

## LAW

# 'TOUGH TIMES FOR LEGAL FIRMS BUT FUTURE BRIGHTER'

**Outgoing Law Society chief Chan Chak-ming says geopolitics and weak economy hurt sector, with ability to maintain system crucial to revival**

**Kahon Chan**

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The city's legal sector has been hit hard by geopolitical complications and a slow economic recovery, the outgoing head of the largest lawyers' group has said, with statistics showing a 21 per cent drop in registered foreign law firms in four years.

Chan Chak-ming, who steps down as Law Society president next Tuesday, said competition for talent and business from cities such as Singapore was also a challenge for local law firms.

He also urged fellow practitioners not to only focus on serving mainland companies to maintain the "very important link" between Hong Kong and other common law systems around the world.

Lay-offs and closures in the past year have caused gloom in the sector. US law firm Winston & Strawn closed its office in the city in February after a 15-year presence, while Mayer Brown said last month that its Hong Kong operations would be split to form a separate partner firm.

In an interview, Chan acknowledged that his three-year tenure as president was marked by challenges ranging from pandemic-related travel restrictions to a sluggish economic recovery, which led to a drought in mergers and acquisitions and initial public offerings last year.

"It is an undeniable fact that the past five years have been very challenging for Hong Kong, both in terms of the geopolitical environment and also from an economic point of view. So business is not good in Hong Kong, and the Hong Kong legal industry is inevitably being affected," he said.

Hong Kong branches of law firms headquartered in the United States and Britain were also seeing "an impact on their practice", he said, as their consideration for taking on clients was complicated by heightened geopolitical tensions between China and the West.

"If you are a US firm in Hong Kong, the consideration now is quite different from five years ago ... if there's an ever-growing sanction list of Chinese companies, obviously, US firms and foreign firms will need to do more due diligence before they decide who to act for," said Chan, highlighting how businesses were affected.

Law Society statistics showed 73 foreign law firms were registered in Hong Kong in April, down 21 per cent from 92 four years ago.

While the number of society members with practising certificates had grown from 10,356 to 11,470 in the same period, Chan noted several international partners decided to relocate to Singapore when it rolled back pandemic-related border control measures in early 2022.

"I've heard that sometimes it's quite difficult for a family to relocate mainly because of the children ... some of them may not come back," he said.

Chan also urged Hong Kong-based firms to maintain a more international portfolio of clients, as the city had been losing out to other jurisdictions, including

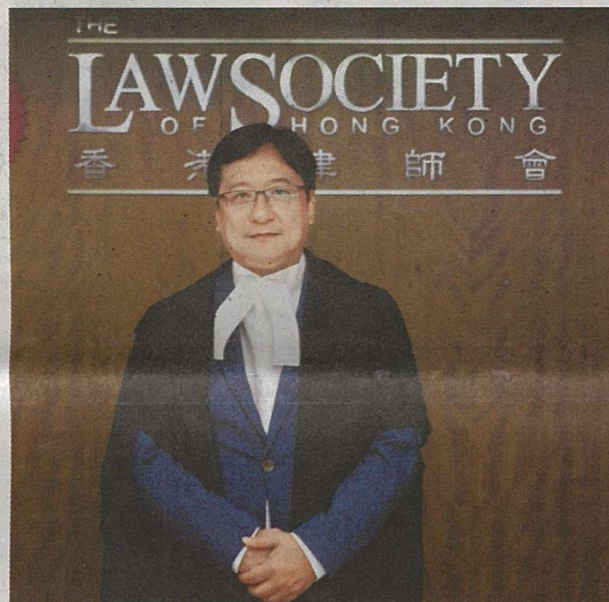
Singapore, which also has a common law system with 70 per cent of its population being Chinese.

"We look after our clients in China and their interests, but we also serve international clients when they have an interest in investing in China. That's what Hong Kong is always good at, and we should maintain that strength," he said.

He said Hong Kong should have a great appeal to overseas clients as it had strengths not found elsewhere, such as arrangements with the mainland in reciprocal enforcement of judgments and mutual recognition of arbitral awards, as well as a high concentration of mainland bank branches.

Chan expressed optimism over the future, given that Hong Kong was the only common law jurisdiction within China. He said the city's attractiveness ultimately lay in its ability to maintain its legal infrastructure. "Hong Kong is a rules-based society and we have a world-renowned independent judiciary. So let's make good use of this system," Chan said. "Enhance what we have and hopefully, the common law system and our bilingual system will be here to stay."

> RED LINES A5



**Outgoing Law Society president Chan Chak-ming is urging local firms to maintain an international portfolio of clients.** Photo: Jonathan Wong



## LAW

# Court rulings 'will make national security red lines clear'

**Kahon Chan**

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It will take time for courts to draw clear red lines on "complicated" national security legislation through future decisions, the Law Society president said yesterday as he prepared to step down from the prestigious post.

Chan Chak-ming, a three-term president of the city's biggest lawyers' group, said he believed NGOs were more persuasive than government officials in telling the story of national security legislation to overseas audiences.

Chan told the Post that he had noticed some Hongkongers had a perception that they "couldn't say anything" under the city's two national security laws despite freedom of speech being enshrined in the Basic Law.

The Beijing-imposed national security law came into force in 2020 and Hong Kong passed domestic legislation in March.

"Because of the national security law and the Safeguarding National Security Ordinance and some of the [high-profile] cases, people may have the perception that they can't say anything now," Chan said.

"They think that even if they criticise the government slightly, they'll be arrested. And that is obviously not true.

"I keep reminding people that Hong Kong is still a very open and free city. It is part of normal life that we criticise the government, so long as we don't have the ulterior motive of toppling the government."

Chan added the Beijing-imposed legislation was "quite complicated ... especially for the general public" and that it would be "helpful" if the city government could ease concerns by giving a full explanation of the new domestic national security law.

But he said there were limits to what the government could do to point out where the red line was as

it was not up to executive authorities to interpret the legislation.

"Under the common law system, judges, through cases, will elaborate the meaning of some of the terms under the statutes," he said. "We do need to wait for [decided] cases to have a more definitive interpretation of particular terms under the statutes."

Chan praised the courts for their preparation of executive summaries for high profile cases in Chinese and English to better help people to understand the reasons behind the judgments.

But he said the government could also do more to make sure decided cases were explained in language easily understood.

Chan earlier said the city's Law Society was praised by mainland officials during a visit to Beijing by a delegation last month for upholding "neutrality and professionalism in major legal issues".

He added the society was also commended for its "use of plain and simple language" to explain

the domestic national security legislation to Hong Kong and global audiences.

Chan said he had made several overseas trips last year, including to the American Bar Association's annual meeting, held in Denver, Colorado, last August.

He added the society had an edge in persuading overseas counterparts that Hong Kong's "one country, two systems" governing principle and its independent judiciary were "working well and still functioning".

"They tend to listen to me more because I'm not from the government, I am the head of an independent professional body," he said. "So when I explain some of the more controversial national security cases, I will explain them from a very neutral angle."

He added: "There's no magic to change Hong Kong's image overnight. That said, we should continue to work to do that ... the civil society and the government should continue to do more."



# 陳澤銘：律師會與時並進 將迎大改革 縮調查時間

## 專訪

律師會近年多次引用法定權力調查有關律師專業失當的投訴，涵有律師行違規遭接管，而部分涉「612人道支援基金」的投訴調查經年無果。即將卸任的律師會長陳澤銘向本報表示，律師會紀律程序「比較冗長」，短期內公布改革方案，盼縮短調查時間、提高效率。他稱律師會作為「百年老店」，數十年來無大幅改革，「需與時並進，各方面也需要優化」。

立法會在今年3月以12天極速審議並通過《基本法》23條本地立法，律師會等多個團體在最後審議階段未趕及提交詳細意見書。陳澤銘昨接受本報專訪稱，雖然成文法是普通法的重要組成部分，惟「所有成文法的最終解釋權在於法院」，相信案例漸多將有助釐清條文含義，補充定罪要素。至於政府需否定期檢視條文，陳對本地法院「很有信心」，即使法官出錯、判得不好，亦有完整的上訴機制。

## 籲多看判辭 勿只關注結果

陳2021年接任會長，經歷多宗《國安法》案件裁決、判刑，以及《基本法》23條立法。他提及不少市民批評法例字眼模糊、紅線模糊、容易誤導法官等，盼以法律人身份呼籲公眾多看判辭，了解判決背後原因，勿只關注裁決結果，「對結果不滿便覺得審訊不公平，本身對司法制度也是不公平的」。

律師會近年處理多宗律師違例個案，包括2020年底介入接管涉違《律師帳目規則》的黃馮律師行，而警方國安處在2022年向律師會提16宗投訴，指有律師在「612案」涉嫌專業失當；去年再有投訴指律師任建峰違反國安法。多宗投訴懸而未決，陳稱律師會需給予被投訴人充足的答辯機會，「有時候書信往來比較冗長」；律師會已成立檢討委員會檢視整個投訴及紀律機制，短期內將公布改革方案，盼縮短調查投訴時間。

## 改革契機源自接管黃馮律師行

陳澤銘未透露改革詳情，謂改革契機「源自」律師會接管黃馮律師行，令一批經該行處理物業買賣的客戶因而未能完成物業交易，盼改革「起碼令到一些無辜的客戶受到的影響減至最低」。他強調改革只會在「不影響維護專業水平的責任下，優化一些程序」，紀律機制的調查大方向不變。

涉612基金的16宗投訴，至今年1月有10宗完成調查，進入內部審核程序。陳稱程序「一直進行中」，基於無罪推定，被投訴人「在（投訴）成立前……是未有專業（失當）的問題」。至於任建峰案，陳稱不會獨立評論個案，一般而言律師會不會因被投訴人的身分、政治取向而改變程序，「一視同仁」。

明報記者 葉希雲、林勵



律師會長陳澤銘回顧任內律師會和香港經歷不平凡的3年，形容「接受了一個歷史上的挑戰，並非我選擇，是歷史選擇了我」。他卸任後將按慣例以前會長身分留任理事會，昨特意穿上律師袍讓記者拍照。  
（蘇智鑫攝）

## 非訴訟律師行生意減 籲業界推新業務

香港經濟復蘇未如預期，法律行業也受影響。律師會長陳澤銘接受本報專訪時說，部分非訴訟業務的律師行，尤其國際大行，受上市融資業務減少拖累，生意首當其衝，部分律師行也出現裁員現象。他形容從事金融相關業務是「艱難的」，希望明年整體經濟氣氛改善，同時業界要嘗試推動新路向，例如律師會成立家族辦公室專責小組，以及向內地爭取在港進行體育仲裁。

## 倡成立家族辦公室小組

陳澤銘說，業界過去數年從事訴訟工作的生意其實不太差，「因為在經濟不太好時，打官司、追債、破產等會多了」，甚至生意好

了。他說，主要受影響的是融資、首次集資上市（新股上市）、併購、跨境投資、商業工作等非訴訟工作，尤其是金融業務為主的國際大行，衝擊較大。

## 國際大行合伙人多遷星洲

他透露，疫情期間旅遊限制對不少外籍合伙人很大影響，不少有國際大行合伙人遷移至新加坡，子女已在當地入學，「這樣就算香港經濟恢復，他們也未必一定要回來」。

陳澤銘說，無法量化經濟周期對業界影響，但部分律師事務所有裁員現象。不過他強調，律師會整體會員及律師行數目現在無明顯減少。

根據律師會截至今年3月數字，律師會目前有11,370名執業證書會員，並有922間律師行，數字與疫情前相若。不過，註冊外地律師，則由2019年6月1641人，下跌至今年3月1489人；註冊外地律師行也由2019年87間，下跌至73間。

陳澤銘稱，香港作為細小外向型經濟，政府或業界未必可以做到好多，例如目前息口高企，經濟活動相對減少。他又表示，香港法院案件排期時間確實太長，也受投資者詬病，「在香港要打官司，民事訴訟就算不是很久，排期的確長，隨時一年以上」。他表示，法院排期改善效率、推動無紙化等，也可鞏固法治環境。



律師會下周換屆 任內盡力維持會方專業

# 陳澤銘：港可推廣體育法律仲裁



香港律師會將在下周換屆，即將卸任會長的陳澤銘昨日接受《星島》記者訪問時表示，非常高興完成3年任期，指律師會與香港市民一起共同渡過新冠疫情，形容這3年的日子極不平凡，同時充滿挑戰，強調任期內已盡力維持律師會的專業性。他又提及，明年本港合辦全運會，正好有契機在港推廣發展有關「體育法律」及「體育仲裁」的工作。

■ 記者黃子龍 ■

陳澤銘表示，律師會過去一直舉辦一連串活動，推進大灣區法治建設工作，他對本港不少事務律師參與大灣區律師執業感到欣慰，惟現時計劃仍處於初步階段，透露現時大灣區律師約370名來自香港，當中約340人是律師，目前聽到很多正面的評語，會方現階段正收集業界的意見，期望新一屆會長可以進一步優化有關計劃，冀日後可以將計劃進一步擴展至京滬地區。

## 完成23條立法最深刻

陳澤銘續說，3年任期讓他感受最深刻的一件事，相信是特區政府完成《基本法》23條本地立法工作，「終於完成拖延了香港這麼久的一個憲制責任！」他指，過去不少國際媒體對於23條立法作出不少負面及偏頗性報道，故在任期後期到訪全球多國，包括英美、波蘭等，強調外訪的目的是希望將香港真實的情況，如實向全球的法律界人士反映，讓國際社會知道香港法治健全。

陳澤銘再舉例，世界正義工程2023年全球法治指數，香港於亞太區續排第6，故有意見認為香港法治倒退的言論並不成立。而且，本港法官非



■陳澤銘說，擔任會長3年來的工作成果，交市民及會員評價。

常獨立地根據法例公平、公正地判案，市民可以查閱終審法院的判決。

## 作跳板成國家超級聯繫人

近年特區政府積極推動與中東國家的互動交流，陳澤銘表示，香港作為中國唯一實行普通法的地區，上周律師會一行曾到中東訪問，他引述有一名商人向他表示，原本只想到深圳投資，但現時正考慮先到本港成立一間公司，再利用本港公司作為一個載體回到內地投資。他認為，香港日後可以作為一個跳板，成為國家的超級聯繫人。

“世界正義工程2023年全球法治指數，香港於亞太區續排第6，認為香港法治倒退的言論並不成立。”

律師會會長陳澤銘

陳澤銘並透露，第34屆亞洲律師協會會長高峰論壇將在本周四至六舉行，期望透過為期3日的論壇，向與會者解釋香港的法律、法制，亦會帶他們到終審法院參觀，讓他們自己以第一身的身份體驗本港實際的法治情況。

律師會理事會早前曾訪問北京拜訪國家體育總局，展望將來，陳澤銘指本港將在2025年合辦全國運動會，正好有契機在港推廣發展有關「體育法律」及「體育仲裁」的工作。他解釋，本港年初經歷「美斯事件」後，不論是贊助合同、僱員合約，都應該有一套系統性的周全計劃，當有爭議時可以透過仲裁去解決，他指國內現時的職業體育發展非常蓬勃，香港作為國際仲裁中心，相信發展「體育仲裁」是一個頗可行的方案，並稱政府亦密切留意這件事。



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葉偉豪攝

# KOL短片創作加深法律意識

法治教育是培育公民素養十分重要的一環，律師會會長陳澤銘表示，會方一直積極推動法治教育工作，在「法律周」舉辦一系列法律推廣活動，今年便透過短片創作比賽讓新一代學習法治、法律的概念，以及對法治精神的尊重，同時幫助基層市民面對法律問題，他強調法律並不是高高在上，市民無法觸及的東西。

陳澤銘介紹，律師會在「法律周」舉行「KOL短片創作比賽」，比賽分為中、小學組、親子組



■陳澤銘早前出席「區·愛·法」KOL短片創作比賽頒獎典禮。

和公開組，共收到超過140份作品，形容反應十分踴躍，當中參賽者化身成KOL，以生動、有趣的方式，通過影片分享各種法律議題。他指會方將選出優秀短片分享至律師會的社交媒體，相信市民看畢短片後會有所共鳴，並加深對有關問題的法律意識和知識。期間又安排了免費法律諮詢服務、社區法律講座、法律元素遊戲等活動供市民參與。

## 律師會具責任教育市民法例

陳又提及，有市民認為本港法例主要以英文撰寫，法院寫出來的判詞很長、很複雜，誤以為法律與他距離很遠，總是有一種讓人高高在上的感覺，不用接觸也罷。

但他解釋，自1997年香港回歸後，本港所有法例均以中、英雙語制訂，律師會賦有教育市民學習法例的使命，有責任使用一些市民聽得懂的語言，去解釋法律的相關條文。

他強調，律師會並非政府的一部分，是一個獨立自我監管的專業團體，以律師會的身份去講解給市民聽，認受性更高。

## Hong Kong courts will make 'red lines' on national security clear through decisions on cases, outgoing Law Society president says

SCMP 4/6/2024 [Website](#)

- *Chan Chak-ming, to stand down after three terms as Law Society president, adds NGOs better placed to ease overseas fears about national security laws*
- *Chan admits no 'magic' to change city's image overnight, but that government and society should work to achieve the goal*

It will take time for Hong Kong's courts to draw clear red lines on "complicated" national security legislation through future decisions, the Law Society president said on Monday as he prepared to step down from the prestigious post. Chan Chak-ming, a three-term president of the city's biggest lawyers' group, added that he believed NGOs were more persuasive than government officials in telling the story of national security legislation to overseas audiences.

Chan said in an interview with the Post that he had noticed some Hongkongers had a perception that they "couldn't say anything" under the city's two national security laws despite freedom of speech being enshrined in the Basic Law, the city's mini-constitution.

The Beijing-imposed national security law came into force in 2020 and Hong Kong passed domestic legislation in March.

"Because of the national security law and the Safeguarding National Security Ordinance and some of the [high-profile court] cases, people may have the perception that they can't say anything now," Chan said.

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"They actually tend to listen to me more because I'm not from the government, I am the head of an independent professional body," Chan said.

"So when I explain some of the more controversial national security cases, I will explain them from a very neutral angle."

He added the Law Society would host the 34th Presidents of Law Associations in Asia Summit in Hong Kong, which starts on Thursday.

Chan said it would be a "golden opportunity" for more than 30 heads of legal professional bodies from the region to "see for themselves" the reality of Hong Kong society.

"There's no magic to change Hong Kong's image overnight," he added.

"That said, we should continue to work to do that ... the civil society and the government should continue to do more."

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### **Tough times for Hong Kong's legal sector but future looking brighter, outgoing Law Society chief says**

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- *Complicated geopolitics and a slow economic recovery have hit the legal sector hard, says outgoing Law Society president Chan Chak-ming*
- *He says competition for talent and business from cities such as Singapore is also a challenge for local law firms*

Hong Kong's legal sector has been hit hard amid complicated geopolitics and a slow economic recovery, the outgoing head of the city's largest lawyers' group has said, with statistics showing a 21 per cent drop in registered foreign law firms in four years.

Chan Chak-ming, who steps down as Law Society president next Tuesday, said competition for talent and business from cities such as Singapore was also a challenge for local law firms.

He also urged fellow practitioners not to only focus on serving mainland Chinese companies to maintain the "very important link" between Hong Kong and other common law systems in the world.



Lay-offs and closures in the past year have caused gloom in Hong Kong's legal sector.

US law firm Winston & Strawn closed its office in the city in February after a 15-year presence, while Mayer Brown announced last month that its Hong Kong operations would be split to form a separate partner firm.

In an interview with the Post, Chan acknowledged that his three-year tenure as president was marked by challenges ranging from pandemic-related travel restrictions to a sluggish economic recovery, which led to a drought in mergers and acquisitions and initial public offerings last year.

"It is an undeniable fact that the past five years have been very challenging for Hong Kong, both in terms of the geopolitical environment and also from an economic point of view. So business is not good in Hong Kong, and the Hong Kong legal industry is inevitably being affected," he said.

Hong Kong branches of law firms headquartered in the United States and Britain were also seeing "an impact on their practice", he said, as their consideration for taking on clients was complicated by heightened geopolitical tensions between China and the West.

"If you are a US firm in Hong Kong, the consideration now is quite different from five years ago ... if there's an ever-growing sanction list of Chinese companies, obviously, US firms and foreign firms will need to do more due diligence before they decide who to act for," said Chan, highlighting how businesses were affected.

Law Society statistics showed 73 foreign law firms were registered in Hong Kong in April, down 21 per cent from 92 four years ago.

While the number of society members with practising certificates had grown from 10,356 to 11,470 in the same period, Chan noted several international partners decided to relocate to Singapore when it rolled back pandemic-related border control measures in early 2022.

"I've heard that sometimes it's quite difficult for a family to relocate mainly because of the children ... some of them may not come back," he said.

Chan also urged Hong Kong-based firms to maintain a more international portfolio of clients, as the city had been losing out to other jurisdictions, including Singapore, which also has a common law system with 70 per cent of its population being Chinese.

"We look after our clients in China and their interests, but we also serve international clients when they have an interest in investing in China. And that's what Hong Kong is always good at. And we should maintain that strength," he said.

He stressed that Hong Kong should have great appeal to overseas clients as it had strengths not shared elsewhere, such as arrangements with the mainland in reciprocal enforcement of judgments and mutual recognition of arbitral awards, as well as a high concentration of mainland bank branches.

But Chan expressed optimism over the profession's long-term fortunes, given that Hong Kong was the only common law jurisdiction within China, the world's second-largest economy.

He said the city's attractiveness ultimately lay in its ability to maintain its legal infrastructure.

“Hong Kong is a rules-based society. And we have a world-renowned independent judiciary. So let’s make good use of this system,” Chan said.

“Enhance what we have and hopefully, the common law system and our bilingual system will be here to stay.”

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## 陳澤銘：律師會與時並進 將迎大改革 縮調查時間

Ming Pao 4/6/2024 [Website](#)

律師會近年多次引用法定權力調查有關律師專業失當的投訴，涵有律師行違規遭接管，而部分涉「612 人道支援基金」的投訴調查經年無果。即將卸任的律師會長陳澤銘向本報表示，律師會紀律程序「比較冗長」，短期內公布改革方案，盼縮短調查時間、提高效率。他稱律師會作為「百年老店」，數十年來無大幅改革，「需與時並進，各方面也需要優化」。

立法會在今年 3 月以 12 天極速審議並通過《基本法》23 條本地立法，律師會等多個團體在最後審議階段未趕及提交詳細意見書。陳澤銘昨接受本報專訪稱，雖然成文法是普通法的重要組成部分，惟「所有成文法的最終解釋權在於法院」，相信案例漸多將有助釐清條文含義，補充定罪要素。至於政府需否定期檢視條文，陳對本地法院「很有信心」，即使法官出錯、判得不好，亦有完整的上訴機制。

### 籲多看判辭 勿只關注結果

陳 2021 年接任會長，經歷多宗《國安法》案件裁決、判刑，以及《基本法》23 條立法。他提及不少市民批評法例字眼模糊、紅線模糊、容易誤導墮法網等，盼以法律人身份呼籲公眾多看判辭，了解判決背後原因，勿只關注裁決結果，「對結果不滿便覺得審訊不公平，本身對司法制度也是不公平的」。

律師會近年處理多宗律師違例個案，包括 2020 年底介入接管涉違《律師帳目規則》的黃馮律師行，而警方國安處在 2022 年向律師會提 16 宗投訴，指有律師在「612 案」涉嫌專業失當；去年再有投訴指律師任建峰違反國安法。多宗投訴懸而未決，陳稱律師會需給予被投訴人充足的答辯機會，「有時候書信往來比較冗長」；律師會已成立檢討委員會檢視整個投訴及紀律機制，短期內將公布改革方案，盼縮短調查投訴時間。

### 改革契機源自接管黃馮律師行

陳澤銘未透露改革詳情，謂改革契機「源自」律師會接管黃馮律師行，令一批經該行處理物業買賣的客戶因而未能完成物業交易，盼改革「起碼令到一些無辜的客戶受到的影響減至最低」。他強調改革只會在「不影響維護專業水平的責任下，優化一些程序」，紀律機制的調查大方向不變。

涉 612 基金的 16 宗投訴，至今年 1 月有 10 宗完成調查，進入內部審核程序。陳稱程序「一直進行中」，基於無罪推定，被投訴人「在（投訴）成立前……是未有專業（失當）的問題」。至於任建峰案，陳稱不會獨立評論個案，一般而言律師會不會因被投訴人的身分、政治取向而改變程序，「一視同仁」。

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## 非訴訟律師行生意減 籲業界推新業務

Ming Pao 4/6/2024 [Website](#)

香港經濟復蘇未如預期，法律行業也受影響。律師會長陳澤銘接受本報專訪時說，部分非訴訟業務的律師行，尤其國際大行，受上市融資業務減少拖累，生意首當其衝，部分律師行也出現裁員現象。他形容從事金融相關業務是「艱難的」，希望明年整體經濟氣氛改善，同時業界要嘗試推動新路向，例如律師會成立家族辦公室專責小組，以及向內地爭取在港進行體育仲裁。

### 倡成立家族辦公室小組

陳澤銘說，業界過去數年從事訴訟工作的生意其實不太差，「因為在經濟不太好時，打官司、追債、破產等會多了」，甚至生意好了。他說，主要受影響的是融資、首次集資上市（新股上市）、併購、跨境投資、商業工作等非訴訟工作，尤其是金融業務為主的國際大行，衝擊較大。

### 國際大行合伙人多遷星洲

他透露，疫情期間旅遊限制對不少外籍合伙人很大影響，不少有國際大行合伙人遷移至新加坡，子女已在當地入學，「這樣就算香港經濟恢復，他們也未必一定要回來」。

陳澤銘說，無法量化經濟周期對業界影響，但部分律師事務所裁員現象。不過他強調，律師會整體會員及律師行數目現在無明顯減少。

根據律師會截至今年 3 月數字，律師會目前有 11,370 名執業證書會員，並有 922 間律師行，數字與疫情前相若。不過，註冊外地律師，則由 2019 年 6 月 1641 人，下跌至今年 3 月 1489 人；註冊外地律師行也由 2019 年 87 間，下跌至 73 間。

陳澤銘稱，香港作為細小外向型經濟，政府或業界未必可以做到好多，例如目前息口高企，經濟活動相對減少。他又表示，香港法院案件排期時間確實太長，也受投資者詬病，「在香港要打官司，民事訴訟就算不是很複雜，排期的確長，隨時一年以上」。他表示，法院排期改善效率、推動無紙化等，也可鞏固法治環境。

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## 專訪 | 陳澤銘：藉明年全運會契機 港可發展「體育法律」及「體育仲裁」

Sing Tao Headline 4/6/2024 [Website](#)

香港律師會將在下周換屆，即將卸任會長的陳澤銘昨日接受《星島》記者訪問時表示，非常高興完成 3 年任期，指律師會與香港市民一起共同度過新冠疫情，形容這 3 年的日子極不平凡，同時充滿挑戰，強調任期內已盡力維持律師會的專業性。他又提及，明年本港合辦全運會，正好有契機在港推廣發展有關「體育法律」及「體育仲裁」的工作。

### 370 名大灣區律師來自香港

陳澤銘表示，律師會過去一直舉辦一連串活動，推進大灣區法治建設工作，他對本港不少事務律師參與大灣區律師執業感到欣慰，惟現時計劃仍處於初步階段，透露現時大灣區律師約 370 名來自香港，當中約 340 人是事務律師，目前聽到很多正面評語，會方正收集業界意見，期望新一屆會長可以進一步優化有關計劃，日後將計劃擴展至京滬地區。

任內最深刻是特區完成 23 條立法

陳澤銘續指，3 年任期讓他感受最深刻的一件事，相信是特區政府完成《基本法》23 條本地立法工作，「終於完成拖延了香港這麼久的一個憲制責任！」他指，過去不少國際媒體對於 23 條立法作出不少負面及偏頗性報道，故在任期後期到訪全球多國，包括英美、波蘭等，強調外訪的目的是希望將香港真實的情況，如實向全球法律界人士反映，讓國際社會知道香港法治健全。

他舉例說，世界正義工程 2023 年全球法治指數，香港於亞太區續排第 6，故有意見認為香港法治倒退的言論並不成立。而且，本港法官非常獨立地根據法例公平、公正地判案，市民可以查閱終審法院的判決。

香港可為跳板 任國家超級聯繫人

近年特區政府積極推動與中東國家的互動交流，陳澤銘表示，香港作為中國唯一實行普通法的地區，上周律師會一行曾到中東訪問，他引述有一名商人向他表示，原本只想到深圳投資，但現時正考慮先到本港成立一間公司，再利用本港公司作為載體，回到內地投資。他認為，香港日後可以作為一個跳板，成為國家的超級聯繫人。

陳澤銘並透露，第 34 屆亞洲律師協會會長高峰論壇將在本周四至六舉行，期望透過為期 3 日的論壇，向與會者解釋香港的法律、法制，亦會帶他們到終審法院參觀，讓他們親身體驗本港實際的法治情況。

律師會理事會早前赴北京拜訪國家體育總局，展望將來，陳澤銘指本港將在 2025 年合辦全國運動會，正好有契機在港推廣發展有關「體育法律」及「體育仲裁」的工作。他解釋，本港年初經歷「美斯事件」後，不論是贊助合同、僱員合約，都應該有一套系統性的周全計劃，當有爭議時可以透過仲裁去解決。他指，國內現時的職業體育發展非常蓬勃，香港作為國際仲裁中心，相信發展「體育仲裁」是一個頗可行的方案，並稱政府亦密切留意這件事。

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專訪 | 律師會積極推動法治教育工作 陳澤銘：法律不是高高在上

Sing Tao Headline    4/6/2024    [Website](#)

法治教育是培育公民素養十分重要的一環。律師會會長陳澤銘接受《星島》訪問時表示，會方一直積極推動法治教育工作，在「法律周」舉辦一系列法律推廣活動，今年更透過短片創作比賽，讓新一代學習法治、法律的概念，以及對法治精神的尊重，同時幫助基層市民面對法律問題。他強調法律並不是高高在上、市民無法觸及的東西。

陳澤銘介紹，律師會在「法律周」舉行「KOL 短片創作比賽」，比賽分為中、小學組，親子組和公開組，共收到超過 140 份作品，形容反應十分踴躍，當中參賽者化身成 KOL，以生動、有趣的方式，通過影片分享各種法律議題。他指會方將選出優秀短片分享至律師會的社交媒體，相信市民看畢短片後會有所共鳴，並加深對有關問題的法律意識和知識，其間又安排了免費法律諮詢服務、社區法律講座、法律元素遊戲等活動供市民參與。

用簡單語言向市民解釋法律條文



陳又提及，有市民認為本港法例主要以英文撰寫，法院寫出來的判詞很長、很複雜，誤以為法律與他們距離很遠，總是有一種讓人高高在上的感覺，不用接觸也罷。不過他解釋，自 1997 年香港回歸後，本港所有法例均以中、英雙語制定，律師會負有教育市民學習法例的使命，有責任使用一些市民聽得懂的語言，去解釋法律的相關條文。他強調，律師會並非政府的一部分，是一個獨立自我監管的專業團體，以律師會的身份去講解給市民聽，認受性更高。

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## 陳澤銘：律師會將改革紀律程序 縮短調查時間

CRHK 4/6/2024 [Website](#)

律師會下星期換屆，即將卸任會長的陳澤銘指，將會改革冗長的紀律程序，縮短調查時間。對於多宗律師專業失當的投訴懸而未決，陳澤銘接受報章訪問時指，律師會需要給予被投訴人充足的答辯機會，有時候書信往來比較冗長。他說律師會已成立檢討委員會，檢視投訴及紀律機制，短期內會公布改革方案。對於任內經歷多宗《國安法》案件的裁決，不少市民認為紅線模糊，陳澤銘呼籲公眾多看判辭，了解判決背後原因，不要只關注裁決結果。

陳澤銘又指，本港明年將合辦全運會，認為是推廣發展「體育法律」及「體育仲裁」的契機，當有爭議時可以透過仲裁解決。

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## 陳澤銘承認律師會紀律程序比較冗長 短期內公布改革方案

RTHK 4/6/2024 [Website](#)

即將卸任律師會會長的陳澤銘表示，律師會的紀律程序比較冗長，短期內公布改革方案，希望縮短調查時間，提高效率。

律師會近年處理多宗律師違例個案，包括 2020 年底介入接管涉嫌違反《律師帳目規則》的黃馮律師行，2022 年警方國安處向律師會提 16 宗投訴，指有律師在「612 案」涉嫌專業失當等，多宗個案仍未有調查結果。陳澤銘接受報章訪問時指，律師會需要給予被投訴人答辯機會，有時書信往來比較冗長，已成立檢討委員會檢視投訴及紀律機制，強調改革只會在「不影響維護專業水平的責任下，優化程序，紀律機制的調查大方向不變」。

對於任內經歷多宗《國安法》案件判刑及《基本法》23 條立法，他提及不少市民關注紅線模糊，他呼籲公眾多看判辭，了解判決背後原因，不要只關注裁決結果。

他又指出，本港明年將合辦全運會，認為是推廣發展「體育法律」及「體育仲裁」的契機，當遇有爭議時可以透過仲裁解決。

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## 6 月 4 日 報章要聞(二)

TVB 4/6/2024 [Website](#)

星島日報報道：香港律師會下周換屆，即將卸任會長的陳澤銘接受《星島日報》訪問時表示，非常高興完成 3 年任期，指律師會與香港市民一起共同渡過新冠疫情，形容這 3 年的日子極不平凡，同時充滿挑戰，他強調任期內已盡力維持律師會的專業性。

他又提及明年本港合辦全運會，正好有契機在港推廣發展有關「體育法律」及「體育仲裁」的工作。



東方日報報道：的士服務質素近年備受爭議，惟行政會議早前仍批准的士加價，立法會《2024 年道路交通(公共服務車輛)(修訂)規例》小組委員會昨日展開會議，議員梁文廣認為，市民並非不接受的士加價，而是不接受的士服務無進步、管理無做好，寧願搭更貴的網約車，以荷包進行抗議。

運輸署署長李頌恩指，行業形象是市民對的士業界不滿主因，但亦有不少的士從業員提供良好服務，的士車隊亦有令人滿意的申請數量，顯示業界有心提升質素。

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