

COMMUNICATION

China

1. On December 4, 2017, the 4th World Internet Conference on “International Convergence in Cyberspace-Consensus and Prospects” sub-forum was held at the Zhejiang Wuzhen Conference Center. It was sponsored by China Institute of Contemporary International Relations and co-organized by Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences and Wuhan University. President Xi Jinping sent a congratulatory letter, emphasizing that the development of the Internet should be used to benefit the humankind and all the countries should join hands to build a shared cyberspace community.
2. On December 9, 2017, the seminar on “One Belt One Road and the development of international law” was held by the Beijing International Law Society. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Commerce separately gave thematic reports on the topics of “opening up new frontiers of the international law studies for implementation of the spirit of the Nineteenth Congress” and “Belt and Road and International Investment Regulations.”
3. On January 7, 2018, the unveiling ceremony of the “One Belt and One Road” International Commercial Litigation and Coordination Center for the Shenzhen Qianhai Cooperation District People’s Court and the “Second Qianhai Foreign-related Involving Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan Commercial Mediation Forum” were held at the Shenzhen Qianhai International Convention Center.
4. On March 16, 2018, the Expert Seminar on Frontier Legal Issues in the Innovation of Commercial Arbitration Rules was organized to explore the legal issues concerning the arbitration case between the Singapore Noble Co. and Shanghai Xintai International Trade Co., Ltd.
5. The seminar on the construction of a new international commercial dispute prevention mechanism was held in Beijing on March 30, 2018. The International Center for the Prevention and Settlement of Business Affairs, in accordance with the principle of mutual consultation, co-construction and sharing, will carry out

the entire chain of “One Belt and One Road” commercial legal services with the character of “pre-prevention, consultation during the event, and post-mortem settlement.”

6. On April 8, 2018, the Seminar on “The Legal Issues of China-US Economic and Trade Relations,” co-sponsored by the China Law Society and the Institute of International Law of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, was held at Beijing. The legal experts attending the seminar decided to translate economic analysis into legal language and to make full use of the WTO rules to safeguard China’s legitimate interests.
7. The seminar on “The Electronic Multilateral Trading System and Trade Facilitation” was held on April 11, 2018 at the Yiwu International Expo Center in Zhejiang Province. The experts discussed how global e-commerce under the “Trade Facilitation Agreement” can realize the “quick and reliable” cross-border.
8. On April 14, 2018, the Symposium on “Protecting China’s Maritime Rights and Interests” was held in Wuhan University. Experts exchanged views on global ocean governance, the practice of China’s maritime rights and interests, and the new developments in the international law of the sea.

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Korea

A. General

President Moon Jae-in (ROK) and Chairman Kim Jong Un (DPRK) signed the historic “Panmunjeom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity and Unification of the Korean Peninsula” on April 27, 2018.

The ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted the International Town Hall Meeting at Pusan National University School of Law on May 24.

B. The YIJUN Institute of International Law

Chairman Byung Sun Oh hosted a spring workshop for the governing board members of the Institute in Mt. Dobongsan, Seoul on May 14.

President Eric Y.J. Lee delivered a special lecture on the US-DPRK Peace Treaty at the National Assembly on May 3.

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C. Korean Society of International Law

Professor Cheolwon Seo at Soongsil University took office as President of the Society in January 2018.

The Society organized the 2018 Young Scholars’ Conference on March 29.

D. Celebration

Professor Hyung Soo Kim of Inha University School of Law celebrated his daughter (Ga-hwi)’s wedding ceremony on May 26 at Sheraton Hotel-Incheon.

Malaysia

Putrajaya International Security Dialogue 2018

(Conference organized by the Ministry of Home Affairs of Malaysia held at Marriot Hotel, Putrajaya on January 5-6, 2018)

Basically, the conference explored the Islamic perspective of countering terrorism. Participants spoke in one singular voice that Islam is a moderate (*wasatan*) way of life. It tolerates differing beliefs and views. An Islamic system accommodates and respects multi-religious beliefs and practices. It is a system of making good people without force or intimidation, let alone killing. As such, there is no place of extremism or radicalism in Islam. As regards how to counter terrorism, all agreed that wise and moderate approach should be taken. It means that those who have gone astray will be invited back to normal and law abiding way of life by repenting over their past deeds (*Taubah*). If they come back, all efforts will be made and actually are being made (particularly in Malaysia) by the governments and non-government institutions, scholars (*Ulama*) and the society, to rehabilitate them back into the society with constant vigilance on their movement. Scholars underline the importance of looking into the sociological factors, such as poverty, unemployment, frustration, etc., in addition to misunderstanding and wrong preaching of Islamic religion, which are liable for people going astray (i.e. becoming violent or extremist). Governments of Islamic States including Malaysia should reiterate their commitment to ensure people's safety and security and foster an accommodating environment for all races. In addition, the conference highlighted non-Islamic terrorist activities carried out by groups, individuals or government(s), which have created and are creating threats to and destruction of peace-loving Muslims lives, properties, and dignity. This is also a reason for some Muslims taking violent ways as a retaliation. The conference called upon all to respect each other, to live a peaceful life, and to create a congenial environment therefor.

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Thailand

1. Thailand welcomes the first Inter-Korean Summit between President Moon Jae-in of the Republic of Korea and Chairman Kim Jong Un of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on April 27, 2018. The historic meeting on the Korean Peninsula reflects the concerted commitment and efforts by all parties working towards a peaceful resolution. Thailand hopes that the outcome of this Summit and further efforts, particularly the scheduled meeting between the US President Trump and Chairman Kim Jong Un on June 12 in Singapore, will pave the way for the eventual realization of the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, thereby enhancing peace, stability and an atmosphere of cooperation in the region, for the benefits of the Korean peoples and the region as a whole. Thailand stands ready to contribute towards these shared goals.
2. H.E. Ms.Sunanta Kangvalkulkij, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand to the World Trade Organization ("WTO") and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), has become the first Thai ever to be voted as the new chair of the Dispute Settlement Body ("DSB") of the WTO. She was unanimously voted by 164 member countries at the General Council meeting of WTO on March 7, 2018. As the dispute settlement is one of the most crucial missions of the WTO, Thailand is trusted by the international community through the selection of H.E. Ms.Sunanta as the new DSB chair.

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