Recent weeks have seen Hong Kong’s largest ever demonstrations, with hundreds of thousands of Hongkongers protesting against a proposed law allowing anyone in the city to be extradited to face trial in mainland China’s courts. As the protesters see it, the territory’s post-handover freedoms and autonomy guaranteed under the Basic Law are being sacrificed by their own leaders at Beijing’s behest, rendering the ‘one country, two systems’ formula little more than an empty slogan.

In this panel discussion, we explore the causes of discontent and ask what the political, economic and social consequences might be for Hong Kong in both the short and longer term. Can Hong Kong retain its status as a global trade and investment hub? And can it hold on to its distinctive identity and way of life?

**Stuart Lau (South China Morning Post)**
**Stephan Ortmann (City University of Hong Kong)**
**Gunter Schubert (Universität Tübingen)**

**Donnerstag, 18. Juli 2019, 18 Uhr c.t.**
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