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EINLADUNG ZUM GASTVORTRAG

im Rahmen des Kolloquium zur chinesischen Philosophie
von Hans Feger, Ole Döring, Philippe Brunozzi

Prof. Dr. Yongle Zhang

(Peking-University)

Theories of SOVEREIGNTY behind Modern Chinese Constitutional Texts

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(Institut für Philosophie, UG)

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Theories of SOVEREIGNTY

behind Modern Chinese Constitutional Texts

Who is the bearer of sovereignty? This is a fundamental question for any modern Constitution-maker. Since the 19th century, although China's answers to this question were deeply influenced by Western, Soviet, and Japanese theories, her unique historical situation also gave rise to various theoretical innovations, especially in the temporal/historical dimension. This lecture will discuss these pivotal theoretical moments, including but not limited to the imperial edict of abdication in 1912, Sun Yat-Sen's theory of Xun Zheng (political tutelage), and Mao's theory of Guo Ti the form of Sovereignty. It is suggested that without understanding the temporal/historical dimension, it will be difficult to explain the structure of sovereignty underpinning the current Chinese Constitution.



Yongle Zhang is an associate professor of law at Peking University, and a visiting fellow at Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. He received his Ph.D. from Department of Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles. His first book *Jiu Bang Xin Zao: 1911-1917 (The Remaking of an Old Country: 1911-1917)* explored the founding of China's first republic, especially its continuity with the past. He also publishes on Chinese administrative law, modern Chinese intellectual history, Graeco-Roman Historiography and Renaissance political thought.