

## Constitutional Amendment in Southeast Asia



*Participants of the 'Constitutional Amendment in Southeast Asia' Workshop.*

*From left to right: Nyi Nyi Kyaw (NUS), Khemthong Tonsakulrungruang (Chulalongkorn University), Dian A. H. Shah (NUS), Dante B. Gatmaytan (University of the Philippines), Jaclyn L. Neo (NUS), Bui Ngoc Son (NUS), Kevin Tan (NUS), Hoong Phun (HP) Lee (Monash University), Andrew Harding (NUS), Ratana Taing (Constitutional Council & Pannasastra University of Cambodia), Yaniv Roznai (Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya)*

The 'Constitutional Amendment in Southeast Asia' Workshop, organised by the Centre for Asian Legal Studies (CALs), was held on 7 & 8 November 2017 at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore (Bukit Timah Campus).

Convened by Assistant Professor (Dr.) Jaclyn L. Neo and Dr. Bui Ngoc Son, the Workshop examined the evolution of constitutional amendment rules, amendment practices, as well as constitutional discourse around successful and failed amendments.

Over one and half days, participants engaged in thought-provoking discussions enquiring into the range of factors and conditions that influence decisions by legislators to bring about constitutional change by formal amendments, as well as why some amendment initiatives fail. Country-experts presented constitutional amendment practices from eight Southeast Asian jurisdictions. Constitutional law experts on constitutional change (Kevin Tan (NUS), Yaniv Roznai (IDC), Cheryl Saunders (Melbourne University), and Rosalind Dixon (UNSW)) were also invited to comment on the papers and the project objectives.

By focusing on Southeast Asian jurisdictions, this Workshop aimed to enrich existing constitutional law scholarship on formal amendment practices with thick accounts of heretofore under-examined jurisdictions. At the same time, it sought to interrogate existing theoretical accounts on constitutional change and amendments as well as their applicability to the region.



*Workshop Convenors, Assistant Professor Jaclyn Neo (Principal Investigator) and Dr Bui Ngoc Son (co-Investigator) giving an overview of the research project.*



*Dr Khemthong Tonsakulrungruang (second from left) from Chulalongkorn University presenting his paper on 'Sacred Space: Thailand's Constitution Unamendability'.*



*Nyi Nyi Kyaw (NUS) and Professor Andrew Harding (NUS) listening intently to the presentations.*



*Dr Yaniv Roznai (Interdisciplinary Centre (IDC) Herzliya) presenting his commentary.*



*Professor Rosalind Dixon (UNSW) providing her commentary via Skype.*



*Professor HP Lee (Monash), Professor Kevin Tan (NUS), Ratana Taing (Constitutional Council & Pannasastra University of Cambodia) and Professor Dante B. Gatmaytan (University of Philippines) engaging in the Roundtable Discussion.*

amendment noun

The act of making

made better

improvement

# Constitutional Amendment in Southeast Asia

**7 & 8 November 2017, Tuesday & Wednesday**  
Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore

**PARTICIPATION IS BY INVITATION ONLY**

As seats are limited, please register your interest to attend at <https://goo.gl/DVThFj>  
Deadline for registration: **1 November 2017, Wednesday.**

For more information, please contact Ms Alexandria Chan at [cals@nus.edu.sg](mailto:cals@nus.edu.sg)