

MEDIA FACTSHEET

25 Years of Legal Reform in Singapore: Innovations in Policy and Law (2000–2025)

Overview

As Singapore commemorates the 200th anniversary of our modern legal system under SGLaw200, the Ministry of Law (MinLaw) has launched a landmark four-volume series, *25 Years of Legal Reform in Singapore: Innovations in Policy and Law (2000–2025)*.

The series chronicles Singapore's legal reform journey over the last 25 years, highlighting the role of the Rule of Law in providing stability, certainty and fairness, while enabling the legal system to evolve in a period of rapid social, economic and technological change.

Bringing together perspectives from policymakers, judges, legal practitioners, academics and sector experts, the series examines the policy thinking and societal considerations underpinning reforms across key areas such as criminal justice, family justice, dispute resolution, intellectual property and legal innovation.

The series also reflects how legal reforms have:

- strengthened justice and safeguarded vulnerable groups,
- supported innovation and economic resilience, and
- enabled agile responses to unprecedented challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic.

It serves as a valuable resource for researchers, students, legal practitioners and policymakers.

Editorial Leadership

The Managing Editor of the series is Professor Yip Man, Professor of Law and the V3 Group Professor in Family Entrepreneurship at Singapore Management University Yong Pung How School of Law.

Each volume features the following front matter:

1. Foreword by Senior Minister Lee Hsien Loong
2. Managing Editor's Note by Professor Yip Man

Volume 1: Criminal, Public and Family Law

Edited by Deputy Attorney-General Goh Yihan SC, Mr Tan Zhongshan (Deputy Senior State Counsel, Attorney-General's Chambers) and Mr Stephen Yeo (Deputy Director-General Legal Policy Group)

This volume examines how developments in criminal law, family law, and public law frameworks have impacted individuals and society. It highlights efforts to strengthen protections for those interacting with the legal system, whether as victims, accused persons or litigants, while continuing to build a robust and effective legal framework that advances core societal interests such as safety and security, social harmony, and strong institutions.

Volume 2: Civil Justice, Restructuring and Insolvency, and Intellectual Property

Edited by Ms Sharon Ong (Council Member, UNIDROIT) and Professor David Tan (Co-Director, Centre for Technology, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence and the Law, National University of Singapore)

This volume traces Singapore's experience in enhancing civil justice, restructuring and insolvency, and intellectual property in Singapore, through the perspectives of policy makers, the judiciary, practitioners, and academics. It highlights how the various initiatives, reforms, and innovations have fostered a more inclusive and innovative society, strengthened Singapore's role as a hub for debt restructuring and insolvency, and positioned us as a global hub for intangible assets and intellectual property.

Volume 3: International Dispute Resolution

Edited by Ms Gloria Lim (CEO, Singapore International Arbitration Centre) and Professor Lawrence Boo (Head, The Arbitration Chambers)

This volume chronicles Singapore's development as a leading international dispute resolution hub, covering key policy, legislative, institutional and other reforms that have strengthened its dispute resolution ecosystem. It is supported by commentaries, interviews and case studies by academics and practitioners, examining the impact and implications of these developments over the past decade.

Volume 4: Legal Innovations and the COVID-19 Crisis

Edited by Mr Eugene Sng (Deputy Senior State Counsel, Attorney-General's Chambers) and Professor Yeo Tiong Min SC (Chair Professor of Law, Singapore Management University Yong Pung How School of Law)

This volume examines the legal measures introduced by MinLaw between 2020 and 2022 to respond to the COVID-19 crisis, including measures to safeguard Singapore's economic structure, alleviate hardship, and address the unprecedented impact of the pandemic. It takes a closer look at selected interventions, including the rental relief framework and the Re-Align framework. The volume includes comparative studies between Singapore's approach and international equivalents, as well as against existing legal doctrines, offering a holistic understanding of how MinLaw responded to a crisis situation.