

Wing Yu Carter CHENG FRSA MCIArb

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PROFESSIONAL / RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

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- International Lawyers Project** **London, UK**
Legal Fellow (Environment and Sustainable Development) *Sept. 2024 – Present*
- **Strategic litigation:** supporting 10+ indigenous groups to defend land rights infringed by carbon sequestration projects
 - Conducted research on relevant international laws, domestic statutes, regulations and cases; performed case analysis; developed legal strategies; coordinated with local pro bono lawyers to support legal proceedings
 - **Research:** conducting environmental law and sustainable finance research under 3 senior lawyers
 - Tracked enforcement of the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, implementation of the EU Hydrogen Policy Framework, and the UN Tax Convention negotiations; published 4 articles on above topics
 - Drafted 2 research reports to compare Chad, Ethiopia, Ghana and Malawi's sovereign debt regimes; supported 3 local civil society organisations' advocacy efforts on sovereign debt regime reforms
- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Youth Caucus** **London, UK**
Regional Focal Point for Europe *Jan. 2024 – Present*
- **Research:** conducted systematic review and qualitative research (surveys and interviews) on youth-led efforts to combat land degradation problems in Europe; presented regular updates to the UNCCD Secretariat
 - **Advisory:** advised various UN agencies (e.g., UNCCD, FAO and ECOSOC) and governments (e.g., Government of Spain) on their youth and local community engagement strategies to combat deforestation and desertification
 - **Capacity-building:** leading 4 youth empowerment projects for the UNCCD Youth Caucus European Working Group
 - Co-organised a 3-day UNCCD Youth Forum at the UNCCD COP16 (attended by 100+ youth delegates)
- Government of Spain - Ministry of Youth and Children** **Madrid, Spain**
Climate Negotiations Trainer *Apr. – June 2024*
- **Research & capacity-building:** researched, designed and delivered 25 hours of climate training on climate justice, mitigation & adaptation and climate finance to 30+ National Youth Council Representatives
 - **Negotiations:** chaired negotiations and drafting of the Madrid Agreement on Coordinated Youth-led Climate Efforts (agreed among 20+ European National Youth Councils; endorsed by the Ministry of Youth and Children of Spain)
 - **Advisory:** provided counsel on the foundation and ongoing operations of the governing bodies of the Madrid Agreement
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)** **Beijing, China**
Programme Facilitator (Agritech) *Apr. – Oct. 2018, Aug. 2019 – Oct. 2020, Aug. – Dec. 2022*
- **Research:** led research workstreams for 10+ UN knowledge products on agritech innovation policy
 - Wrote 4 reports, 2 policy briefs, and 6 memoranda on agritech RD&D, market formation and diffusion
 - Tracked trade negotiations; compiled regulatory histories; compared agritech innovation systems
 - **Project management:** managed budgets and delivery of 8 training programs to help 20+ Global South countries build climate resilience and achieve food security through sustainable agricultural mechanisation
 - Encouraged investments worth USD\$28.9mn in agritech through a flagship project
 - Co-founded Asia's first-ever agritech research platform to facilitate exchange among 300+ stakeholders
 - Led 3 annual Monitoring & Evaluation for the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanisation at ESCAP
- The University of Hong Kong – Department of Social Work and Social Administration** **Hong Kong, China**
Research Assistant to Prof. Cheryl H. K. Chui *Jan. – July 2022*
- **Social innovation:** supported co-investigator in a 3-year government study on Hong Kong's social innovation ecosystem
 - Drafted 2 report chapters on the emergent trends of Hong Kong's social innovation and international benchmarking
 - Conducted systematic review, literature review, interviews, policy analysis, discourse analysis and data visualisation
 - **Disability rights:** drafted a 10,000-word evaluation on existing support for persons with visual impairment in Hong Kong
 - **Gender equality:** drafted research background and literature review sections for an academic article analysing how women entrepreneurship helped fill gender policy gaps in Hong Kong

Peking University – Yenching Academy**Beijing, China****Yenching Scholar & Bai Xian Scholar (Law & Geopolitics)***Sept. 2019 – July 2021*

- Received one of China's most prestigious graduate fellowships (2.7% acceptance rate) to research law and geopolitics
- **Tech Governance:** published one of the earliest empirical studies on China's AI-powered courts (30,000-word)
 - Conducted legal history research, judicial data analysis, and a case study on the Guangzhou Intermediate Court
- **Law & Society:** obtained the Yenching Academy Dean's Research Grant to investigate how Shenzhen's delegated legislative power contributed to the city's economic competitiveness
 - Interviewed 10+ stakeholders; conducted legal history research and discourse analysis; analysed survey data
- **Geopolitics:** completed field work in 8 Chinese cities; wrote 10+ research essays on various geopolitics topics

LEADERSHIP / PUBLIC SERVICE**Young Professionals in Foreign Policy (YPFP)****London, UK****Managing Director, London Branch***May 2024 – Present*

- **Branch Management:** directing strategic development of the London branch of the world's largest network of foreign policy professionals; built 5 partnerships and expanded membership by 120% within first quarter in role
- **Capacity-building:** overseeing the design, delivery and outreach of 7 initiatives (e.g., mentorship programme and skills-building workshops) to widen access to the diplomacy, foreign policy and international development sectors
- **Advisory:** advising the YPFP Global Board of Directors on its global strategy and coordination across 7 global branches

Harvard Business Review**London, UK****Advisory Council Member***Apr. 2024 – Present*

- Providing regular research insights on climate tech and ESG trends to the HBR global review panel

World Economic Forum – Global Shapers Community**London, UK****Global Shaper** (*Sept. 2022 – June 2024*) & **Impact Officer, London Hub II Curatorship Team** (*Mar. 2023 – June 2024*)

- **Hub management:** co-developed infant London Hub II into one of the most impact-driven Global Shapers Hubs in Europe
 - Invited global leaders (e.g. former UAE Minister of Climate Change, Chair of Chatham House's Next Generation Committee and Members of the World Economic Forum Global Future Council) to mentor hub members
 - Led a global training initiative to help 110+ Global Shapers Hubs to enhance diversity through recruitment
- **Project management:** oversaw 8 sustainability and social justice projects (directly supported 1,000+ individuals)
 - Designed and delivered a 3-phase programme to help 6 young London fashion brands reduce Scope 3 emissions
 - Founded an expanding network of community fridges in London (providing 150+ meals weekly)
- **Stakeholder engagement:** secured funding and support from Accenture, Carbon Trust, Clifford Chance, UNSDSN etc.

World Economic Forum**Dalian, China****Summer Davos 50***June 2024*

- 1 of the 50 Global Shaper representatives (selected from 11,000+ active Shapers) to attend Summer Davos 2024
- Attended workshops and panel discussions curated by world-renowned scholars, policymakers and innovators

United World College Great Britain**London, UK****Governance & Strategy Taskforce Member***Apr. – Sept. 2022*

- Advised Board of Trustees of UWCGB (British branch of the world's largest scholarship programme in international secondary education) on the overhaul of its financial, data protection and diversity policies

UN Economic and Social Council Youth Forum**New York, NY****Young UN Rep***Mar. 2020 – Apr. 2021*

- Received nominations from UNRC in China (highest UN representative in China) and United Nations ESCAP
- Presented climate advocacies before the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth and 12,000+ global delegates

FELLOWSHIPS

UK Rising Leaders Fellow, Aspen Institute

Sept. 2024 – Present

- Received funded training on leadership, advocacy and non-profit management

THINC Fellow, Tencent x Viva la Vida THINC Fellowship

Jan. – Aug. 2024

- Delivered training and keynote presentations on low-carbon, climate resilient rural development in the Global South

Local Pathways Fellow, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network

Jan. – Dec. 2023

- Designed a capacity-building programme to help London catering SMEs reduce Scope 3 emissions

Nelson Mandela Residential Fellow, Centre for Diplomatic Advancement

Oct. 2023

- Designed and delivered training on climate policymaking processes in international organisations

Fellow, Royal Society of Arts

Sept. 2022 – Present

- Received FRSA-title recognition for contributions to social changes and development

EDUCATION

University of Cambridge

Cambridge, UK

MPhil in Public Policy & PhD in Land Economy (Environmental Law and Policy)

2024 – 2028 (Expected)

- **Award:** Wolfson College Dr John T Grantham Scholarship
- **Placement:** UK Cabinet Office – Policy Profession Unit
- **PhD Thesis:** An Initial Cartography of the Laws Governing Environmental Technology RD&D, Market Formation and Diffusion: Comparative Perspectives based on Evidence from China, the EU and the US (Supervisor: Prof. Emma Lees)

Peking University

Beijing, China

Master of Law in China Studies (Law & Society), 91.8% (full scholarship)

2019 – 2021

- **Awards:** Bai Xian Asian Future Leader Scholarship, Scholarship for Hong Kong Students, Dean's Research Grant
- **Thesis:** published one of the earliest empirical studies on China's AI-powered courts (Distinction)

London School of Economics and Political Science

London, UK

MSc Economic History (Research), Merit (completed 25% more coursework than non-research track students)

2018 – 2019

- **Thesis:** studied the rise of China's Silicon Valley of Hardware from a legal-institutional perspective (Merit)

University of St Andrews

St Andrews, UK

MA (Hon) International Relations, 79% (Dean's List 2016/17)

2013 – 2017

- **Study abroad:** Peking University, China (First Class); Yonsei University, South Korea (GPA: 4.0/4.3)
- **Thesis:** investigated the implications of the Iraq War for the US's relative power position (Distinction, 89%)

PUBLICATIONS

Academic paper:

“Courtroom on the clouds: how online courts are transforming China’s local court performance,” *Peking University Law Journal* vol. 9, Peking University Law School, Jan. 2022. <<https://doi.org/10.1080/20517483.2021.1978678>>.

Articles:

“Reimagining Global Tax Governance Through the UN Tax Convention,” *International Lawyers Project*, Dec. 2024 (with Mary Ongore). <www.internationallawyersproject.org/post/reimagining-global-tax-governance-through-the-un-tax-convention>.

“Kenya’s Road to Just Transition (Part 2): Inclusive Climate Action,” *International Lawyers Project*, Nov. 2024. <www.internationallawyersproject.org/post/kenya-s-road-to-just-transition-part-2-inclusive-climate-action>.

“Kenya’s Road to Just Transition (Part 1): Carbon Market Trading,” *International Lawyers Project*, Nov. 2024. <www.internationallawyersproject.org/post/kenya-s-road-to-just-transition-part-1-training-on-carbon-market-trading>.

INVITED TALKS, PANELS & WORKSHOPS

UNCCD COP16 Blue Zone – International Lawyers Project Interactive Workshop Dec. 2024
“The Neglected Sides of Carbon Sequestration Projects: Indigenous Land Rights and Legal Strategies” (**Principal Presenter**)

Future Leaders Network-Young Professionals in Foreign Policy Panel Series Dec. 2024
“Climate Diplomacy in Crisis? Panel Discussion with 2024 G7, G20 and COP29 UK Youth Delegates” (**Moderator**)

Future Leaders Network-Young Professionals in Foreign Policy Panel Series Nov. 2024
“Youth Diplomacy in the Changing World – Panel Discussion with 2024 G7, G20 and COP29 Youth Delegates” (**Moderator**)

HKUST Web 3.0 Lab-Carbon Care Innovation Lab-Climate Solutions Labs Panel Series Oct. 2024
“[AI & Innovation on Climate Action](#)” (**Panel Speaker**)
(Alongside Prof. Stephen Minas (Vice Chair of CTCN Advisory Board) and other leading experts)

UNCCD Youth Caucus-World Economic Forum GSC UK Open Dialogues on Climate Change Sept. 2024
“AI and Climate Action: How the Burgeoning Use of AI is Changing Decarbonisation Efforts in the UK?” (**Moderator**)

UNCCD Youth Caucus-World Economic Forum GSC UK Open Dialogues on Climate Change Sept. 2024
“UK’s Position in Fighting Water Crisis, Droughts and Desertification under Climate Change” (**Moderator**)

Tencent x Viva la Vida THINC Fellowship Tech for Impact Webinar Series Feb. 2024
“Tech and International Development: Opportunities and Challenges” (**Panel Speaker**)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Languages: English (native), Cantonese (native), Mandarin (native)

IT Skills: R, Stata, NVivo, Final Cut Pro, iMovie, WordPress, Wix, Canva

Research Skills: literature review, systematic review, case analysis, legislative history compilation, interview, focus group, thematic analysis, regression analysis, quantitative analysis, policy analysis, archival research, database creation

Certifications / Awards:

- **UK Solicitors Qualifying Exam Part 1 (SQE1) – Pass** (2024)
- **Solicitors Qualifying Exam (SQE) 1 & 2 Training**, BPP University (2023-24)
- **Postgraduate Diploma in Law (Distinction)**, University of Law (2023)
- Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (International Arbitration Module 1, 95%) (2022)
- Harvard Business School Online Global Business Certificate – Completion (2022)
- Chartered Financial Analyst Level 1 Exam – Pass (2018)

Interests: surfing, kitesurfing, cycling, stargazing