



**Majlis Peguam
Bar Council Malaysia**

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**Circular No 119/2012
Dated 5 June 2012**

To Members of the Malaysian Bar and pupils in chambers

**Siri Pemikiran Kritis:
Public Assembly Laws — The Jurisprudence and the Operation (9 June 2012)**

The Siri Pemikiran Kritis (“SPK”) is a flagship event organised by the Bar Council National Young Lawyers Committee (“NYLC”) to promote intellectual discussions on civil liberties with a legal twist.

The forums commenced in 2007, and since then NYLC has organised more than 15 such forums. Every forum is designed to initiate critical and mature thinking that encourages responsible and measured debate and discussion amongst the speakers and the attendees. The last forum, held in March 2012, discussed the then-proposed Race Relations Law. It was well attended by Members of the Bar as well as the public at large.

NYLC invites Members and pupils in chambers to the second SPK forum for 2012. Admission is free, and the details of the upcoming forum are as follows:

Topic: Public Assembly Laws — The Jurisprudence and the Operation
Date: 9 June 2012 (Saturday)
Time: 11:00 am
**Venue: Raja Aziz Addruse Auditorium, First Floor, Bar Council
No 15 Leboh Pasar Besar, 50050 Kuala Lumpur**

The purpose and intent of the forum is to have a general and critical discussion on the jurisprudence and the operation of the newly-enacted Peaceful Assembly Act 2012 (“Act”).

The forum will feature Yeo Yang Poh, past President of the Malaysian Bar, and several other prominent speakers.

Background Information on the Act

The Act is the law that regulates public protests in Malaysia. Proponents of the Act state that the Act allows citizens to organise and participate in assemblies peacefully and without arms, subject to restrictions deemed necessary and in the interest of public order and security.

The Act was drafted four months after the BERSIH 2.0 rally and two months after the government announced its intention to amend the Police Act 1967. The Bill was tabled in Parliament on 22 Nov 2011, passed by the lower house on 29 Nov 2011, and approved by the Senate on 20 Dec 2011.

The Act has been strongly criticised by various quarters that argue that the Act will diminish the right to protest instead of safeguarding it. The Bar Council and various civil society leaders have also spoken out against the Act.



INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA LAW CONFERENCE
26–28 September 2012
Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia
www.internationalmlc.com

**“ASIAN
PERSPECTIVES,
GLOBAL
VIEWPOINTS”**

Join us at the forum! The forum is bound to be interesting, witty and engaging. Come pose your questions to the speakers, and hopefully you will leave the event with some answers.

Please be informed that although this event is open to the public, pre-registration is required, as places are limited. Kindly complete and return the attached registration form by fax to 03-2032 2043, or by email to janet@malaysianbar.org.my.

For enquiries, contact Janet Nathan by telephone at 03-2050 2103 or by email at janet@malaysianbar.org.my.

Thank you.

Richard Wee Thiam Seng
Chairperson
National Young Lawyers Committee



Registration Form

Siri Pemikiran Kritis:
Public Assembly Laws — The Jurisprudence and the Operation (9 June 2012)

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My personal particulars are as follows:

Title: Prof/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms*
Name:
Institutional Affiliation:
Position:
Contact Address:
Email:
Telephone:
Fax:

(*delete as appropriate)

For enquiries, contact Janet Nathan by telephone at 03-2050 2103 or by email at janet@malaysianbar.org.my.