


# **FIRST CAPITAL (ASIA) LIMITED**

STEPHEN J. FIRST  
PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHY

<p><b>Stephen J First</b></p>	<p>Name:</p>	<p>Stephen J First</p>
 <p>Professional Global Residence and Citizenship Legal Expert</p> <p>1981 - Present</p>	<p>Nationality:</p>	<p>Canadian</p>
	<p>Law School:</p>	<p>McGill University</p>
	<p>Occupation:</p>	<p>Legal Practitioner, Visionary Entrepreneur, and Philanthropist-by-nature</p>
	<p>Known for:</p>	<p>"Global Solutions for Global Citizens"</p>
	<p>Title:</p>	<p>Co-Founder and CEO</p>
	<p>Website:</p>	<p><a href="http://www.firstcapitalasia.com">www.firstcapitalasia.com</a></p>

**Stephen J First** is a Canadian legal practitioner and global entrepreneur, the Co-founder and CEO of **First Capital (Asia) Limited** – A Trusted Gateway to Leadership in and for Alternative Residences and Citizenship.

Stephen is considered one of the world's leading legal professionals in citizenship-by-investment practice areas, a sector he helped to develop from 1981 with very early beginnings in Canada. As a passionate speaker and global citizen, Stephen remains ever present a passionate force of nature as he has for the past 38 years engaged in global dialogues pertinent to global solutions for global citizens.

Stephen holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and Psychology from Sir George Williams University (now '**Concordia**') and a Law Degree from **McGill University** of Montreal, Canada. He is the author and presenter of numerous academic papers and country reports pertinent to alternative global residence and citizenship.

Stephen is also the co-founder and chairman of a Hong Kong registered charity, a global affiliate of the UK charity '**ShelterBox International Limited**' in partnership with **Rotary International**.

- <https://www.shelterbox.org/meet-team>
- <https://www.rotary.org/en/shelterbox-and-rotary-help-disasters>

The ShelterBox Hong Kong affiliate coupled with Rotary International collectively focus in particular on international disaster relief and supporting displaced people ... working in harmony to find a solution to the ever present refugee crisis, one of the defining political and humanitarian issues of our time.



*Co-founder / CEO of ShelterBox Hong Kong Stephen First was in attendance when Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall, President of ShelterBox Worldwide hosted a reception in honour of the charity's 10th anniversary at Clarence House, London.*



## PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

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Stephen in his 40-year legal career has been responsible for the founding or co-founding of four prominent law firms in Canada where he practiced for 19 years. He has been a Permanent Resident of Hong Kong since 1997.

He is the co-founder and CEO of **First Capital (Asia) Limited**, an ultra-high networth ('UHNW') private client counsel and offshore advisory giving guidance and direction to people and their dependent family members who seek relief and shelter from risks attributed to an ever dangerous and unpredictable world.

Stephen has been privileged to be called upon by a like-minded professional community of accountants, bankers, and colleagues within the legal sector, as well as high-value government relationships, to provide appropriate guidance and direction in the context of '*alternative residency and citizenship*' ... fit for purpose to ensure clients, peoples from all manner of global community, are given proper service and protection in a private and confidential manner.

Stephen has spoken at international conferences on different aspects of international residence, citizenship and real estate, and is a member in good-standing of both the American and Canadian Bar Associations.

He is known for being an early innovator in pursuit of the legal concept of "citizenship-by-investment", whereby people can attain an alternate citizenship in consideration for investing in a country where they were never born and are not required to maintain a domicile.

Since 1981, Stephen has been a renowned facilitator of resource relocation, human resource relocation, empowering people within a global community where human disparities abound often as not beset by 'Rule-by-Law' regimes.

## CITIZENSHIP-BY-INVESTMENT PLATFORMS

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At present, global markets are in search of a different, if not perhaps better, solution to address the current maelstrom of danger and unpredictability which impacts the lives of so many in search of peace of mind and security of person.

Stephen is a strong advocate of value for consideration in the representation of the global community people who are deserving of a solution, a sensible cost-effective solution that serves to address their immediate sense of angst ... a solution which corresponds with their desire for a safer, if not in fact better, life for themselves and their dependent family members.

As a professional legal practitioner, Stephen is passionate about global programmes, legitimate global programmes which seek to provide clients with personal privacy and confidentiality ... corresponding with a legal solution for those applicants who seek 'refuge' from global conflict.

## SECOND CHANCE FOR FIRST IMPRESSIONS

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Stephen is often given to reflect on whether "an alternative citizenship coupled with a corresponding travel document represent the absolute answer for those whose lives inhabit a dangerous and unpredictable world'?

Perhaps not ... however an alternative citizenship and travel document does offer a temporal solution for the many whose lives are unsettled by global events and who are much in need of a multiplier to leverage a different and, hopefully, safer future.

## LIFE IS ABOUT NOTHING IF NOT OPTIONS

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To this end, Stephen is forever keen when disclosing that *"If your life whether that be your personal life, business life, or both, is focused on the global horizon, you simply have more options when you have more than one passport"*.

## PERSONAL ANECDOTES

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"There is a performativity gene in my life as there is with any person who strives to be and excels in being a public figure. You have these qualities that you are born with ... some of them are good, some of them people don't like and that's just something you have to live with.

From my early formative working days, I have needed to be able to do what I need to do to thrive as a person of relevance. It's like a neurosis that drives me to work every day. Hmm ... no point in getting out of bed in the morning otherwise.

The world is not so effortless and charming and black and white as we would like to think it to be. The whole lesson of my professional career has been that what's really important is the work you do ... the work you are judged by over the span of time. It's about reputation, integrity, and moral courage.”

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**NOTE:** The author is the son of a migrant from Europe whose father was then a five-year old immigrant to Canada in 1927, an immigrant whose parents sought refuge, not unlike the multitude of today comprised of so many other beleaguered lost-in-transition from the ravages of regional strife, economic destitution, lack of edible food, potable water, and security of both person and shelter. Stephen's father, the infant migrant from the last century, celebrated his 96th birthday in November 2018, in Canada.

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ANTIGUA & BARBUDA



ST. KITTS & NEVIS