
Chapter I: General Principles

Article 1

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is an inalienable part of the People's Republic of China.

Art 12

Article 2

The National People's Congress authorizes the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to exercise a high degree of autonomy and enjoy executive, legislative and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication, in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

*Art 43, 59,
66, 80*

Article 3

The executive authorities and legislature of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be composed of permanent residents of Hong Kong in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Law.

Art 24

Article 4

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall safeguard the rights and freedoms of the residents of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and of other persons in the Region in accordance with law.

Art 25–40

Article 5

The socialist system and policies shall not be practised in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and the previous capitalist system and way of life shall remain unchanged for 50 years.

第六條

Art 29, 105

香港特別行政區依法保護私有財產權。

第七條

Art 120–123

香港特別行政區境內的土地和自然資源屬於國家所有，由香港特別行政區政府負責管理、使用、開發、出租或批給個人、法人或團體使用或開發，其收入全歸香港特別行政區政府支配。

第八條

Art 160

香港原有法律，即普通法、衡平法、條例、附屬立法和習慣法，除同本法相抵觸或經香港特別行政區的立法機關作出修改者外，予以保留。

第九條

Inst 6 (p 182)

香港特別行政區的行政機關、立法機關和司法機關，除使用中文外，還可使用英文，英文也是正式語文。

第十條

Anx III (p 136)

香港特別行政區除懸掛中華人民共和國國旗和國徽外，還可使用香港特別行政區區旗和區徽。

香港特別行政區的區旗是五星花蕊的紫荊花紅旗。

Article 6

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall protect the right of private ownership of property in accordance with law.

*Art 29, 105***Article 7**

The land and natural resources within the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be State property. The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be responsible for their management, use and development and for their lease or grant to individuals, legal persons or organizations for use or development. The revenues derived therefrom shall be exclusively at the disposal of the government of the Region.

*Art 120–123***Article 8**

The laws previously in force in Hong Kong, that is, the common law, rules of equity, ordinances, subordinate legislation and customary law shall be maintained, except for any that contravene this Law, and subject to any amendment by the legislature of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

*Art 160***Article 9**

In addition to the Chinese language, English may also be used as an official language by the executive authorities, legislature and judiciary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

*Inst 6 (p 182)***Article 10**

Apart from displaying the national flag and national emblem of the People's Republic of China, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region may also use a regional flag and regional emblem.

Anx III (p 137)

The regional flag of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is a red flag with a bauhinia highlighted by five star-tipped stamens.

Anx III (p 138)

香港特別行政區的區徽，中間是五星花蕊的紫荊花，周圍寫有“中華人民共和國香港特別行政區”和英文“香港”。

第十一條

根據中華人民共和國憲法第三十一條，香港特別行政區的制度和政策，包括社會、經濟制度，有關保障居民的基本權利和自由的制度，行政管理、立法和司法方面的制度，以及有關政策，均以本法的規定為依據。

Art 68, 73

香港特別行政區立法機關制定的任何法律，均不得同本法相抵觸。

The regional emblem of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is a bauhinia in the centre highlighted by five star-tipped stamens and encircled by the words “Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China” in Chinese and “HONG KONG” in English.

Article 11

In accordance with Article 31 of the Constitution of the People’s Republic of China, the systems and policies practised in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, including the social and economic systems, the system for safeguarding the fundamental rights and freedoms of its residents, the executive, legislative and judicial systems, and the relevant policies, shall be based on the provisions of this Law.

No law enacted by the legislature of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall contravene this Law.