

DEVELOPMENTS IN SECURED TRANSACTIONS LAW IN ASIA

via Zoom Webinar

Wednesday, 26 November 2025 | 08:00-10:30 (GMT) / 16:00 to 18:30 (SGT)

The edited volume of essays '*Secured Transactions Law in Asia: Principles, Perspectives and Reform*' (Hart Publishing, 2021) provided an in-depth exploration of secured transactions law in thirteen civil law and common law jurisdictions in Asia. A varied picture emerged. While the law in some jurisdictions had already been reformed to conform largely with the principles reflected in modern personal property security statutes and international codifications such as the UNCITRAL Model Law on Secured Transactions, there were jurisdictions that were in the process of undergoing secured transactions law reform, as well as those in which no particular attention was being paid to reforming the law. In this webinar, the editors of the volume, Prof Louise Gullifer and Assoc Prof Dora Neo, will bring together some of its contributors for an update of significant developments in secured transactions law that have taken place since its publication. Jurisdictions that will be discussed include China, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Bangladesh and India.

CONVENORS



Professor Louise Gullifer, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

Professor Louise Gullifer KC (hon) FBA is Rouse Ball Professor of English Law at the University of Cambridge, and a fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. She is currently Chair of the Cambridge Law Faculty. She was formerly Professor of Commercial Law at the University of Oxford and held a Fellowship at Harris Manchester College in 2000. She practised at the Bar for a number of years before becoming an academic, and is a Bencher of Gray's Inn. She teaches and writes extensively in all areas of commercial and financial law, especially secured transactions and financial collateral, intermediated securities, set-off and personal property. She was the UK delegate to both UNCITRAL (working group VI) during its work on secured transactions, and is a member of several UNIDROIT working groups, including chairing the drafting groups of the projects on the private law of digital assets and verified carbon credits. She has been the Kwa Geok Choo Distinguished Visiting Professor at National University of Singapore and held a Chair of Excellence at Universidad Carlos III, Madrid. She has also been a visiting professor in Paris, Leiden, Radboud University, Hong Kong City University and Columbia Law School.



Associate Professor Dora Neo, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Dora Neo is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore and the founding Director of the Faculty's Centre for Banking & Finance Law. Her research interests include global developments in secured transactions; modernisation of trade finance; consumer protection in the finance industry and contract law. Her publications include *Secured Transactions Law in Asia: Principles, Perspectives and Reform* (co-edited with L Gullifer, Hart Publishing, 2021); *Trade Finance: Technology, Innovation and Documentary Credits* (co-edited with C Hare, Oxford University Press, 2021) and *Studies in the Contract Laws of Asia V: Ending and Changing Contracts* (co-edited with M Chen-Wishart and S Vogenauer, Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2016). She served as an expert in the Working Group on the UNCITRAL-UNIDROIT Model Law on Warehouse Receipts and is an Advisory Committee Member of the UNIDROIT Transnational Law Centre. From September to December 2025, she is an academic visitor at the Cambridge University Law Faculty affiliated with the Centre for Corporate and Commercial Law (3CL), and a Visiting Fellow at Wolfson College, Cambridge. She is a graduate of Oxford University and Harvard Law School and is a non-practising member of the Bar in England and Wales (Gray's Inn) and Singapore.

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SPEAKERS



Junayed Ahmed CHOWDHURY, Vertex Chambers, Bangladesh

Junayed Chowdhury is the Managing Partner of Vertex Chambers (Dhaka), Vertex Icon Corporate Services Provider (Dubai) and Vertex International Consulting (Sydney). He is a Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, and a Barrister-at-Law of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, London, United Kingdom. Mr. Chowdhury is the author of the leading Bangladeshi practitioners' textbook *Corporate Tax Law and Practice* (first edition published in 2015 and second edition in 2021), which has been catalogued by, among others, the University of Chicago Law School, Harvard Law School, the Library of Congress, the British Library. He has also authored the first bilingual book *Commentaries on the Law of Arbitration in Bangladesh* (published by University Press Limited in 2024), which has been lauded by the celebrated former Chief Justice of India, D.Y. Chandrachud. He is also the co-author of the Bangladesh Chapter in the pre-eminent book *Secured Transaction Law in Asia* published by Hart Publishing in 2021. Mr. Chowdhury has been a Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Connecticut Law School, USA and the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, London.



Megumi HARA, Chuo University, Japan

Megumi Hara is a Professor of Law at Chuo University, Tokyo, where she teaches property law, contract law, secured transactions, and trust law. Her research focuses on asset-based finance and the conceptual structure of property rights. Before joining Chuo, she taught at Kyushu University and Gakushuin University, and has also given courses at the University of Tokyo and Keio University. Professor Hara contributed to Japan's recent property law reform as a researcher appointed by the Ministry of Justice. She has also participated in a committee-level study group on secured transactions reform convened by the Small and Medium Enterprise Agency under the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. She is a public interest member of the Central Labor Relations Commission and a member of the Working Group on Regional Financial Institutions under the Financial System Council of the Financial Services Agency. Internationally, she represented Japan at the Diplomatic Conference adopting the MAC Protocol and has participated in UNCITRAL Working Groups I and VI. She previously served on the UNIDROIT Working Group for the Model Law on Factoring and is currently a member of the UNIDROIT Working Group on Principles on Verified Carbon Credits.



Parawee KASITINON, Thammasat University, Thailand

Parawee Kasitinin is a Lecturer at the Faculty of Law, Thammasat University, Thailand. She teaches Contract Law, Commercial Contract, Obligations, and Secured Transactions Law. From 2020 to 2022, she was a member of the Editorial Board of Graduate Law TU Journal. From 2021 to 2023, she served as Assistant to the Rector for Finance (Fiscal Management) at Thammasat University. Currently, she is a member of the Faculty Senate of Thammasat University and a member of the Editorial Board of Thammasat Law Journal. Her stellar academic record includes LL.B., 1st class honors from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, LL.M. in private law from Thammasat University, LL.M., and S.J.D. from University of Pennsylvania, USA. Her recent research paper is "The Problem of Formal Requirement and registration of a Business Security Agreement under the Business Security Act B.E.2558" (in Thai), offering an in-depth analysis of the differing opinions on whether registration under Section 13 of the Business Security Act serves as a prerequisite for the validity of a business security agreement or merely as a means of achieving third-party effectiveness.



Debanshu MUKHERJEE, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, India

Debanshu Mukherjee is one of the Co-founders of the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, a New Delhi-based independent think-tank that advises the Indian government on law reform projects. He led the Vidhi team that advised the government on designing and drafting India's new Bankruptcy Code and its subsequent implementation. He also worked alongside a government-appointed committee to develop a law to resolve failing banks and financial institutions and deposed before four Parliamentary committees examining business-related reforms. He is an alumnus of the Harvard Law School, the University of Oxford, and Hidayatullah National Law University. He attended Harvard as a Fulbright Scholar. He currently chairs the academic committee of INSOL India.

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Huyen PHAM, International Finance Corporation, Vietnam

With nearly 30 years of experience in both public and private sectors across Asia, Huyen has led transformative policy reforms, improved regulatory frameworks, and strengthened institutional capacity - fortifying the financial infrastructure that underpins the financial and banking sectors. Huyen's expertise spans credit information, secured transactions, dispute resolution, insolvency and bankruptcy, payment systems, capital markets, microfinance, and advisory program management. A frequent speaker and trainer, Huyen Pham delivers domestic, regional and international programs on credit reporting, secured transactions, SME finance, commercial mediation, insolvency, and bankruptcy. Huyen also advises data analytics and finance companies on business expansion and market entry and serves as a judge for commercial mediation competitions for university students. Previously, Huyen advanced legal reform through UNDP and DANIDA projects, enhancing legislative, judicial, and procuratorial capacities for the Office of the National Assembly, the Supreme People's Court, the Supreme People's Procuratorate, and the Ministry of Justice. Huyen Pham is a lawyer and a commercial mediator accredited by the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR - based in the UK). She holds a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Laws.



Griselda (Gay) G. SANTOS, Financial Inclusion Advocate, Philippines

Gay Santos is the Regional Director for Southeast Asia at Water.org, a global NGO that seeks to solve the global water and sanitation crisis. Through previous roles at the World Bank Group and International Finance Corporation, Gay has more than 25 years of experience in investment and portfolio management, credit operations, and operational risks, ESG, IT/fintech systems design and advisory services. At the IFC, she led the Secured Transactions and Credit Infrastructure reforms in the Philippines which resulted in the passage of the 2018 Personal Property Security. Gay is a financial inclusion advocate and served as the chair of the Financial Inclusion Committee of the Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines from 2016 to 2024 and a Trustee of Fintech Alliance Philippines. She worked in various USAID projects as principal specialist in Risk, SME finance, E-Commerce and Financial Inclusion. She sits as an independent director in UNO Bank, a digital bank in the Philippines. She developed the new financial literacy training program of the Philippines' conditional cash transfer program. She is also a regular writer in major newspapers in the Philippines. She holds a MBA from Johns Hopkins University and a Certificate in Internal Audit from George Mason University.



Aria SUYUDI, Indonesia Jentera School of Law, Indonesia

Born in Jakarta, 26 September 1974, he is Lecturer in Business Law in Indonesia Jentera School of Law, University of Al Azhar Indonesia and SBM-ITB. He is also member of Judicial Reform Team Office and Special Staff to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Indonesia. He has been working with judicial reform issue since year 2000 and was the Coordinator of Judicial Reform Team Office in 2010-2021, he works on the area of case management reform, transparency, modernization of court. In particular he has been involved in the Ease of Doing Business Reform since 2012. Under the portfolio of Ease of Doing Business reform, Aria works in the area such as secured transaction law reform, civil decision execution reform, and bankruptcy/ insolvency reform. He also involve a lot with modernization of business process within legal and judicial institutions. Dr. Aria Suyudi, S.H., LL.M. obtain his Law degree from University of Indonesia (1999), Masters of Law from Erasmus University Rotterdam (2004), and Doctor of Law Degree from Universitas Pelita Harapan, Jakarta (2022).



Lebing WANG, Law School of University of International Business and Economics, China

Lebing Wang, PhD, associate professor, Law School of University of International Business and Economics. Prof. Lebing Wang focused his research on secured transaction and financial innovation in the past decade and published 15 papers in Chinese leading law review. He also published a monograph *Principles of the Guaranty Law* (in Chinese) in 2018. He has worked as the government expert of Chinese Ministry of Commerce for the negotiation of MAC Protocol.