



SEMINAR

The 2010 UK Bribery Act: By How Much Will the Act Affect Hong Kong Business Profitability?

Bryane Michael

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Room 223, 2/F Knowles Building

The University of Hong Kong

The new Bribery Act has many multi-nationals and even companies who do not engage directly in foreign trade in a panic. The Act gives UK prosecutors very wide latitude for claiming jurisdiction and prosecuting complicity with corruption occurring outside the UK. In this presentation, I will discuss the major provisions of the new Act and use the available econometric evidence to assess the likely impact on Hong Kong companies operating abroad. Such impacts consist of ambiguous effects on company sales, profits, employment and wages. Finally, I will discuss the likely impacts on markets for internal audit and legal counsel - at home and abroad. A question-and-answer period will follow where we will together try to untangle some of the more theoretically interesting effects of the Act on specific areas of the law, economics and finance of business life in the region.

Bryane Michael is currently a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Comparative and Public Law. His professional experience includes work as a legal advisor from 2007 to present for the European Union. In that role, he drafted legislations (and executive-level regulations) for the governments of Russia, Turkey, Montenegro, Macedonia, Bulgaria, and Ukraine. He has also advised the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on legal issues related to the International Anti-Corruption Convention and the World Customs Organisations on legal issues related to fighting corruption in customs. Prof. Michael has done his graduate work at Harvard and Oxford – and has taught at several universities including Oxford University and recently Columbia University.

Please email Flora Leung at fkleung@hku.hk to reserve a place.