

## CBFL SEMINAR SERIES

### New Frontiers for the Conflict of Laws: Lex Situs across Sea, Air, Space and Cyberspace

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Jack Wright Nelson is a full-time research associate at the Centre for Banking & Finance Law (CBFL). His research focuses on Asia-Pacific satellite regulation and financing. His work has been published by the Journal of Space Law, the Asian Journal of International Law, the American Society of International Law, the German Journal of Air & Space Law, the European Journal of Legal Studies and the Asian International Arbitration Journal. In 2020, he was elected to membership of the International Institute of Space Law. Prior to joining CBFL, Jack practiced law with King & Wood Mallesons in Hong Kong and Singapore. During his 5+ years in practice, he specialized in the regulation and financing of emerging technologies projects, with a particular focus on satellites and other commercial space applications. He is admitted to practice law before the Supreme Court of Victoria and the High Court of Hong Kong.



**Public CPD Points: 1**  
Training Level: Foundation Practice  
Area: Others/Multi-disciplinary

Participants who wish to obtain CPD Points are reminded that they must comply strictly with the Attendance Policy set out in the CPD Guidelines. For those participating via the webinar, this includes logging in at the start of the webinar and logging out at the conclusion of the webinar in the manner required by the organiser, and not being away from the entire activity for more than 15 minutes. Participants who do not comply with the Attendance Policy will not be able to obtain CPD Points for attending the activity. Please refer to <http://www.sileCPDCentre.sg> for more information.

**Thursday 26 August 2021 | 12.00PM TO 1.15 PM (SGT)**  
via Zoom Webinar

#### ABOUT THE SEMINAR

In the common law of Singapore, the existence and incidents of interests in property are governed by the 'lex situs' – or, in English, the 'law of the place'. For immovable property, the application of this rule is straightforward: the lex situs is simply the law of the jurisdiction in which the property is situated. Determining the lex situs becomes more complex for movable property that frequently changes location (such as a car that drives cross-border). The complexity further increases when property traverses areas that are not subject to territorial sovereignty – namely, the high seas, international airspace, and outer space. And the advent of digital assets, such as Bitcoin, means that the lex situs of cyberspace is an increasingly pressing concern.

The result is that commercial transactions involving ships, aircraft, satellites and digital assets often present novel legal issues. This seminar will address these issues in the Singaporean context. Specific attention will be given to case law from across the common law world in which lex situs issues have had a determinative impact. This will include a discussion of the validity of a Dutch aircraft mortgage in England, the beneficial ownership of a Filipino ship in Singapore waters, and the legal location of a Bitcoin.

The seminar will close with a discussion of how international instruments – in particular, the Cape Town Convention – attempt to navigate conflict of laws issues and remedy the uncertainty that adversely impacts cross-border commercial transactions.

#### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Academics, lawyers, in-house counsel and policymakers



#### REGISTRATION

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/cbflss26Aug21>  
or scan the QR code

Registration Fee: S\$80.25 (including 7% GST)

*Complimentary for full-time academic staff, students and public service officers*

Closing date: **24 August 2021**

For enquiries, email [cbfl@nus.edu.sg](mailto:cbfl@nus.edu.sg)

#### ABOUT THE CENTRE FOR BANKING & FINANCE LAW

The Centre for Banking & Finance Law (CBFL) at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, seeks to generate scholarship and promote thinking about the vibrancy, robustness and soundness of the banking sector, capital markets and other financial services. Through the research our scholars undertake and the events we organise, we seek to create and share knowledge, to engage stakeholders in an exchange of ideas, and to enhance the appreciation of legal and regulatory issues. We aim to bring greater theoretical and analytical clarity to these issues, to examine their policy impact, and to be a catalyst for ideas on how to improve banking and financial systems at the national, regional and global levels. Visit our website at <https://law.nus.edu.sg/cbfl/>.