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ARTICLES**UNRAVELLING THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE CHINESE LEGAL SYSTEM: A PRIMER FOR FOREIGN INVESTORS****Lay-Hong Tan**

The Chinese legal system differs greatly from that of Western democracies. Its basic premises are derived from traditional values and evolving Communist ideology, and its structures and procedures informed by the country's bureaucratic organisation. The article presents an overview of the legal system, examining its historical and conceptual context and describing China's legal structures, legislative processes and court procedures for the benefit of investors accustomed to operating within a different legal framework. The article identifies inherent complexities and weaknesses in the system, and points to the current challenges and opportunities for reform.

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NEW LIMITATIONS ON EQUITABLE INTERVENTION AGAINST VENDORS**Jeremy Giles**

In Australia, prior to October 2003, the respective rights of a purchaser of land, in default of a contractual time stipulation, and the vendor of the land were unclear. The High Court has now enunciated the basis and limited grounds for the grant of relief to a defaulting purchaser in that circumstance. This article examines the High Court's two recent judgments on applications by defaulting purchasers for relief against forfeiture and the limitations, clearly expressed by the High Court, on the grant of an order for specific performance to a defaulting purchaser. The article also discusses the High Court's fact specific analysis of unconscientious conduct before sounding a note of caution as to the potential for s 51AC of the Trade Practices Act 1974 (Cth) to be used to circumvent the High Court's judgments.

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