

Finnish Center of Chinese Law and Chinese Legal Culture

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Dear Sir or Madam,

The research project “ILO Core Labour Standards Implementation in China: Legal Architecture and Cultural Logic” (2012-2015), financed by the Academy of Finland and hosted by the Faculty of Law at the University of Helsinki, warmly welcomes you to participate in its second research seminar:

**ILO FUNDAMENTAL LABOUR RIGHTS IN CHINA:
LEGAL IMPLEMENTATION AND CULTURAL LOGIC**

January 16th-17th 2014, Helsinki, Finland

In the field of labour law, legal reforms carried out in 2007 – the *Labour Contract Law*, the *Employment Promotion Law* and the *Labour Dispute Mediation and Arbitration Law* – have been seen by many observers as important steps in translating the broad outlines of labour protection established in China’s 1994 *Labour Law* into substantive and more enforceable provisions. Meanwhile, at the international level, China has also undertaken many international legal obligations, including ratification of four out of the eight core conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO) enshrining fundamental principles and rights at work. While China’s achievements in lawmaking have been notable, it has become increasingly clear that remarkable challenges remain in the implementation and enforcement of core labour standards. In light of these developments, this seminar will address from multiple methodological and comparative perspectives timely and important issues concerning the implementation and enforcement of national labour laws that enshrine fundamental principles and rights at work in China.

We encourage you to share and circulate among your teams and colleges the attached draft program of our seminar.

We also kindly ask all interested persons to register by **Monday, 5 January 2014** by completing the electronic form available from the following link: <https://elomake.helsinki.fi/lomakkeet/46754/lomake.html>.

For further information, please contact Alice Neffe (alice.neffe@helsinki.fi).

Alice Neffe

Coordinator

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Academy of Finland Research Project
*'ILO Core Labour Standards Implementation in China:
Legal Architecture and Cultural Logic'*

ILO FUNDAMENTAL LABOUR RIGHTS IN CHINA: LEGAL IMPLEMENTATION AND CULTURAL LOGIC

2nd research seminar, University of Helsinki
16-17 January 2014
Unioninkatu 33, Helsinki, Finland

16 January 2013

8:45 – 9:15 Registration and coffee

9:15 – 9:30 Opening of the seminar

Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Helsinki

ULLA LIUKKUNEN, Professor, University of Helsinki / Director of the Finnish Center of Chinese Law and Chinese Legal Culture

9:30 – 11:15 Session I *Setting the Scene*

- KARI TAPIOLA, Special Adviser to the Director-General, International Labour Organization: *“How Far Can Transition Be Managed?”*
- XIE ZENGYI, Associate Professor, Institute of Law, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences: *“Legal Institutions and the Implementation of Labour Law in China”*

11:15 – 11:30 Tea and Coffee

11:30 – 13:30 Session II *Gender Questions in the Implementation of Labour Standards*

- YE JINGYI, Professor and Director of Labour Law and Social Security Law Institute, Peking University Law School: *“The Development of Chinese Anti-discrimination Principles in Employment Law: From the Perspective of Gender Equality”*
- XUE NINGLAN, Professor and Director for the Social Laws Department, Institute of Law, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences: *“Chinese Legislation on Sexual Harassment at Work and Its Implementation”*

Comments by JOHANNA NIEMI, Professor, University of Helsinki.

13:30-14:30 Lunch

14:30 –16:15 Session III *Economy, Legal Implementation and the Workplace*

- RONALD C. BROWN, Professor, University of Hawaii: “*China: Implementing ILO Standards by BITs and Pieces (within FTAs)*”
- ULLA LIUKKUNEN, Professor, University of Helsinki: “*The Child Labour Issue – Observations on the Implementation of the Regulatory Framework*”

Comments by VIRGINIA B. GOMES, Member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and Senior Social Policy Adviser, Ministry for Social Security and Solidarity, Portugal

17 January 2013

8:45 – 9:15 Coffee

9:15 – 11:30 Session IV *Cultural Logic: Past and Present*

- ALAN C. NEAL, Professor, University of Warrick School of Law: “*Cross-Currents in Modern Chinese Labour Law*”
- CHEN YIFENG, Post-doctoral Researcher, University of Helsinki: “*ILO, Extraterritoriality and Implementing Labour Laws in Republican Shanghai*”
- TEEMU RUSKOLA, Professor, Emory Law School: “*Political and Moral Economies of Workplace Regulation*”

Comments by NATHAN LILLIE, Post-doctoral Researcher, University of Jyväskylä.

Closing of the Seminar

11:30 – 12:30 Lunch