

NEGOTIATING LEGALITY

Despite escalating geopolitical rivalry, the United States and China continue to be economically intertwined. Numerous Chinese companies have made substantial investments in the United States and are reluctant to exit this strategically important market. While the global expansion of Chinese companies has ignited intense policy and academic debates, their interactions with complex host-state legal systems have largely escaped systematic examination. To fill this knowledge gap, *Negotiating Legality* introduces a dual institutional framework and applies it to analyzing multiyear survey data, 176 interviews, and a substantial corpus of US lawsuit records, thereby shedding light on how Chinese companies develop in-house legal capacities, engage with US legal professionals, and navigate litigation in US courts. As the first comprehensive investigation of these crucial topics, this book is an indispensable resource for those seeking to understand China's rise, its global impacts – especially on legal systems of developed nations like the United States – the intricate dynamics of US–China relations, and the strategies multinational companies employ to mitigate increasing legal and political risks amidst shifts in the global order.

Ji Li is the John S. and Marilyn Long Professor of US–China Business and Law at the University of California, Irvine School of Law. He is an interdisciplinary scholar who has spent a decade researching the rise of China and its global impacts, with a focus on the United States. His earlier book, *The Clash of Capitalisms? Chinese Companies in the United States* (2018), explores Chinese investors' adaptation to the complex, stringent US regulatory system.

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NEGOTIATING LEGALITY

Chinese Companies in the US Legal System

Ji Li

University of California, Irvine



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To my family

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