

# CIL Fireside Chat Series on International Law and Diplomacy

Hosted by Professor S Jayakumar and Professor Tommy Koh

**Date** 15 January 2016, 3.30 PM to 5.00 PM

**Venue** Seminar Room 4-4, Level 4, Block B, NUS Bukit Timah Campus, 469 Bukit Timah Road, Singapore 259756

**Open to** NUS, NTU and SMU students and staff, government officials, members of the Singapore Academy of Law, International Law Association (Singapore branch) and members of the diplomatic corps in Singapore

## Arbitration between the Philippines and China: Award on Jurisdiction

On 22 January 2013, the Philippines initiated compulsory arbitration against China under Annex VII of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea with respect to its disputes with China over maritime jurisdiction, status of maritime features, maritime entitlement and certain actions by China in the South China Sea.

China decided not to participate in the proceedings. It claimed that the Arbitral Tribunal had no jurisdiction for the following reasons: (i) the underlying dispute was about territorial sovereignty, (ii) the Philippines and China had agreed in the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct to resolve the disputes by negotiations, and (iii) China's declaration under Article 298 excluded disputes on maritime delimitation.

In light of China's objection to its jurisdiction, the Arbitral Tribunal decided to convene a separate hearing on jurisdiction in July 2015.

On 29 October 2015, the Arbitral Tribunal rendered its Award on Jurisdiction. It unanimously decided that it had jurisdiction over seven of the Philippines' submissions while the other submissions will be considered in conjunction with the merits. The Tribunal held the hearing on the merits from 24-30 November 2015. It is expected to render its award on the merits in 2016.

The 16<sup>th</sup> Session of the CIL Fireside Chat Series will examine the Award on Jurisdiction of the Arbitral Tribunal and discuss the implications of the Award on the South China Sea disputes.

**Note: Chatham House Rule will apply for the CIL Fireside Chat Series.**



### Hosts

Professor S Jayakumar

Professor Tommy Koh

### Panellists

Mr Rodman Bundy, Director, Eversheds LLP

Professor Robert Beckman, Director, CIL

**Admission is free of charge but registration is required. To register online, please [click here](#).**

#### ABOUT THE CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW (CIL)

The Centre for International Law (CIL) is based at the Bukit Timah campus of the National University of Singapore. CIL's mission is to enable Singapore and the Asia-Pacific region to play a more significant role in the promotion and development of international law and policy. The Centre's aim is to become the region's intellectual hub and thought leader for research on and teaching of international law and policy. The Director of CIL is Associate Professor Robert C Beckman. For more information, please visit the CIL website at [www.cil.nus.edu.sg](http://www.cil.nus.edu.sg) or email: [cil.info@nus.edu.sg](mailto:cil.info@nus.edu.sg).

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