

Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Legal and Policy Forum 2025:

Law, Regulation, and Governance

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On 10 January 2025, the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Legal Forum 2025: Law, Regulation and Governance was held at the School of Law of the City University of Hong Kong, attracting numerous legal experts, scholars, and practitioners from Mainland China, Macau and Hong Kong. The forum aims to explore how to advance the overall development of the Greater Bay Area from the perspectives of law, regulation and governance. Participants of this Forum were not limited to the legal field but also included experts and scholars from other fields such as public affairs, business, etc. The Forum was mainly focused on four major themes: "Retrospect and Prospect of Institutional Design for the Greater Bay Area", "Assessment and Recommendations on the Current Status of the Rule of Law Construction in the Greater Bay Area", "Explorations on the Development of the Four Major Greater Bay Area Cooperation Zones", and "Challenges and Innovations in Regional Governance of the Greater Bay Area".

The opening ceremony commenced at 9:00 a.m., **Professor DING Chunyan**, the Associate Dean of the School of Law of the City University of Hong Kong, **Professor Edmund W. CHEUNG** and **Professor Virginia HARPER HO**, the Associate Directors of the Centre for Public Affairs and Law, delivered the welcoming speeches.



(photos by Ms. Guo Ai)

(Professor DING Chunyan) (Professor Virginia Harper Ho)

(From left to right: Prof. Virginia Harper Ho, Prof. Ding Chunyan, Ms. Carmen Maria CHUNG, Dr. Horace CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, Professor Edmund W. CHEUNG, Professor ZHU Guobin)

After the opening ceremony, the Forum commenced at 9:20 a.m., **Professor ZHU Guobin** (professor at the School of Law, City University of Hong Kong, Director of the Public Law and Human Rights Forum) welcomed the invited distinguished guests, **Dr. Horace CHEUNG Kwok-kwan** (Deputy Director of the Department of Justice of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government and Chairman of the Special Task Force for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area), and **MS. Carmen Maria CHUNG** (Director of the Legal Affairs Bureau of Hengqin Guangdong-Macao Deep Co-operation Zone), who delivered fascinating speeches on important topics such as the rule of law construction and innovation and regional governance in the Greater Bay Area.



(Professor ZHU Guobin)



(photos by Ms. Guo Ai)

(From left to right: Ms. Carmen Maria CHUNG, Dr. Horace CHEUNG Kwok-kwan)

Afterwards, all guests and participants gathered to take a group memorial photo and headed for a coffee break, which was filled with cheerful meetings and greetings.



(photo by Ms. Guo Ai)

Group photo



(From left to right: Prof. LIU Chengkun, Prof. ZHU Guobin, Prof. YE Bifeng) (photo by Ms. Guo Ai)

Subsequently, the forum proceeded to the first session, "Retrospect and Prospect of Institutional Design for the Greater Bay Area", chaired by **Professor ZHU Guobin**. This session featured speeches from 4 expert scholars from different universities and research institutions, covering various retrospect and prospects of institutional design of the Greater Bay Area, including the strategy and integration of Hong Kong and Macao into the National Development Agenda, policy cooperation in the Greater Bay Area and its Evaluation, analysis of the frequency response mechanisms of the cross-border policy communities, and governance and legal innovation in the Greater Bay Area.

After a lunch break, the second session, "Assessment and Recommendations on the Current Status of the Rule of Law Construction in the Greater Bay Area" started and was moderated by **Professor DU Chengming** (Professor and Vice President of the Guangdong University of Technology). This session mainly composed of speeches from 5 experts and scholars which primarily focused on the analysis and evaluation of the cross-border flows of personal data, institutional differences to the possibilities and challenges of constructing a legal system for the Greater Bay Area, private law harmonization, implementation of the "Basic Rights" clause and the cross-border enforcement mechanism for commercial mediation agreements in the Greater Bay Area.



(Commissioner Ada CHUNG Lai-ling)



(Prof. YE Haibo)



(Prof. DU Chengming)

(Photos by Ms. Guo Ai)

After a discussion session and coffee break, the third session, "Explorations on the Development of the Four Major Greater Bay Area Cooperation Zones", was moderated by **Professor YE Bifeng** (Professor at Shanghai Jiao Tong University). Leading practitioners and scholars delivered speeches on various topics related to the theme, which include explorations the convergence of the integration rule of Hengqin and Macao, the dilemmas and solutions in building the rule of law in the Hengqin Guangdong-Macao Deep Co-operation Zones, progress and reflection on problems and suggestions on strategies for deepening the construction in Nansha, and history, metaphors and innovative rules of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Cooperation Zone in Hetao.



(From left to right: Dr. DENG Kai, Ms. Carmen Maria CHUNG, Prof. YE Bifeng, Prof. DU Chengming, Ms. NGAI Cho Yin) (photo by Ms. Guo Ai)

On the next day, 11 January 2025, the last session, "Challenges and Innovations in Regional Governance of the Greater Bay Area", was chaired by **Professor LUI Tai-Lok** (Adjunct Research Chair Professor at The Education University of Hong Kong), expert and scholars delivered speeches and discussed topics including regional governance, innovation economy and policy development, Hong Kong Dollar in Global Capitalism, and goals and pathways of social policy collaboration in the Greater Bay Area.



(From left to right: Prof. Peter CHUNG, Prof. YE Lin, Dr. James Jixian Wang, Prof. John WONG, Prof. LUI Tai-lok, Prof. NGO Kinlun) (photo by Ms. Guo Ai)



(From left to right: Prof. NGO Kinlun, Prof. Chi Man Eddie HUI, Prof. ZHU Guobin) (photo by Ms. Hu Yuchuan)

The Forum came to an end at 12:20 pm, with **Professor HUI Chi Man Eddie** (Head of the Department of Public and International Affairs, City University of Hong Kong), and **Professor ZHU Guobin** co-hosting the closing and appreciation session. They expressed appreciation and gratitude to the fruitful and insightful discussions of experts and scholars and to all participants for their support for the forum.