

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego
INTERNATIONAL LAW JOURNAL

2021 Virtual Symposium

“Revenge of the State: Blockchain and the Future of Law, Governance, and Monetary Policy”

California Western International Law Journal | February 15, 2021 AT 2PM (PST)

To register, please click the link and provide your name, email address, and affiliation at: <https://www.calwesternilj.org/symposium-2021>.

The COVID-19 pandemic has become the most disruptive incidents of the 21st century, with over 18 million infections and over 600,000 deaths. The economic devastation has been unparalleled with the world facing one of the deepest recessions in modern memory. Any respite from the pandemic is predicated upon the discovery of a safe and effective vaccine.

Nonetheless, even in the face of what seems like insurmountable odds, human beings have found a way to adapt, largely because of our technological advances. Indeed, it is our prowess in science and technology that has allowed States to continue to govern virtually. If our society was heavily dependent on our gadgets before the pandemic, the evaporation of social interaction has shown us that our lives are now inevitably enmeshed with technology. This hyper-digitization has come at a cost.

As the daily interactions conducted over cyberspace continue to increase, the international community must reckon with the cross-border legal issues that online transactions raise. Some of these issues include: privacy concerns, the mass collection of information, the integrity of financial transactions, and of course, the overall security of that virtual system. Blockchain technology provides a way to securely and efficiently create a tamper-proof log of sensitive activity.

In its most well-known form, blockchain technology is associated with virtual currencies, such as Bitcoin. However, blockchain has since been used in a variety of ways from conducting financial transactions in capital markets, to being used by governments for currency transactions, public record keeping, and more recently—voting.

This Symposium Issue sought articles that discuss the international and comparative legal questions that arise from the use of blockchain technology and the manner in which international legal systems are equipped to handle these issues.

Selected authors from countries across the world have now been invited to present their papers at our virtual conference on February 15, 2021 at 2PM (PST) (10PM GMT). Join us for an afternoon filled robust discussion on the future of blockchain and the international legal implications of emerging technologies.

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Program

2:00PM – 2:10PM

Welcome from the Hosts and Introduction of Presenters

Lillian K. Glenister, Editor-in-Chief, *California Western International Law Journal*

Varun Sabharwal, Executive Director of Symposia & Outreach, *California Western International Law Journal*

2:10PM – 2:35PM (Each presentation is followed by a five-minute open Q &A)

Keynote Address

Douglas W. Arner, Kerry Holdings Professor in Law, The Department of Law, University of Hong Kong

“The Empire Strikes Back: Bitcoin, Stablecoins, Libra, and CBDCs”

2:40PM – 2:55PM

Panelist 1:

Dr. Iris H. Chiu, Professor of Company Law & Finance Regulation, Faculty of Law, University College London

“Central Bank Digital Currency for the Crypto-economy: An Experimental Proposal based on the European Single Market and Institution-building”

3:00PM – 3:15PM

Panelist 2:

Hon. Jason Hsu, Former Congressman, Taiwan

“An Alternative Monetary System Reimagined: The Case for Central Bank Digital Currency”

3:20PM – 3:35PM

Panelist(s) 3:

Marcelo de Castro Cunha Filho, PhD Candidate in Sociology of Law, University of São Paulo

Renato Opice Blum, Chariman, Opice Blum, Bruno & Vainzof Advogados Associados

“Domesticated Blockchain and the Law: How Can Radical Democracy Survive?”

3:40PM

Closing Remarks

Professor James M. Cooper, Associate Dean, Experiential Learning, California Western School of Law