Overview

This Symposium will explore the role of lawyers under authoritarianism. The symposium will bring together leading scholars of the legal professions in Russia and China who share a common empirical approach to their research. Among the questions to be examined are the formal and informal norms that tend to constrain the ability of criminal defense lawyers to represent their clients zealously and, more generally, the limits on the independence of lawyers working in authoritarian regimes. The symposium will also analyze the extent to which the career preferences of young lawyers are changing as democracy wanes. The gathered scholars will also reflect on their ability to carry out research as the political regimes in China and Russia increase their control over society, and will discuss new sources of data.
Program

8:30-9:00   Registration and Breakfast

9:00   Welcome
   Naman Siad
   WILJ Symposium Editors, UW Law School

9:05   Welcome Remarks
   Dean Margaret Raymond tbc
   Fred W. & Vi Miller Dean and Professor of Law, UW Law School

9:10   Welcome Remarks
   Heinz Klug
   Evjue-Bascom Professor of Law and WILJ adviser, UW Law School

9:15-11:00   Panel 1: The Challenge of Managing the Relationship between the State and the Legal Profession

   Chair: John Ohnesorge
   University of Wisconsin Law School

   “State-Adjacent Lawyering: How Chinese Lawyers Participate in Political Life”
   Rachel Stern
   Jurisprudence and Social Policy program, Berkeley Law School

   “A Look Back at the Heyday of Political Activism in the Chinese Legal Profession: A Retrospective Excavation of a Lost Online Community of Lawyers”
   Ethan Michelson
   Indiana University Maurer School of Law

   “The Gateway to Global China: Chinese Law Firms Arriving in Hong Kong”
   Sida Liu
   Department of Sociology, University of Toronto

   “Collective Action Dilemma: The Reform of the Russian Legal Profession as a Maturity Test for Civil Society”
   Ekaterina Moiseeva
   University of California, Irvine
Commentator:  
Carole Silver  
Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law

11:00 – 11:15  
Break

11:15 -12:30  
Panel 2: The Challenges of Practicing in the Criminal Justice Arena

Chair: Yulia Erme 
The U.S.-Russia Foundation, Washington DC

“Criminal Defenders’ Access to Pre-Trial Detention Centers as a Challenge for the Russian Legal Community”  
Ekaterina Khodzhaeva 
Institute for the Rule of Law, European University at Saint-Petersburg

“Professional Trajectories of Russian Law Students Graduated from MVD-Affiliated Institutions”  
Olga Semukhina  
Tarleton State University

“Evaluation and Regulation of Legal Ethics of Lawyers in China”  
Hongqi Wu  
Institute of Evidence Law and Forensic Science, China University of Political Science and Law

Commentator:  
Marc Galanter  
University of Wisconsin Law School

12:30-1:30  
Lunch

1:45-3:00  
Panel 3: The Challenges for Women Lawyers in China & Russia

Chair: Stewart Macaulay  
University of Wisconsin Law School

“The Collusion of Power in Divorce Settlements in Rural China”  
Ke Li  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York

“Continuity or Change? The Role of Gender in Career Preferences for Young Russian Lawyers”  
Kathryn Hendley  
University of Wisconsin Law School

Commentator:
Joyce Sterling  
*University of Denver Sturm College of Law*

3:00-3:15  Break

3:15-4:45  Panel 4: The Challenge of Using “Big Data” to Study Authoritarian Legal Systems

Chair: **Ethan Michelson**  
*Indiana University Maurer School of Law*

“Justice Online? Lawyers and Legal Advice Websites in the People’s Republic of China”  
**John Givens**  
*School of Government and International Affairs, Kennesaw State University*

“Criminal Defense Rate and Underlying Wealth Effect”  
**Lianhan Zhang**  
*Indiana University Maurer School of Law*

Commentator:  
**Bert Kritzer**  
*University of Minnesota Law School*

4:45-5:30  Summing up and Discussion  
**Robert Nelson**  
*American Bar Foundation and Northwestern University*

6:30  Dinner for speakers, chairs, commentators and invited guests  
(At the home of Kathryn Hendley, transportation will be arranged)