

**ASIAN LAW INSTITUTE DISTINGUISHED LECTURE**

# APPROACHES TO CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION

**Anselmo Reyes IJ**

Singapore International Commercial Court

**Chairperson:** Dr Michael Hwang S.C.

THURSDAY, 16 JANUARY 2025

5.30 PM to 7.00 PM

NUS LAW (BUKIT TIMAH CAMPUS), WEE CHONG JIN MOOT COURT

## SYNOPSIS

Rule 9A(1) of the 2024 HKIAC Administered Arbitration Rules encourages parties "to take into account considerations of diversity when designating arbitrators". When HKIAC is to appoint an arbitrator, Rule 9A(2) declares that it will "take into account considerations of diversity together with all other relevant considerations". This is laudable. As the President of the ICC Court of Arbitration, Claudia Salomon, has observed: "Arbitrator diversity in all forms is essential to the legitimacy of international arbitration by ensuring that ... arbitrators ... reflect the diversity – and values – of the global business community." But what precisely does the "taking into account" of diversity entail? How might the business community better reflect the diversity of global values in international commercial arbitration?

This lecture will consider how such questions might be answered. Focusing on the promotion of cultural diversity, the lecture will (1) take as its springboard historical and contemporary attempts at fostering sensitivity in dispute resolution among disparate communities and (2) tease out lessons from the strengths and weaknesses of those attempts.

## ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Anselmo Reyes practises as an arbitrator. He was Professor of Legal Practice at Hong Kong University from October 2012 to September 2018. Before that, he was a judge of the Hong Kong High Court from September 2003 to September 2012, when he oversaw the Construction and Arbitration List (2004-8) and the Commercial and Admiralty Lists (2008-12).

He was Representative of the Hague Conference on Private International Law's Regional Office for the Asia Pacific from April 2013 to July 2017. He became an International Judge of the Singapore International Commercial Court in January 2015. He is an Overseas Bencher of the Inner Temple.

## PROGRAMME

5.00PM: Registration  
5.30PM: Lecture by Anselmo Reyes IJ  
6.30PM: Q&A Session  
7.00PM: Dinner Reception

## REGISTRATION

There is no registration fee for this lecture.  
Visit [HERE](#) or scan the QR Code to register

**Closing Date:** 9 January 2025, 5.00 PM  
**Contact:** [asli@nus.edu.sg](mailto:asli@nus.edu.sg)



## CPD POINTS



Public CPD Point: 1  
Practice Area: Alternative Dispute Resolution  
Training Level: Foundation

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 this activity, this includes signing in on arrival and signing out at the conclusion of the activity in the manner required by the organiser, and not being absent 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.