



The
**International
Trade Association**
of Greater Chicago

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

4610 North Kenton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60630-4020 U.S.A.

Tel: 773/725-1106

info@itagc.org

Fax: 773/725-2294

THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CHICAGO

with the



Invite you to a special luncheon program:

ASIA STRATEGIES: PROTECTING YOUR IP, ENFORCING CONTRACTS, & DEFINING HONG KONG'S ROLE

Presentations by:

Caroline Berube
Managing Partner
HJM Asia Law

Kristina Koehler-Coluccia
Director
Koehler Group

As China's economy matures and slows, and Southeast Asian countries seek greater economic integration among themselves and through the Trans-Pacific Partnership, our distinguished speakers will provide fresh insight on some key strategic issues facing U.S. exporters, importers and investors.

Caroline Berube will discuss cross-border contracts and legal particularities of various Asian jurisdictions, such as the language of the contract, the registration and validity of contracts, negotiation strategies etc. The main pitfalls of cross-border contracts will be discussed, pinpointing tactics on how to avoid them. Protecting your Intellectual Property will be a key focus of her presentation as she discusses how pitfalls may differ from one jurisdiction to another as each cross-border contract is unique with regards to the matter, the identity of the parties and the various jurisdictions involved.

The continuing success of Hong Kong as an attractive location for further investment and an expanded footprint into Asia/China comes from its constant improvement in five broad areas of economic competition: the business environment; financial sector development; infrastructure; human capital; and development factors. Through drive and innovation, Hong Kong leads in many aspects of financial services and attracts start-up companies in research & development, high technology, eCommerce, etc. But experts question whether Hong Kong is still relevant after it experienced political instability in 2015 with the Umbrella Revolution and was named a tax haven by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. **Kristina Koehler-Coluccia** will look at both sides of the coin in regard to Hong Kong's relevance in the global market.

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

CARLUCCI ROSEMONT

6111 North River Road, Rosemont, IL

11:45 a.m. – Registration

12:00 p.m. – Luncheon Program

2:30 p.m. – Adjourn

ITA/GC & HKBAM members and their guests - \$50; Non-members - \$75

Please Make Your Reservations Early: Contact the ITA/GC by **4:00 p.m., Monday, May 9**

Tel: 773/725-1106

rsvp@itagc.org

Fax: 773/725-2294

American Express, Discover, MasterCard and Visa are welcome.

A reservation is an obligation to pay: reservations not canceled 48 hours prior to the meeting will be billed.



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REGISTRATION FORM

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Please register me/us for the May 11 luncheon program: **Asia Strategies...**

Name: _____ Title: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Caroline Berube is the Managing Partner of HJM Asia Law (with offices in China and Singapore). She is admitted to practice in New York and Singapore, and holds a BCL (civil law) and an LL.B. (common law) from McGill University (Montreal, Canada). She studied Chinese law at the National University of Singapore in 1998/1999 and was one of the first foreign lawyers to be admitted to practice in Singapore. Caroline worked in Singapore, Bangkok and China.

Caroline is also a serial entrepreneur with four successful start-ups in various foreign Asian countries before she reached 30. HJM was one of the first woman-owned, foreign law firms in China in the early 2000s. Caroline has been working in Asia for more than 18 years with SMEs, MNCs and foreign banks, advising them in the field of commercial law, intellectual property, human resources and M&A in the Asia Pacific region. With an extensive presence on the ground in Asia, Caroline is well versed in the opportunities and risks associated with most Asian jurisdictions. She is highly regarded for her legal expertise in setting up legal and tax corporate structures, and navigating the challenges and options faced by potential and existing investors in Asia regarding their contracts and IP.



Kristina Koehler-Coluccia is one of the leading experts in entity incorporation in China. She has worked in the Chinese legal and accounting industry since 2003, and advises and represents Western clients with their business interests in China. She has worked on numerous complex transactions including foreign direct investments, corporate (re)structuring, company liquidations, and M&A deals.

Kristina frequently advises on, and represents, foreign clients in tax, accounting, and trade related matters. She is the author of Koehler Group's monthly magazine, *ChinaInvest.biz*, and has also contributed to numerous other publications relating to Chinese legal, accounting, and business practices. She frequently holds seminars, webinars, and gives presentations at business groups and government institutions around the world.