"Uncovering the Concealments: Museums' Roles for Transitional Justice" Speech Abstract

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"Transitional justice" has recently become an important part of political agenda in Taiwan. However, what is transitional justice and how can transitional justice proceed? Both remain to be discoursed and dialogued in our society. For operational purpose, transitional justice can be defined as political, social and judicial measures implemented to redress the past injustices or human right violations. Therefore, identifying various injustices should be prioritized as the basic procedure on which we are able to deliver adequate responses.

In this talk, I begin with introducing Taiwan's latest effort, from both ruling and opposition parties, of pursuing transitional justice. Then I discuss how international museums deal with such issues. Displaying their heritages in open public while bringing together with art, science, technology and literature, museums play are interactive platforms that engage visitors to imagine, explore, experience, and interconnect with lives and ideas of other people. I also showcase a variety of museums currently fostering our understanding, memorializing and confronting the happened tragedies through deliberate practices such as environmental designs, exhibitions, researches, and educations.