**Pacta Sunt Servanda in Changing Times**
**online conference**
**25 June 2021, 14:00-20:00 (HKT)**

14:00-14:03  
CUHK LAW Dean: Welcome

14:03-14:07  
CCTL Executive Director: Welcome

14:07-14:10  
CCTL Obligations Lab Asia Chair: Welcome

14:10-14:30  
**Keynote** – chair: Prof. Lutz-Christian Wolff
  - Prof. The Honourable Ma Tao-Li, former Chief Justice of the Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal and Honorary Professor of Law, CUHK LAW: ‘Contract Law and the Rule of Law’ (20 min)

14:30-14:45  
Break

14:45-16:00  
**Parallel Sessions I**

**Panel I: Business law and pacta sunt servanda** – chair: Prof. Queenie Lai
  - Mr. Kingsley Ong, Eversheds Sutherland, Hong Kong: ‘Contract enforcement during the global financial crisis’ (15 min)
  
  - Adv. Joel Slawotsky, IDC Herzliya, Israel: ‘Chinese state-entity issued comfort letters and the essential security exception’ (15 min)
  
  - Prof. Hiroyuki Watanabe, Waseda University, Japan: ‘Pacta sunt servanda in the context of Japanese M&A law: the Sumitomo vs. UFJ case’ (15 min)
  
  - Mr. Jochen Ellrott, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Tokyo, Japan: ‘When to withdraw from M&A deals and how?’ (15 min)
    
  - Q&A (15 min)

**Panel II: COVID-19 and contract law** – chair: Prof. Stuart Hargreaves
  
  - Prof. Amelia Bongarzone, University Magna Graecia, Catanzaro, Italy: ‘Pacta sunt servanda, supervening events and remedies in the time of COVID-19 in the Italian legal experience’ (15 min)
  
  - Mr. Peihao Yuan, CUHK LAW: ‘COVID-19 as force majeure event and exception from pacta sunt servanda?’ (15 min)
- Prof. Lutz-Christian Wolff, CUHK LAW: ‘Responding to pandemics with flexible contract law?’ (15 min)
- Q&A (15 min)

**Panel III: Pacta sunt servanda: comparative reflections** – chair: Prof. Samuli Seppänen

- Dr. Tran Kien/Dr. Do Giang Nam, both Vietnam National University, Hanoi, Vietnam: ‘Pacta sunt servanda under Vietnamese contract law’ (15 min)
- Mr. Peter Sicheng Zhu, Parkside Chambers, Hong Kong: ‘Pacta sunt servanda in the context of settlement agreements: comparative observations and critique’ (15 min)
- Ms. Michala (Michelle) Meiselles/Mr. Joel Klaff, University of Derby: ‘Nachfrist – a model remedy in an age of change’ (15 min)
- Mr. Rudi Cohrssen, CUHK LAW: ‘Pacta sunt servanda, constitutionalism, public policy and the judicial control of remedies in the South African law of contract’ (15 min)
- Q&A (15 min)

**Panel IV: Pacta sunt servanda in international law** – chair: Prof. Michael Ramsden

- Dr. Miu Kai Kei Kelvin/Mr. Lo Po Kan Noble/ Ms. Yuen Man Yin Ada, CUHK LAW: ‘Treaties and pacta sunt servanda – a shared concept for the PRC?’ (15 min)
- Dr. Hanh Hong Pham, Faculty of International Law, Hanoi Law University, Hanoi, Vietnam /MSc. Huong Thi Thu Phung, Faculty of Finance & Banking, University of Economics & Business, Vietnam National University, Hanoi, Vietnam: ‘COVID-19 and its ability to invoke to suspend / terminate the operation of a treaty of a party’ (15 min)
- [reserve slot]
- Q&A (15 min)

16:00-16:15 Break
16:15-17:30 Parallel Sessions II

Panel V: Emerging issues in *pacta sunt servanda* – chair: Prof. Lee Jyh-An
- Mr. Nguyen The Duc Tam, University of Economics and Law (UEL), Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City/Ms. Le Nguyen Hong Nhung, KPMG Vietnam: ‘Sometimes it takes more than two to tango – the application of the “blue pencil” doctrine from Vietnamese perspective’ (15 min)
- Dr. Eliza Mik, CUHK LAW: ‘*Pacta sunt servanda* and smart contracts’ (15 min)
- Dr. Roza Nurgozhayeva, Nazarbayev University: ‘The evolution of Kazakhstan’s legal system and the principle of *pacta sunt servanda*’ (15 min)
- Mr. Grégoire Lunven, CUHK LAW: ‘*Pacta sunt servanda* in financial law and the climate change challenge’ (15 min)
- Q&A (15 min)

Panel VI: *Pacta sunt servanda* in Chinese Law – chair: Prof. Michelle Miao
- Dr. Lin Siyi, King & Wood Mallesons: ‘Exceptions to *Pacta sunt servanda* in the Chinese Civil Code (15 min)
- Prof. Jianbo Lou/Ms. Yimeng Ye, Peking University: ‘Property management service contract with Chinese characteristics: an exception to *pacta sunt servanda*’ (15 min)
- Mr. Chengjie Wang, Allbright Law Offices, Shanghai/Ms. Dan Xie, University of New South Wales: ‘The latest developments of *rebus sic stantibus* in the Civil Code of the PRC’ (15 min)
- [reserve slot]
- Q&A (15 min)

Panel VII: *Pacta sunt servanda* in Asian contract law – chair: Prof. Alan Gibb
- Mr. Elliot Fung, CUHK LAW: ‘The development of contractual estoppel in Hong Kong’ (15 min)
- Mr. Doan Thanh Hai, University of Otago, New Zealand/Dr. Doan Thi Phuong Diep, University of Economics and Law, Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City/ Ms. Vo Thi Thanh Linh, Da Lat University: ‘Conceptualizing the right to withdraw in distance contracts in Vietnam – a discourse of *pacta sunt servanda* with Eastern characteristics’ (15 min)
- Prof. Boeun Chang, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies: ‘Change of circumstances in Korean contract law – an exception to *pacta sunt servanda*’ (15 min)
- Prof. Ya-Lun Yen, National Cheng Kung University: ‘Non-compete agreements under Taiwan Labor Standards Act and pacta sunt servanda’ (15 min)

- Q&A (15 minutes)

**17:30-17:40 Break**

**17:40-18:20 Distinguished Lecture (pre-recorded) – chair: Prof. Steve Gallagher**

**18:20-19:55 Plenary Session – chair: Prof. Normann Witzleb**
- Prof. Geraint Howells, NUI Galway/University of Manchester: ‘Pacta sunt servanda and consumer protection’ (20 min)

- Prof. Steve Gallagher, CUHK LAW: ‘The Common Law option not to perform’ (20 min)

- Prof. (em.) Michael Martinek, Saarland University: ‘Pacta sunt servanda and renegotiation duties in international commercial contracts’ (20 min)

- Prof. Chao Xi, CUHK LAW: ‘Pacta sunt servanda and financial regulation’ (20 min)

- Q&A (15 min)

**19:55-20:00 CCTL Obligation Lab Asia Chair: Closing Remarks**

**20:05 Social Gathering Online**