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## Legal Developments in China: Market Economy and Law

Jason Chin Hung Kwan

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with countries plagued with internal conflict similar to Yugoslavia. Pestic suggests that the international community intervene to prevent "all or nothing" results to the national question. By stepping in and advising compromise and negotiation, the international community should assist the struggling countries to find a solution to internal conflict other than war. Intervention is triggered when there is no internal consensus on terms for proposed new states, borders, the treatment of minorities, or cooperation and security agreements. Pestic also suggests that the international community formulate a standard policy that applies to all countries facing internal conflict, rather than varying the policy with each particular situation. The international community should insist that claims to collective rights by the majority must not infringe on individual rights of the minority, as well as the majority. Pestic believes an international system should be adopted for a renegotiation of boundaries when disputes arise and threaten a population's security.

This study takes an important look at the internal causes of the Yugoslavian crisis and offers some important conclusions that the international community should recognize. Pestic's recommendations are based on common sense and are feasible to implement.

*Cindy Ferrier*

WANG GUIGO AND WEI ZHENYING (Eds.), *LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS IN CHINA: MARKET ECONOMY AND LAW*, Sweet & Maxwell, Hong Kong (1996); (\$96.00); ISBN 0-421-56890-9; 426 pp. (paperback).

Since 1994, the City University of Hong Kong and the Law Department of Peking University have held annual academic conferences to achieve a better understanding between the people of Hong Kong and Mainland China. This book is a collection of articles delivered at the October 1995 conference held in Hong Kong.

The 23 articles in this book are divided into six parts. Part One acquaints the reader with the concept of a market economy in modern China. The section begins with an article by Albert H.Y. Chen which distinguishes the connecting legal theories behind a "market economy" and a "planned economy." This article is followed by a discussion of the new administrative law in China. Part 1 is concluded by illuminating India's experience in changing from a mixed economy to a market economy.

Parts Two and Three are dedicated to a comprehensive discussion of China's business law. This section includes topics ranging from corporate law in Hong Kong to contemporary market economies to mathematical jurisprudence. Information throughout these articles include topical matters such as the family-oriented corporate structure in Hong Kong; the history and background of The Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong; the role of the Central Bank of China in the new market reform era; and the problem of contract interpretation under the socialist

legal system.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of reading this book is its distinct Chinese perspective and voice. "The Function of Legal Evasion in China's Economic Reform," by Dr. Zhu Suli, in Part Four, and "The Present and Future of Criminal Defence in China," by Dr. Hualing, in Part Five, are perfect examples of this trend. Although the articles are brief, their arguments on the legal problems facing China are sharp and well crafted, while presented in an easily understandable manner.

Part Six is dedicated to the environmental and consumer protection problems plaguing modern China. Several articles critically analyze the 1987 Air Pollution law and its 1995 Amendments. New legislation addressing a consumer's right to information, such as the Law Against Unfair Competition, and the Law of Advertisement, are also given ample discussion. This book is an essential read for all practitioners and academics wishing to gain an understanding of the legal reforms which are giving shape to China's emerging market economy.

*Jason Chin Hung Kwan*

FERNAND DEVARENNES, LANGUAGE, MINORITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS; Martinus Nijoff Publishers, The Hague, Netherlands (1996); (295 Dutch Guilders); ISBN 90-411-0206-X; 532 pp. (hard cover).

Minorities have often been the subject of scrutiny, debate and study during the Twentieth Century. Likewise, human rights have often been the focus of much attention, especially within the arena of international law. In *Language, Minorities and Human Rights*, Fernand deVarennnes takes an innovative look at both of these subjects and resolves that language is the key to society.

The book begins with an explanation of the link between language and human rights. Human rights is deemed a way to protect minority languages. The author eloquently and creatively emphasizes the importance of language, through historical examples.

Next, deVarennnes gives a historical overview of language based conflicts and the involvement of international law in such conflicts. He intermittently addresses various treaties relating to minority rights and containing language provisions. Some of these treaties include the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, the African Charter of Human Rights and People's Rights, and the Convention Against Discrimination in Education.

Turning from historical to theoretical, deVarennnes addresses the freedom of expression. This right leads to a state's duty not to intervene in the use of language in private matters. Moreover, deVarennnes considers equality and the prohibition of discrimination based on language. The author presents an overview of this issue then compares various national systems for handling this equality. The systems ex-