

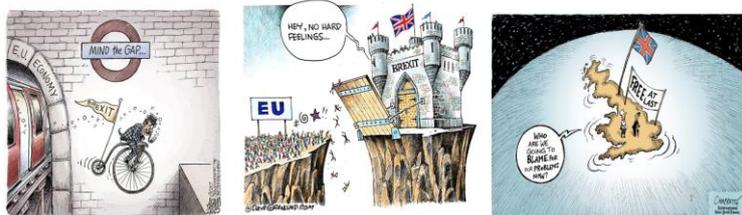
THE UNITED KINGDOM'S BREXIT IN HANGZHOU

The Law School's Professor Suzannah Linton was the guest of the Hangzhou Lawyers' Association and top law firm 大成 Dentons on Thursday 28 June 2018. Professor Linton's lecture addressed the legal complications around the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union.

THE UNITED KINGDOM'S BREXIT: GOING WHERE NONE HAVE GONE BEFORE

Professor Dr. Suzannah Linton

UK solicitor (non practising), Zhejiang Gongshang University Law School



The event was facilitated by the Law School's Professor Yu Yanning, a member of 大成 Dentons. One of the firm's senior partners, Mr. William Gao, and Mr. Calvin Shen from the Hangzhou Lawyers' Association and Zhejiang Wu Lian Law Firm, were the event's official hosts.



The lecture aimed to enable Chinese lawyers to understand BREXIT better and be in a position to provide appropriate advice to clients and how they need to be preparing. Professor Linton addressed the context in which the Referendum of June 2016 took place, leading to the British public voting by narrow majority 51.9%: 48.1% to leave the European Union, the country having been a member since 1972. She spoke of the conflicting perspectives before the Referendum that are now continuing, and disputes about the implications of departure and the shape of the relationship with Europe. She discussed post-Referendum developments in the United Kingdom, focusing on the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill which has just passed both Houses of Parliament and is due to receive Royal Assent soon. She presented the ongoing EU-UK negotiations on the withdrawal agreement including the 'divorce bill' and a transition period, and also the 'future relationship' agreement. In this, the concepts of 'hard BREXIT' and 'soft BREXIT' were discussed, including

the various possible models for a future relationship between the EU and the UK, and the implications in broader terms such as in relation to the World Trade Organisation, and future trade agreements for instance with China, India and the USA. Finally, Professor Linton spoke about the implications for China, and how Chinese lawyers should be advising their clients.

Members from the legal and financial community attended the event, which was held at the official premises of the Hangzhou Lawyers' Association.



Professor Linton, Professor Yu, Mr. Gao, Mr. Shen, and some attendees, after the talk



Professor Linton, Professor Yu and ZIGSU graduate Sui Wanjun who is now working at the law firm of Jincheng Tongda & Neal

Prior to the lecture, Professor Linton also visited the law firm of 大成 Dentons and met with partners and staff.



Professor Linton, Professor Yu, Mr. Gao and ZIGSU graduate Wang Yifan who is working at the firm



Group photo at 大成 Dentons



Prof Linton with ZIGSU graduate Wang Yifan