  - Roundtable meeting for head delegates from participating lawyers associations, organisation visits and welcome reception will also be arranged
  - Expected to attract over 160 legal practitioners from Mainland China, Taiwan and Macau



# Greater Bay Area

- Consists of nine affluent cities in the Guangdong Province in addition to Hong Kong and Macao
- A population of 70 million and an aggregated GDP of US\$1.5 trillion
- The Law Society's work:
  - Completed three visits to the nine cities in the Greater Bay Area in 2018
  - Arranged a series of activities and seminars, as well as RME courses and practice management courses, for lawyers in the Greater Bay Area
  - Launched a joint meeting system with all the lawyers associations in the Greater Bay Area



# 32<sup>nd</sup> LAWASIA Conference

*Harmonisation through Synergy*

6 – 8 November 2019 | Hong Kong SAR

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# THANK YOU

**The Law Society of Hong Kong**

**For inquiries**

**Phone: +852 2846 0500**

**Email: [adceag@hklawsoc.org.hk](mailto:adceag@hklawsoc.org.hk)**