

CALL FOR PAPERS

Law and Society in Asia: Defining and Advancing the Field

Singapore, 22-23 September 2016

How do people understand grievances and conflicts? How do they resolve disputes? What do they think of the concept of rights? How do they relate to formal legal systems and other normative orders? What is the relationship between law and social change? What are the roles of institutional actors, such as judges and lawyers, and non-institutional actors? These are some of the questions that have long animated law and society scholars to go beyond formal legal institutions, legal doctrine and legal texts to examine law and law-like behaviour, norms, and relationships in a variety of social settings, including liberal democracies, authoritarian regimes, villages, cities, families, corporations, religious groups, and migrant communities.

These questions, too, have motivated researchers interested in law and society in Asia. As demonstrated by research on Europe, North America, and other regions, law and society has great potential to contribute to academic theory, law-making, and public policy. However, Asian law and society scholarship has just begun to emerge as a highly significant academic field, its development hindered by differences in scholarly traditions and practices across the region. In some countries, such as Japan, Korea, and India, law and society is a well-established field. In other parts of Asia, such as Southeast Asia, law and society has little recognition and shallow roots.

With the above in mind, the inaugural ALSA conference welcomes papers and panels that resonate with this theme. Other proposals based on any law and society topic concerned with Asia will also be welcome.

ALSA
SINGAPORE
2016



Centre for Asian Legal Studies
Faculty of Law

Submissions of individual papers

Participants should indicate the title of their paper and submit an abstract of no more than 500 words.

Speaker's Bio: Brief description of professional status, education background and experience in not more than 250 words.

Submissions for pre-arranged panels

Where a group of presenters wishes to form a panel, the panel organiser should coordinate with the other speakers and take responsibility for that panel, and ensure that all details are provided with the consent of the other speakers. A panel must consist of either three or four papers.

General guidelines for abstract submission

1. The deadline for submission of abstracts is **31 March 2016**.
2. Please submit your abstract online using the link provided.
3. Participants will be notified of the status of their submission within a month after the deadline. If your abstract is accepted, you will be informed by email. Please maintain a functional email address at all times.
4. Selection will be made on a competitive basis for a limited number of slots. The organisers reserve the right to make changes to the panel allocation.
5. For more information, please email cals@nus.edu.sg

History of ALSA

ALSA was established in 2015 with the aims of fostering scholarship and engaging the broader research community. It succeeds the East Asian Law and Society Collaborative Research Network as the regional body. Its executive office is housed at Waseda University, Japan. The newly established Asian Law and Society Association (ALSA) stands at an opportune moment to develop the Asian law and society field into a vibrant and cohesive discipline. Its inaugural meeting provides a timely platform to define the field, advance theory, and cultivate empirical work and new scholarship.



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