

Foreword

Law, as a proudly social practice, has been undergone tremendous transformation in a transitional society. Both empirical evidences and theoretical research reveal that law plays a more or less significant role in a changing world with the rapid development of science and technology, growing market economy, decaying traditional values, increasing environmental contamination, even with our epistemological grasp of the topsy-turvy world. Societies change ruthlessly and almost every legal system is struggling to be responsive. This trend is true in a globalizing world and of particular relevance in a Chinese context.

Obviously, the Chinese society has been changing since its reforming and opening up in late 1970s. As an emerging global power, the Chinese legal system is inscribed in political, economic, cultural, social and legal practices, resulting at times in new, hybrid forms of laws and legal institutions, but also often triggering continuing struggles and conflicts.

In this volume selected papers from the conferences held in Copenhagen 2014 and Wuhan 2015 are published. This volume explores how the Chinese legal system responds the social transition and shaped by it and what roles would China play in the global legal environment.

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Bent Ole Gram Mortensen

Rubya Mehdi

