# Fostering Private Equity Using a Law-First Approach

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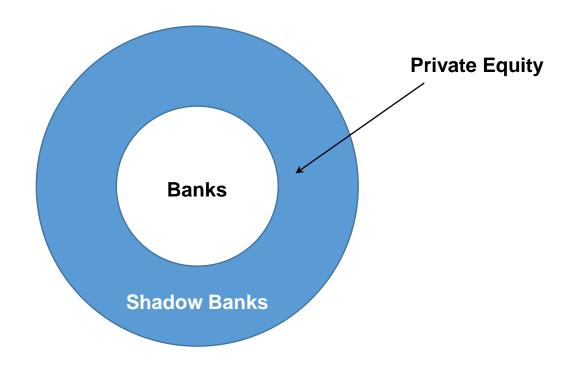
#### **Definitions**

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- Law-First Approach = laws set the terms and bounds of permissible market activities, and market participants must comply with such terms before they are able to engage in such activities

#### Can private equity be regulated using a law-first approach?



#### Korean PE Regulation

- <u>First attempt</u> to regulate private equity using a law first approach
  - Regulating entry and exit
  - Activity restrictions
  - Fiduciary obligations

# My Claims

1. A law-first approach was critical to the successful launch and fostering of private equity in Korea

#### My Claims

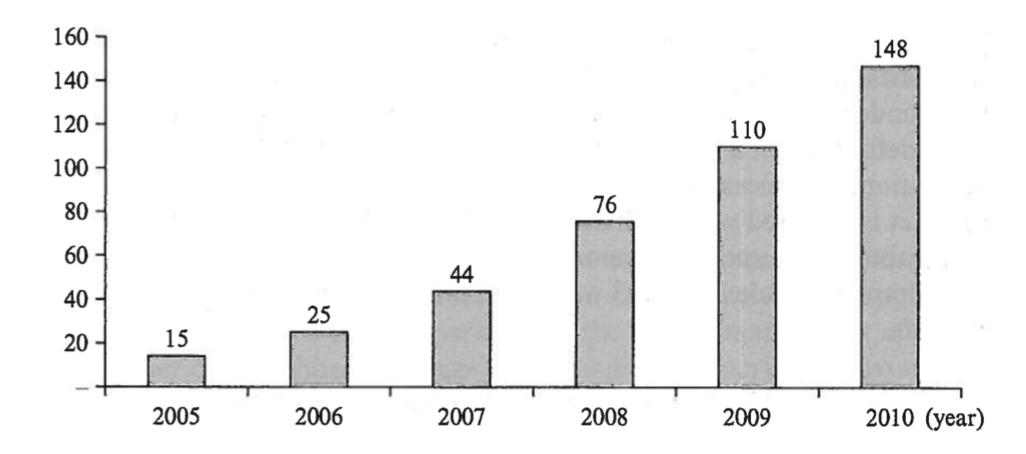
1. A law-first approach was critical to the successful launch and fostering of private equity in Korea

2. The chilling effects of the law-first approach feared by critics has not materialized

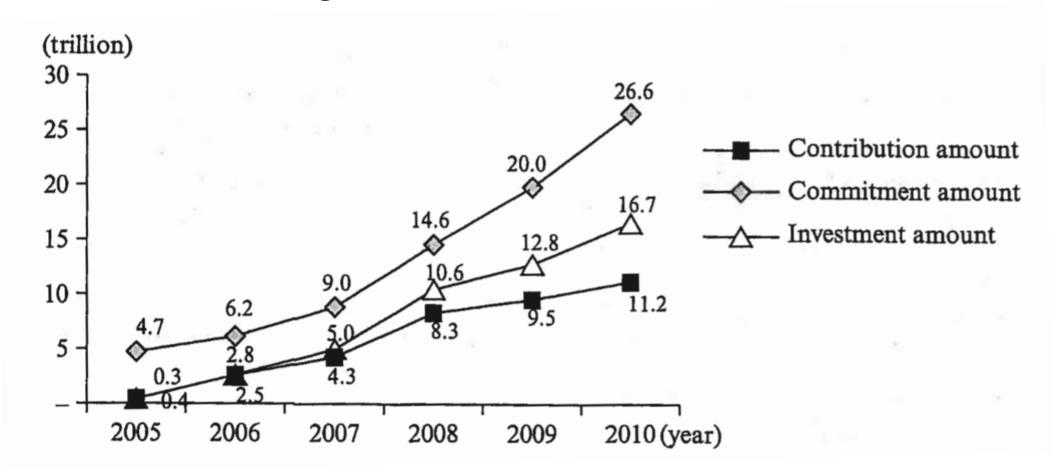
#### Phase-Based Regulation

- The phase of regulation, rather than the specific features of the product being regulated, should be the most important determinant of regulatory strategy
- The phase of regulation should also guide the selection of a comparative framework

### The (Non-)Chilling Effects of a Law-First Approach?



# The (Non-)Chilling Effects of a Law-First Approach?



#### Two Explanations

1. The phases of merit regulation in Asian financial markets

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  - Financial Returnees (Robertson 2013)

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  - Regulatory channels (Spamann 2009)

#### Concluding Remarks

 Korea's law-first approach to regulating private equity has led to regulatory innovations

 Rollback or revision of regulatory levers should be implemented by reference to evolving phases of Korean private equity University of California, Irvine **School of Law** 

#### Thank you!

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