Evolving Legal Frameworks for Protecting Internet Privacy in China

Dr. Jinghong Xu
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4:00 – 5:30 pm
Room 3201, IR/PS Robinson Complex
UC San Diego

A 12-article Decision on Strengthening Online Information Protection, which has the same legal effect as law, was adopted December 28, 2012 by lawmakers at a session of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, which is China’s top legislature. The main purpose of the Decision is to enhance the protection of personal information online and safeguard public interests. The Decision can be regarded as an important milestone in Chinese laws and regulations of protecting Internet privacy. This lecture will trace the historical and cultural background of Internet privacy in China and the evolving legal frameworks for protecting the right to privacy and Internet privacy. This lecture will explore the problems with the existing legal framework and offers suggestions for improvement.

Dr. Jinghong Xu is Associate Professor of Communication at the School of Digital Media and Design Arts, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications (BUPT), and a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the Center for Global Communications Studies, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania. He is vice director of the interdisciplinary Center of Social Network Information Management and Service, BUPT, and a post-doctoral candidate at the Institute of Law, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. Dr. Xu’s research focuses on new media communication, media ethics, media policy and law, cyber culture, information law and Internet law, especially Internet governance, online privacy, online public opinion and digital copyright. He holds a BA in English, MA in Journalism and PhD in Communication.

Free and open to the public. For questions, contact Heidi Serochi (hserochi@ucsd.edu).