

## Transcript

Video: “Hong Kong’s advanced legal system is essential for restoring confidence and defending the rule of law: Grenville Cross”

Interviewee: Mr Grenville Cross, former Director of Public Prosecutions, Honorary Professor of Law

Grenville Cross: The legal system is fundamental to Hong Kong’s success. And, of course, it is provided for by the Basic Law, which is Hong Kong’s mini-constitution. For example, it provides constitutionally for an independent judiciary. It provides for an independent prosecution service. It provides for the rights and liberties of the people of Hong Kong. It provides for the maintenance of the common law system which previously existed in Hong Kong. And in a unique arrangement, the foreign judges from around the world are allowed to sit in the Court of Final Appeal, which of course is our top court. All these indicia of an advanced legal system are protected under our constitution and that is profoundly reassuring. And I’m sure it is very reassuring as well for outsiders who want to do business here. And the Mainland obviously wants to see “one country, two systems” succeed because, apart from anything else, it has invested a lot of its time and credibility in it. There are of course people who are attacking the rule of law by indulging in extreme violence and in effect placing themselves above the law and creating a situation of lawlessness in some areas. So it’s very important that the rule of law be maintained, the police be supported in the difficult task that they’re doing and that the legal processes be allowed to take their course.

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