



CALL FOR PAPERS ONLINE CONFERENCE

“Legal Cooperation, Harmonization and Unification: An ASEAN Perspective”

Friday and Saturday, 14th and 15th October 2022

Dear Friend/Colleague,

Legal cooperation can be seen as a mechanism through which different countries can share experiences and provide legal assistance to support each other to improve their legal systems, as well as effectively solve legal issues related to other countries. At the higher level, legal harmonization (or harmonization of law) is when two or more states change their legislation relevant to some area of common concern to conform to their statutes and facilitate compliance and enforcement across borders.¹ At the highest level, legal unification replaces distinct legal norms in different legal systems with common legal norms.² This is an inevitable trend, as well as a normative requirement for all countries in the context of globalization and international and regional cooperation.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a regional organization established in Bangkok, Thailand, on August 8, 1967. The requirement of Legal Cooperation, Harmonization and Unification has been raised for a long time and has become an urgent need since the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015. In practice, these issues have been mentioned in a number of ASEAN documents in past decades, such as in the Joint Statement issued at the 4th ASEAN Law Meeting in Singapore in 1999; Declaration of the ASEAN Senior Law Officials Meeting (ASLOM) in Singapore in 2001 and 2004; Statement of the ASEAN Law Ministers’ Meeting (ALAWMM) in Bangkok in 2002, in Hanoi in 2005, and in Phnom Penh in 2011.

However, compared with many other regional organizations, such as the European Union, the level of Legal Cooperation, Harmonization and Unification in ASEAN is still limited, and in fact, has not met the requirements for building the ASEAN Community.

In that context, an online conference titled **“Legal Cooperation, Harmonization and Unification: An ASEAN Perspective”** will be co-hosted on **Friday and Saturday, 14 and 15 October 2022** by:

- Asian Law Centre, Melbourne Law School, The University of Melbourne (Australia)
- Faculty of Law, Surabaya University (Indonesia)
- School of Law, Vietnam National University, Hanoi (Vietnam)
- International Organization of Educators and Researchers Inc. (IOER)

¹ <https://www.eionet.europa.eu/gemet/en/concept/3847>

² Cited Professor H.C. Gutteridge by Nguyen Ba Binh, The possibility of legal harmonization in the ASEAN region: the case of contract law (Khả năng hài hòa hóa pháp luật trong khu vực Asean: trường hợp của luật hợp đồng) *Nghiên cứu lập pháp* số 22(374)-tháng 11/2018.

The purpose of the conference is to provide an opportunity for scholars, especially those in ASEAN, to share their research and discuss the advantages, challenges and solutions to promote Legal Cooperation, Harmonization and Unification in ASEAN in the coming years.

The themes of the online conference will include:

- Role of ASEAN (structure, framework, objectives)
- Commerce and trade
- Criminal justice cooperation – including, for example, transnational crime, such as human trafficking, money laundering, cybercrime and extradition
- Legal frameworks for harmonization of laws
- Harmonization through private standard setting – eg. Corporate social responsibility
- Frameworks for public health cooperation
- Labour migration and labour protection within the ASEAN region

We are inviting scholars and practitioners working in this area to submit papers that would fit within the broad themes of the conference.

Online Platform

The conference will take place online via the *Zoom Meetings* platform and will be hosted by the School of Law at Vietnam National University Hanoi.

Zoom link and ID: *Registered participants to be notified prior to the conference.*

Language: English (with simultaneous English-Vietnamese interpretation)

Submission of Abstracts

Authors should submit a 200-word to 250-word abstract, including a title of the proposed paper and his/her short biographical details (including name, email, academic appointment, affiliations).

Please note that you will be asked for your passport details, due to Vietnamese government conference requirements that are out of our control.

Abstracts are to be submitted by **25 July , 2022**, via this link: <https://go.unimelb.edu.au/jm6e>

Notification of the result will be sent to you via email by **15 August, 2022**).

If you have difficulties in submitting this form, please email Kathryn Taylor (k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au).

Submission of draft papers and presentations

Draft papers and Powerpoint presentations (in English) are encouraged to be submitted prior to the conference. It would be beneficial for the moderators, discussants, and participants to read papers in advance to enable in-depth questions, comments and feedback. Under the agreement with authors, submitted papers will be uploaded to the conference website.

Please submit draft papers (if available) to Kathryn Taylor (k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au) by **5 October, 2022** in order to be included on the website prior to the conference.

Submission of full finalized papers for publication

After peer review, selected papers may be published in either:

- **A Special Edition of the IOER International Multidisciplinary Research Journal - IIMRJ³** (*Google Scholar, ISI, SSRN, Scribd, ORCID, EuroPub, INFOBASE INDEX, etc..*) (authors will be required to pay an editing fee of US\$ 50 per paper).
- **Conference Proceedings Book** (with ISBN, published in English by a Vietnamese publisher) (authors will be required to pay an editing fee of US\$25 per paper).

To be published in the IOER Journal or the Conference Proceedings Book, full finalized papers (preferably 5000 – 8000 words, inclusive of footnotes) are to be submitted by **30 November, 2022**, to (to be added....)

To facilitate the editing process, we would appreciate it if you could adhere to the submission deadline and follow the specifications below in preparing your conference paper:

- Paper Title, Author's Title and Name, University/Organisation, and Email Address
- Abstract (200-250 words); 3-6 keywords; A list of references at the end.
- Length: no more than 10,000 words, inclusive of footnotes (5000 to 8000-word papers are preferred)
- Referencing standard: Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA): https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/sites/files/oxlaw/oscola_4th_edn_hart_2012quickreferenceguide.pdf
- Font: Times New Roman, size 12
- Microsoft Word Document Format (.doc or .docx)

Registration

Conference attendance is free. However, registration is essential (for both authors and participants without papers). Guidelines for conference attendance and further information will be sent to you via email and provided on the conference website.

Please register your participation by **10 October, 2022** via this link: <https://go.unimelb.edu.au/6m6e>

Successful registration will be confirmed shortly thereafter. If you have any technical difficulties when submitting this form, please email k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au

Contact

Conference website: <https://go.unimelb.edu.au/xm6e>

Please direct queries about the conference to: Kathryn Taylor (k.taylor@unimelb.edu.au)

³ <https://www.ioer-imrj.com/>