



**IAFL Asia Pacific Chapter Symposium
HOT TOPICS in International Family Law
Hong Kong, China**

Tuesday 2 December 2025

**Session Resources Pack
What is HOT in Forum Issues in Cross-Border Disputes?**

11:45 – 1:15 pm

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- Eleanor Lau (Australia)
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ELEANOR LAU

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Eleanor is an Accredited Family Law Specialist and a Partner in the Family & Relationship Law group at Lander & Rogers. Eleanor has assisted clients in all areas of family law including property settlement, spousal maintenance, parenting matters, child support, financial agreements and matters involving international issues. Eleanor has particular expertise on financial matters involving complex structures such as trusts, companies and partnerships, including where assets are held both within Australia and overseas. Eleanor is also experienced in complex parenting matters, particularly in cases where an overseas element is involved. Eleanor is a member of the Specialist Accreditation Family Law Advisory Committee, which is responsible in overseeing and assessing other family lawyers in gaining their specialist accreditation in Family Law. She has been recognised in the Doyle's Guide as a Leading Family & Divorce Lawyer and Leading Parenting & Children's Matters Lawyer.

NATALIA WILSON ARMSTRONG

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Natalia is a trusted advisor with extensive experience in all aspects of matrimonial and family law, representing a wide range of clients, including those in high-net-worth cases involving business valuations, trusts, and interstate custody matters.

A Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and Adjunct Faculty at American University's Washington College of Law, Natalia has been featured in The New York Times, CNN, Essence, and Ebony. Recognized by Best Lawyers in America and Super Lawyers, she serves on the Boards of the Women's Bar Association (Treasurer), Fairfax Law Foundation, University of Virginia College Foundation–Greater Washington, and the AAML Foundation (President-Elect).

Natalia is also President of the AAML DC Chapter, a past President of the Fairfax Law Foundation, and Chair of the D.C. Superior Court's Magistrate Judges Advisory Merit Selection Panel. Recently, she was named a Diplomat of the American College of Family Trial Lawyers.

IVAN CHEONG

**Partner and Head of Divorce and Family Law
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Ivan Cheong is a partner and head of the divorce and family team at Withers KhattarWong in Singapore. He is a family law specialist with extensive experience in all areas of family law including contentious divorces, disputes over child custody, relocation of children, maintenance, division of matrimonial assets and family violence in the Family Justice Court (FJC) and Court of Appeal. He has represented clients in reported landmark judgments and has advised and acted for clients as lead counsel in matters involving division of matrimonial assets including digital assets for high-net-worth individuals, international relocation and abduction of children as well as Mareva Injunctions to prevent dissipation of matrimonial assets. Ivan is recognised for his expertise in global legal directories including Doyle's Guide, Chambers High Net Worth Guide, Legal 500, Benchmark Litigation and Asian Legal Business.

MINGYUE GAO

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Mingyue Gao is an Equity Partner at Guantao Law Firm, specializing in family law, trust law, and charity law. With 18 years of experience, he leads a team handling complex, high-value, and cross-border family wealth succession matters for prominent entrepreneurs and domestic financial institutions. His practice focuses on dignified wealth and charity succession, including will, inheritance, and guardianship services. Ranked as 'Up and Coming' in Private Client/Wealth Management by Chambers Greater China Region Guide 2025.

He is a member of the Family Law Committee of the Shanghai Bar Association and is a Mentor for Fudan University Law School's LLM Program. He was invited to serve as a visiting scholar at Yale Law School in 2025.

Mingyue Gao also provides legal services for LGBT group with high reputation.

CAROLINE HARNOIS

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LL.B. from University of Montreal in 2000; Called to the Bar of the Province of Quebec in 2002; Member of the Canadian Bar Association and Vice-president of the Children's Law Section, Quebec division; Member of the Association of Family Lawyers of Quebec. Practice includes all aspects of family law, including child abduction cases, whether Hague cases or not. Prior to working in private practice, worked five (5) years at the Hague Conference on Private International Law, on the Children Conventions and in particular in matters of International Child Abduction, Recovery Abroad of Child Support and other type of family maintenance, Inter-country adoption and cohabitation outside marriage.