Policing the ‘Umbrella Activities’
A Reflection on Hong Kong Policing from Historical and Institutional Perspectives

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Abstract:
The protests and subsequent ‘occupation’ saga in fall 2014 Hong Kong arouses vigorous debates on effective governance of Hong Kong SAR under the ‘One Country, Two Systems’. Policing in Hong Kong, and precisely, the performance of Hong Kong Police (HKP), then becomes a topic under intensive scrutiny from both local and international communities, and polarized remarks could be retrieved from different media platforms. This presentation attempts to review these controversies from the historical and sociological angles, and explain the challenges HKP have/ are going to experience in the territories as learnt from this encounter.

Lawrence Ka-ki HO is Assistant Professor at the Department of Social Sciences, The Hong Kong Institute of Education, and concurrently Honorary Fellow of the Centre for Criminology at the University of Hong Kong. His research interest is history and sociology of policing, comparative policing policies and practices; and emerging issues on international policing. His latest publications include Transformation of Hong Kong Policewomen in Sixty Years (book published by the Commercial Press HK, 2015, with Annie Chan); Policing in Hong Kong and Macau: Transformations from the Colonial to Special Administrative Region (book chapter published by Routledge UK, 2014); Transformation of Macau Policing: From Portuguese Colony to China’s SAR. (research article at Crime, Law and Social Change, 2014, with Agnes Lam); Policing Protests & Demonstrations in Hong Kong: Strategies & Implications (research article at Journal of Police Science, Taiwan, 2014)