

Is Mandatory ESG Disclosure a Path to Sustainable Corporate Governance in China?

Dr Meiyong Chen

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Chairperson: Associate Professor Wee Meng Seng, Faculty of Law, NUS

DATE, TIME & VENUE

Thursday, 24 October 2024

1.15pm to 2.15pm

NUS Law (Bukit Timah Campus), Federal Bartholomew Conference Room (FED-01-02)

ABSTRACT

Many of today's pressing environmental issues, including climate change, destruction of biodiversity and pollution, are clearly global. As the main and direct producer of ecological and environmental problems, companies especially listed companies, should play a meaningful role in green development. As a result, legal mechanisms such as the environmental, social, and governance (ESG) disclosure has been produced by states that aim to improve sustainable corporate governance.

Some argue that the mandatory disclosure is necessary, while others argue that ESG disclosure should be voluntary. The research will provide an overview of the debate among legal academics – whether the voluntary disclosure or mandatory disclosure is better? Moreover, the research will focus on the comparative study of the current practices of ESG disclosures system among the European Union, Singapore, Japan, China, and the United States. Drawing on this comparative analysis, we find that a “comply or explain” approach to ESG disclosure is much more suitable for the listed companies in China. This approach requires companies to comply with an ESG disclosure requirements in the sustainability report, or explain reasons why they do not comply. It seems that a more flexible model of ESG disclosures with both public and private regulation is worth considering and accepting.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Dr Meiyong Chen is an Associate Professor of Law in the School of Economic Law at East China University of Political Science and Law (ECUPL). Prior to joining the ECUPL, Meiyong Chen obtained her LLD on Comparative Corporate Law and Governance in Nagoya University Law School in Japan. Meiyong Chen is a scholar in the field of corporate law and governance in China. In recent years, she has devoted herself to comparative study on the issues such as corporate compliance and corporate social responsibility. She has published several influential articles in China and Japan. She has also received several university level teaching awards.

REGISTRATION



There is no registration fee for this seminar, but seats are limited. Refreshments will be provided on a first-come-first-served basis.

Visit <https://bit.ly/4eedodu> or scan the QR Code to register by Thursday, 17 October 2024, 5.00pm

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