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Practice overview

Chin Lim advises sovereign nations, governments and private clients in complex public and private international law matters and disputes. He has particular experience in negotiating and interpreting treaty provisions, and advising on how treaties and conventions apply to and affect contractual obligations, investments and business operations.

His experience includes advising:

- A client on various aspects of international treaty law in relation to a matter arising in the Far East.
- A client on private international law in connection with a high-value commercial and financial dispute in the Far East.
- A Government on issues arising from trade and treaty negotiations.
- The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development in Hong Kong for the Committee on Pacific Economic Co-operation.
- A Government on maritime boundary matters.
- The Government of Singapore as Counsel in commercial and investment treaty negotiations.
- The Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission in Geneva in dealing with both sovereign and private claims following the first Gulf War.

Chin Lim joined Keating Chambers in 2013. Professor Lim is a member of both the English and Singapore Bar, and accepts arbitral appointments.

Current Appointments

- 2013 Door Tenant, Keating Chambers.
- 2012 Committee for Pacific Economic Co-operation, Government of the Hong Kong S.A.R.
- 2007 Professor of Law, University of Hong Kong.

Visiting Appointments

- 2015 - date Shanghai 1,000 Plan Guest Professor, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics.
- 2015 Lionel A. Sheridan Visiting Professor of Law, National University of Singapore.
- 2013 Scholar-in-Residence, World Trade Organization, Geneva.
- 2009 - date Visiting Professor, Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College London.

Seminar, Publications & Papers

A regular contributor to the Law Quarterly Review, his published writings discuss commercial disputes involving sovereign governmental counter-parties, commercial and investment treaty rights, especially in the Far East, and treaty issues involving China and Hong Kong:

- 'The Convergence of China's Foreign and Domestic Investment Regimes and China's Investment Treaty Commitments', (2015) 32 Journal of international Arbitration 461-493, with Seung Chong.
- 'International Investment Arbitration', in Oxford Bibliographies in International Law, Oxford University Press, with Dr. Jean Ho (forthcoming).
- 'Britain's "Treaty Rights" in Hong Kong', (2015) 131 Law Quarterly Review 348-354.
- Law of the Hong Kong Constitution, 2d. ed. (Sweet & Maxwell, 2015), with Johannes Chan S.C. (eds.), 1274 pp.
- International Economic Law after the Global Crisis (Cambridge University Press, 2015), with Bryan Mercurio (eds.), 557 pp.
- 'Injuncting Foreign Sovereigns in Aid of Arbitration', Note, (2014) 130 Law Quarterly Review 193-197.
- 'Foreign Sovereign Counterparties to Hong Kong Contracts' (2014) 9 Capital Markets Law Journal 157-176.
- The Trans-Pacific Partnership — A Quest for a Twenty-first Century Trade Agreement (Cambridge University Press, 2012), with Drs. Deborah K. Elms & Patrick Low (eds.), 337 pp.
- 'Beijing's 'Congo' Interpretation, Commercial Implications', Note, (2012) 128 Law Quarterly Review 6-10.
- 'Absolute Immunity for Sovereign Debtors in Hong Kong', Note, (2011) 127 Law Quarterly Review 495-499.
- 'State Immunity in Post-Handover Hong Kong', Note, (2011) 127 Law Quarterly Review 159-162.

His recent lectures and other speaking engagements include:

- 'The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement's Investment Treaty Clauses', Tokyo University, 14 December 2015.
- 'Foreign Sovereign Immunity', IBA Annual Conference, organized by the Litigation Committee and Asia-Pacific Regional Forum, 5 October 2015, Vienna, Austria.
- 'Law and Practice of Investment Treaty Arbitration', a course of lectures delivered at the National University of Singapore, 10-28 August 2015, Singapore.
- 'Overcoming the Geneva Impasse', by the invitation of the Governor of the Central Bank, Malaysia, and the Official Monetary and Financial Institutions' Forum, Nineteenth ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Related Meetings, 20 March 2015.
- 'The Strange Vitality of Customary International Law in the International Protection of Property, Contracts and Commerce', Duke Law School, Durham, North Carolina, 31 October 2014.

Education & Professional Career

LL.B. Buckingham, several university prizes	1992
Lecturer, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth	1993
Ph.D. Nottingham, Scholar & Tutor (1991-1993)	1995
B.C.L. Oxford (Univ. Coll. '96)	1997
Lecturer, Queen Mary & Westfield College	1999
Governing Council Secretariat, United Nations Compensation Commission, Geneva	1999
Assistant Professor, subsequently Associate Professor, National University of Singapore	2001
Attorney-General's Chambers, Singapore	2003
L.L.M. Harvard Law School, Kathryn Aguirre Worth Memorial Scholar (awarded by White & Case)	2006
Professor of Law, University of Hong Kong, and sometime Associate Dean	2007
Called to the Bar (Middle Temple)	2011
Called to the Singapore Bar	2012
Fellow, Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (SIArb)	2014

Languages

Malay
Indonesian (Bahasa)