

Is Settlor Control a Problem?

Dr Jeremy Hui Jing, Associate Professor
The University of Hong Kong

Chairperson: Associate Professor Kelry Loi, NUS Law

MONDAY, 4 MAY 2026
12:00PM – 1:00PM

WEE CHONG JIN MOOT COURT, UNIVERSITY TOWN (KENT RIDGE CAMPUS)

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

This paper revisits the question: is settlor control a problem in trust law? The analysis focuses on circumstances in which settlor control enables access to trust assets for personal benefit, yet that control is not formally recognised as wealth for the purposes of wealth-contingent laws, such as those relating to bankruptcy, family law, or creditor claims. The paper examines how settlor control can undermine both the moral and legal foundations of the trust relationship and outlines a framework for distinguishing problematic forms of settlor control from benign arrangements, taking into account the settlor's degree of control, the potential for personal benefit, and the appropriate level of legal intervention. The capacity of trust law to address these concerns through doctrines such as sham or illusory trusts and resulting trusts is critically assessed. Ultimately, the paper contends that settlor control poses challenges not only for other areas of law but also for the integrity of trust law itself, thereby requiring nuanced and context-sensitive legal responses.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Dr Hui Jing is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong. He specialises in equity and trusts, property, and charity law, both in his teaching and research. He holds a PhD from the University of Melbourne, where his doctoral thesis was awarded the Melbourne Law School Harold Luntz Graduate Research Prize for Best PhD Thesis. His earlier qualifications include a research master's degree in intellectual property law from Peking University and an LLB from the China University of Political Science and Law, from which he graduated in the top 3% of his class. Dr Jing has published extensively in peer-reviewed journals. His work appears in *Legal Studies*, *American Journal of Comparative Law*, *Journal of Equity*, *Civil Justice Quarterly*, and *European Business Organisation Law Review*. Before embarking on his academic career, he practised law from 2014 to 2017, working at the Beijing office of Zhong Lun Law Firm and at the China National Foreign Trade Financial & Leasing Company.

ABOUT THE CHAIRPERSON



Dr Kelry Loi is Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore (NUS). He obtained his DPhil from the University of Oxford; LLM from the University of London; and LLB from the NUS. Dr Loi writes on commercial law, contracts, and trusts. He is currently Co-Director of the Asian Law Institute (ASLI).

REGISTRATION & CPD POINT

There is no registration fee and lunch will be provided for registered attendees.

This is a non-CPD event. No CPD points will be awarded.



Visit [HERE](#) or scan the QR Code to register

Closing Date: 27 April 2026, 5.00 PM

Contact: asli@nus.edu.sg

PROGRAMME

11.30AM	Registration and Lunch Collection
12:00PM	Start of Lecture
12:30PM	Q&A Session
1:00PM	End of Lecture