



INTERNATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN BRANCH  
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# INTERNATIONAL LAW WEEKEND

OCTOBER 23-25, 2025



*103RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN BRANCH OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION*

## *CRISIS AS CATALYST IN INTERNATIONAL LAW*

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ORGANIZED BY THE AMERICAN BRANCH OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025** | EMERGING VOICES, OPENING PLENARY, AND RECEPTION

NEW YORK CITY BAR ASSOCIATION  
42 West 44th St, New York, NY 10036

**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24-25, 2025** | KEYNOTES, PANELS, AND MEETINGS

FORDHAM UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW  
150 West 62nd Street, New York, NY 10023

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025** | UN MISSION RECEPTION

PERMANENT MISSION OF CANADA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
466 Lexington Ave, 20th floor, New York, NY 10017

Statement on Conference Speakers:

The American Branch has a long history of organizing conferences that promote discourse about important international law topics. This often includes panels, speakers, and awardees who address controversial and sensitive issues. Our commitment to open debate remains unchanged, and ABILA does not engage in academic censorship. The program for International Law Weekend (ILW) does not reflect in any way the views of the Branch or any of our sponsor organizations. We continue to welcome broad and lively discussion at our conferences, as we have in past years.

# International Law Weekend 2025

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INTERNATIONAL  
LAW ASSOCIATION  
AMERICAN BRANCH ▸ EST. 1922

# Welcome to ILW 2025

The American Branch of the International Law Association welcomes you to its annual International Law Weekend (ILW) conference. The theme of ILW 2025 is **Crisis as Catalyst in International Law**.

ILW 2025 will explore how crises can serve as transformative moments that challenge and reshape the framework of international law. Whether political, environmental, economic, or humanitarian, crises compel local, regional, and global actors to confront the limitations of extant legal systems. By serving as catalysts for innovation, crises also provide opportunities to reevaluate and reconstruct international legal norms. This process highlights the dynamic nature of international law, which must balance its foundational principles with the need for flexibility in response to unprecedented events. ILW 2025 encourages participants to reimagine international law.

ILW 2025 will explore these issues through a diverse set of engaging and provocative panels, plenary sessions, and keynote addresses. The program will encompass a wide range of topics in both public international law and private international law. The audience comprises practitioners, academics, UN diplomats, business leaders, federal and state government officials, NGO leaders, journalists, students, and other interested individuals.

ILW 2025 opens with our Emerging Voices program, which provides a speaking opportunity for the best upcoming international law scholars at the New York City Bar Association on Thursday, October 23, 2025. The program continues with the President's Opening Plenary, a Fireside Chat with **Elinor Hammar skjöld** (United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs). She will be interviewed by American Branch President, **Michael P. Scharf**. American Branch Chair **Leila Nadya Sadat** and New York City Bar Association President **Muhammad U. Faridi** will give welcome remarks. An Opening Reception will follow the Plenary Panel.

The conference will continue at Fordham University School of Law on Friday and Saturday, October 24-25, 2025, featuring 35 panels on various topics. Keynote and plenary speakers include: **Mélida Hodgson** (President of the American Society of International Law; Partner, Arnold & Porter LLP), **Meg Kinnear** (Co-Founder of Low & Kinnear Dispute Resolution; Former Secretary-General of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes), **Lucinda A. Low** (Co-Founder of Low & Kinnear Dispute Resolution; Former President of the American Society of International Law), **Sir Howard Morrison** (Former International Criminal Court Judge; Advisor on War Crimes, Ukrainian Prosecutor General), and the winner of the 2025 Outstanding Achievement Award, **Brenda Hollis** (Former Chief Prosecutor of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia and of the Special Court for Sierra Leone). These events are open to all conference attendees. ILW 2025 also features community and committee networking rooms and opportunities to meet with legal book publishers.

The Friday night program concludes with a UN Mission Reception at the Canadian Permanent Mission (advance ticket purchase required).

The Saturday program includes the 103rd Annual Members Meeting, a Keynote Speech, and an Award Ceremony. The Annual Meeting is open to members and non-members alike. The Saturday program also includes a Career Session for Students and Young Lawyers.

This program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board for 1.5 credit hours for each of the 14 panels designated as CLE eligible on the agenda. All credit hours can be applied toward the Area of Professional Practice requirement.

# About the American Branch

The American Branch of the International Law Association is dedicated to the study, clarification and development of International Law and the advancement of peace, equity and justice worldwide. It is a diverse and inclusive community of individuals working or interested in international law. The Branch unites practitioners, academics, students, government officials, diplomats, and members of international and nongovernmental organizations. Members work together on committees to issue reports, amicus briefs, and letters to Congress, federal agencies, the United Nations, and other international organizations on a range of current and evolving topics.

The American Branch is part of a truly international organization. The International Law Association (ILA) was established in 1873 and is composed of sixty-six national branches (including the Headquarters Branch). It is the preeminent international non-governmental organization involved in developing and restating international law. The American Branch nominates members – both leading U.S. international lawyers and early career professionals – to participate in ILA committees. The opportunity to help prepare draft treaties or studies in collaboration with leading international lawyers and academics from around the world is vital to furthering an understanding of international law. Committee members and others who attend the ILA's biennial international conferences find their involvement with the ILA to be immensely rewarding.

The American Branch has its own committees, which allow members to combine service and academic or advocacy work. These committees are unusual in terms of the range of opportunities they provide for member-initiated projects, and there are opportunities for student involvement as well. The American Branch's committees – unlike the Branch as a whole – may advocate for specific positions on international legal issues. Committees have filed amicus briefs in appellate cases and communicated with government officials on a variety of issues. Branch committees also engage in traditional, rigorous academic work, sometimes undertaking projects that complement the work of parallel international ILA committees, and sometimes developing their own projects.

The Branch performs exceptional educational and professional service through its national and regional International Law Weekends. Other international law organizations also hold major national conferences, of course, but none follow the Branch's lead in offering low admission prices to members of the organization, to members of cosponsoring organizations, and deeply discounted admission to students. ILW provides significant opportunities for attendees to learn from and meet top international lawyers from private practices, academia, the government, nongovernmental organizations, the United Nations, and other international organizations.

## Join the American Branch today!

Membership opens a world of intellectual and professional engagement opportunities at a reasonable price.

Value for members includes:

- Invitation to join in the work of the Branch's 22 Committees and Study Groups
- The opportunity to be nominated to one of the ILA's 22 Committees and Study Groups
- A discounted rate for International Law Weekend
- Participation in the Branch's regional meetings
- Participation in ILA Biennials and other ILA regional conferences
- The opportunity to have their work featured in the Branch's biannual Newsletter.

To become a member, please visit [www.ila-americanbranch.org](http://www.ila-americanbranch.org).

## Thursday | October 23, 2025

New York City Bar Association, 42 West 44th St, New York, NY 10036

3:30p	<b>Registration</b>   Reception Hall, First Floor
4:00p	<b>2025 Emerging Voices</b> <i>Sponsored by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation</i> <b>Kazim Berkay Arslan</b> , Associate, Kabine Law Office LLP <b>Annika Knauer</b> , Research Fellow and PhD Candidate, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg <b>Emmanuel O. Osayande</b> , dual JD-PhD Candidate, Columbia Law School and Harvard University <b>Naida Softić</b> , PhD Candidate and Teaching Instructor, Loyola University, Chicago CLE Room, Second Floor
5:00p	<b>Registration</b>   Reception Hall, First Floor
5:30p	<b>President's Opening Plenary</b> <b>Welcome Remarks</b> <b>Leila Nadya Sadat</b> , ABILA Chair <b>Muhammad U. Faridi</b> , President, New York City Bar Association  <b>In Conversation with Elinor Hammar skjöld</b> United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs  Interviewed by <b>Michael P. Scharf</b> , ABILA President Meeting Hall, Second Floor
6:45p	<b>Opening Reception</b> <i>All are invited to attend</i> Reception Area, Second Floor
8:00p	<b>Early Career Drinks</b> <i>Everything's Jake Bar, 54 E 13th Street, New York</i>



## Friday | October 24, 2025

Fordham University School of Law, 150 W 62<sup>nd</sup> St, New York, NY 10023

8:30a	<b>Registration</b>   Second Floor				
9:00a	<b>Women's Networking Breakfast</b>   Soden Lounge, Second Floor <i>All are invited to attend   Sponsored by Arnold &amp; Porter and Low &amp; Kinnear Dispute Resolution</i> In collaboration with ArbitralWomen and ASIL's Women's International Law Interest Group				
10:00a	<b>Keynote: The Future of International Arbitration</b>   RM 2-02 Lucinda A. Low, Co-Founder, Low & Kinnear Dispute Resolution; Former ASIL President Meg Kinnear, Co-Founder, Low & Kinnear Dispute Resolution; Former ICSID Secretary-General Interviewed by Mérida Hodgson, Partner, Arnold & Porter LLP; ASIL President				
11:00a	<b>Coffee Break</b>   Soden Lounge, Second Floor				
11:30a	<b>Customary International Law: What Role Can It Play in Responding to Contemporary Global Crises?</b> RM 2-02C 	<b>UN Roundtable: Leading Diplomats Reflect on the UN at 80</b> RM 2-02B	<b>The Digital Divide in International Cyber Law</b> RM 2-02A	<b>Crisis, Courts, and Sovereigns: Rethinking Immunity and Enforcement in a Shifting Global Order</b> RM 2-01B 	<b>Planning a Career in International Law [ASIL]</b> RM 3-01
12:30p	<b>ABILA Board Meeting</b>   RM 3-07				
12:45p	<b>Complimentary Boxed Lunch</b>   Soden Lounge, Second Floor - <i>sponsored by the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice</i>				
12:45p	<b>ABILA Committee Networking</b>   Schmeltzer Dining Room, Second Floor				
1:30p	<b>International Tribunals and Cultural Heritage Destruction: War Crimes, Persecution, Genocide &amp; Discrimination</b> RM 2-01B	<b>The International Criminal Court: Surviving the Onslaught?</b> RM 2-02B	<b>The WTO and the Pandemic Agreement: A Simulation of the TRIPS Council During a Pandemic Emergency</b> RM 2-02A	<b>General Counsel Roundtable: Local Practice on a Global Scale</b> RM 2-02C 	<b>From Ambition to Action? The Sustainable Development Goals Ten Years On</b> RM 2-01A 
2:45p	<b>Coffee Break</b>   Soden Lounge, Second Floor				
3:00p	<b>A "New" Role for the ICJ?</b> RM 2-02B	<b>Negotiating the Future Crimes Against Humanity treaty: Paradigm Shift or Half-Measure?</b> RM 2-02C	<b>Towards "Un-Crisis" Thinking in Global Migration Law</b> RM 1-01	<b>Taking Stock of the World Trading System</b> RM 2-01B 	<b>Progress in International IP? Implications of the Riyadh Design Law Treaty</b> RM 2-02A 
4:15p	<b>Coffee Break</b>   Soden Lounge, Second Floor				
4:30p	<b>International Organization Secretariats as Crisis Managers and Change-Makers</b> RM 2-01B	<b>AI and International Humanitarian Law: Emerging Norms</b> RM 2-02B	<b>Creative Solutions for Accountability for Gender-Based Violence and Other Crimes in International Law</b> RM 2-02C 	<b>The Second Century of the Federal Arbitration Act</b> RM 1-01 	<b>Narrative Strategies in International Environmental Law</b> RM 2-02A
6:00p	<b>Reception at the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations</b> <i>Separate ticket purchase required</i> 466 Lexington Ave 20th floor, New York, NY 10017				

## Saturday | October 25, 2025

Fordham University School of Law, 150 W 62<sup>nd</sup> St, New York, NY 10023

8:30a	<b>Registration</b>   Second Floor				
9:00a	<b>ABILA's 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Members Meeting and Award Presentations</b>   RM 1-01 Book of the Year Awards, Outstanding Achievement Award, and Charles Siegal Award				
10:15a	<b>Coffee Break</b>   Soden Lounge, Second Floor				
10:30a	<b>Public Health and Human Rights: New Tensions and Synergies</b> RM 2-02A	<b>What Today's Wars Mean for Tomorrow's International Legal Order</b> RM 2-02B	<b>Toward a Regional Human Rights Framework in the Middle East: Aspirations, Realities, and Lessons from Comparative Regionalism</b> RM 2-02C	<b>Global Energy Governance - Strategic Weapon or Tool for Peace?</b> RM 2-01B 	<b>Keeping Sinking States Afloat: The Crisis of Climate Change-Induced Sea-Level Rise and the International Legal Framework</b> RM 1-01 
11:45a	<b>Coffee Break</b>   Soden Lounge, Second Floor				
12:00p	<b>Combatting State Hostage-Taking through International Law</b> RM 2-02B	<b>Global Business at a Crossroads: Navigating a New Fragmented Reality</b> RM 2-02A 	<b>The Role of Civil Society in the Face of the Crisis of the International Legal Order</b> RM 2-02C	<b>Does Investor-State Arbitration Impede Responses to Climate Change?</b> RM 2-01A 	<b>Crimes Against the Environment, Nature, and Biodiversity – Progresses and Gaps in the Law of International and Transnational Crimes</b> RM 2-01B
	<b>Jessup Compromis Q&amp;A</b> RM 1-01				
1:15p	<b>Complimentary Boxed Lunch</b>   Soden Lounge				
1:30p	<b>Lunch Keynote: Crisis as Catalyst in International Law</b>   RM 1-01 Sir Howard Morrison, Former Judge at the International Criminal Court and International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia				
2:15p	<b>Coffee Break</b>   Soden Lounge, Second Floor				
2:30p	<b>State Capture and Kleptocracy: Reimagining International Law On Anti-Corruption in an Age of Kleptocracy</b> RM 1-01 	<b>Prevention as a Fundamental Principle of International Law: Atrocity Prevention in a Time of Crisis</b> RM 2-02C	<b>The Force of Law for Good: Renewing the Global Commitment to Pro Bono</b> RM 2-02A	<b>Charting the Deep: An Oxford-Style Debate on the Future of Seabed Governance</b> RM 2-01B 	<b>Hot Topic: The Legality of Military Strikes on Drug Traffickers</b> RM 2-02B
3:50p	<b>Pathways to Employment in International Law</b>   RM 1-01 <i>With the ABA Section on International Law and ILSA</i>				
5:00p	<b>End of International Law Weekend 2025</b>				

 This program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board for 1.5 credit hours for each of the 14 panels designated as CLE eligible on the agenda. All credit hours can be applied toward the Areas of Professional Practice requirement.

# Letter from the President of ABILA

“We need International Law and Cooperation Now More than Ever.” That’s the motto of the ABILA, which appears at the top of our website. Those words could not be truer than today.

The ABILA has been around for 103 years. During that time, it has prepared reports, convened conferences, and issued statements related to global health crises, environmental crises, human rights abuses, terrorist attacks, and wars. It has helped develop international law, international conventions, and international institutions. And its members have included government leaders, officials from international organizations, and prominent practitioners and academics who have shaped the field — including the award recipients we will be celebrating during the Members’ Meeting on Saturday.

We are currently living in a particularly perilous time. Our own country has recently taken steps that seriously threaten the international rule of law, as I outline in my ABILA President’s Statement of February 25, 2025. A conference dedicated to discussing the numerous current crises facing international law and international institutions, and how such critical moments serve as catalysts for change, could not be more timely or essential. International Law Weekend is the largest gathering of international law experts in the United States each fall, and we are extremely proud of the program that we have put together for this year’s conference.

But the ABILA is much more than an annual conference. Our two dozen committees continue to prepare important reports. We have established a Study Group to provide comments to States that will negotiate the future Convention on Crimes Against Humanity. We have also recently launched several online initiatives to expand our educational outreach, including periodic webinars on salient topics, the new “International Law Chats” podcast series, and the ABILA Blog symposia. In addition, we have established new partnerships with “Just Security,” which is posting a series of essays by our members, and the Denver Journal of International Law, which is publishing articles generated from our annual conference. We continue to host regional conferences, with the next one scheduled to take place at UCLA on February 20-21, 2026.

Although we are the largest branch of the International Law Association, the ABILA is a small enough organization that it is easy to contribute to its important work. I invite you to join a committee, propose an ILW panel, and/or let me know if you are interested in participating in the ILW Organizing Committee or our other initiatives. I look forward to chatting with you during the conference.

Sincerely,

**Michael P. Scharf**

President of the ABILA

Dean of Case Western Reserve University

School of Law from 2013 - 2024



# 2025 Keynote & Plenary Speakers



## **Elinor Hammarskjöld**

*United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs*

Elinor has over 30 years of experience in security policy, international law, human rights, and treaty law. She has been a member of the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs' senior management team for over 10 years, serving in various capacities — including as Director-General for Political Affairs, Deputy Director in the Department for European Security Policy, Human Resources Director, and Ambassador of Sweden to Israel.



## **Mélida Hodgson**

*President, American Society of International Law; Partner, Arnold & Porter LLP*

With three decades of experience practicing at the intersection of international arbitration and sovereign obligations, Mélida represents clients operating worldwide across the range of arbitration fora, including the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), The Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), and under the rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL).



## **Brenda Hollis**

*Former Chief Prosecutor of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia and of the Special Court for Sierra Leone*

Brenda was appointed by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as Prosecutor of the Special Court for Sierra Leone in February 2010. Hollis was the Chief Prosecutor at the Special Court and served as the lead prosecutor in the trial and appeal of the case against Charles Taylor, the former President of Liberia.



## **Meg Kinnear**

*Co-Founder, Low & Kinnear Dispute Resolution; Former ICSID Secretary-General*

Meg brings unparalleled expertise and experience in investor-State, trade and commercial disputes, having led the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) from 2009-2024. Throughout her over 40-year career, she has been involved in complex, high-stakes litigation and arbitration involving diverse sectors, including transportation, natural resources, manufacturing, oil and gas, mining, and construction.



## **Lucinda A. Low**

*Co-Founder, Low & Kinnear Dispute Resolution; Former ASIL President*

Lucinda brings her decades of experience in international trade, investment, and other complex international business matters in a wide range of industries. She has been a leader in the legal profession and in private law practice. Her arbitration experience includes significant work as counsel, expert, and adjudicator. She served as President of the American Society of International Law in 2016-18.



## **Sir Howard Morrison**

*Former Judge at the International Criminal Court and International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia; Advisor, Ukrainian Prosecutor General*

From 2012 to 2021, Howard served as a Judge of the International Criminal Court. He has also been appointed a judge of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). In 2015, he was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II for his services to international justice and the rule of law.

# Thursday, October 23



New York City Bar Association, 42 West 44th St, New York, NY 10036

4:00PM-  
5:00PM

CLE Room  
2nd Floor  
New York City  
Bar Association

## Emerging Voices

*While international law is changing, the scholars and practitioners who study and implement the law are also changing. This panel consists of individuals who have worked in the field of international law for five years or fewer. Their presentations represent recent scholarship on the theory and practice of international law. ILW attendees are encouraged to attend this panel and provide feedback to these emerging young legal scholars and practitioners.*

Discussants and Moderator:

- **Christine Carpenter**, PhD Candidate and ILW 2025 Organizing Committee Member, University of Cambridge
- **Mark Janis**, William F. Starr Professor of Law, University of Connecticut School of Law

Speakers:

- **Kazım Berkay Arslan**, Associate, Kabine Law Office LLP - 'Foregrounding Local Community Perspectives in Investment Arbitration'
- **Annika Knauer**, Research Fellow and PhD Candidate, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg - 'Disinformation: Gendered and Violent'
- **Emmanuel O. Osayande**, dual JD-PhD Candidate, Columbia Law School and Harvard University - 'Justice Transferred: Strategic Litigation on Climate Change at Africa's International Courts'
- **Naida Softić**, PhD Candidate and Teaching Instructor, Loyola University, Chicago - 'Mandate at the Margins: Crisis, Refusal, and Legal Accountability in Migration Governance'

5:30PM-  
6:45PM

Meeting Hall  
2nd Floor  
New York City  
Bar Association

## Welcome to International Law Weekend 2025

*From **Leila Nadya Sadat**, James Carr Professor of International Criminal Law, Washington University in St. Louis School of Law; ABILA Chair, and **Muhammad U. Faridi**, President of the New York City Bar Association*

## President's Opening Plenary: In Conversation with Elinor Hammarskjöld

Elinor has over 30 years of experience in security policy, international law, human rights, and treaty law. She has been a member of the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs' senior management team for over 10 years, serving in various capacities — including as Director-General for Political Affairs, Deputy Director in the Department for European Security Policy, Human Resources Director, and Ambassador of Sweden to Israel.

Interviewer:

- **Michael P. Scharf**, Associate Dean for Global Legal Studies and Joseph C. Hostetler - BakerHostetler Professor of Law, Case Western Reserve University School of Law; ABILA President

Speaker:

- **Elinor Hammarskjöld**, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs



# Thursday, October 23



New York City Bar Association, 42 West 44th St, New York, NY 10036

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6:45PM-  
8:00PM

## Opening Reception

*Drinks Hall  
New York City  
Bar Association*

*The reception at the New York City Bar Association is open to all ILW attendees.*

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8:00PM

## Early Career Drinks

*Everything's  
Jake Bar, 54 E  
13th Street,  
New York*

ABILA is hosting a social for all early career lawyers - JD, LLM, JSD/SJD/PhD students, VAPs, Associates, etc., are welcome! The venue is 15 minutes away from the NYC Bar Association on public transit. Reservations are not required; ABILA will have several tables, and the bar will have ample additional space. Ask for 'ABILA' (uh-beela) at the door.



# Friday, October 24

Fordham University School of Law, 150 W 62<sup>nd</sup> St, New York, NY 10023

## 8:30AM Registration Opens

Second Floor *Pick up your name tag and ILW 2025 program from the registration tables at any time throughout the conference.*

## 9:00AM-10:00AM Women's Networking Breakfast

Soden Lounge  
Second Floor

Join us for our pre-Friday Plenary for bagels, fruit, coffee, and more. Together with *ArbitralWomen* and the American Society of International Law's *Women in International Law Interest Group*, the Women's Networking Breakfast is designed to be a welcoming space for women at all stages of their careers to connect, share insights, and foster mentorship. Everyone is free to attend.

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Porter and Low  
& Kinnear  
Dispute  
Resolution*

**Arnold & Porter**



## 10:00AM-11:00AM Keynote: The Future of International Arbitration

Constantino  
Room (2-02)

Join **Mélida Hodgson** as she interviews **Lucinda A. Low** and **Meg Kinnear**, Co-Founders of Low & Kinnear Dispute Resolution, about their incredible work in the world of international arbitration. Meg and Lucinda each have over 40 years of experience practicing international and domestic law. Both are widely recognized as highly effective, capable, strategic, and knowledgeable problem solvers, who manage complex legal and factual cases efficiently and collegially. They bring extensive international experience, pragmatism, and sound judgment to every matter they take on.

Moderator:

- **Mélida Hodgson**, President, American Society of International Law; Partner, Arnold & Porter LLP

Speakers:

- **Lucinda A. Low**, Co-Founder of Low & Kinnear Dispute Resolution; Former President of the American Society of International Law
- **Meg Kinnear**, Co-Founder of Low & Kinnear Dispute Resolution; Former Secretary-General of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)

## 11:00AM-11:30AM Coffee Break

Soden Lounge *Have coffee and tea in the Soden Lounge between panels.*

*Just Security* is an editorially independent, digital daily law and policy journal that elevates the discourse on national security, democracy and the rule of law, and rights.

We publish rigorous, expert analysis and informational resources on the issues that matter most. Our authors include current and former officials of governments and international organizations (including members of Congress, former heads of state, ambassadors, and other high-level officials), leading scholars, civil society practitioners, and other leading experts.

Our goals are to inform and empower decision-makers with high-quality analysis, foster informed dialogue on challenging issues, and remain accessible to our global audience. *Just Security* is an essential resource for those shaping a *just* and *secure* world.

## A selection of symposia, collections of articles, and repositories of information for international law:

- [Collection: U.S. Lethal Strikes on Suspected Drug Traffickers](#)
- [Just Security's Artificial Intelligence Archive](#)
- [Just Security's Israel-Hamas War Archive](#)
- [Just Security's Russia-Ukraine War Archive](#)
- [Just Security's Climate Archive](#)
- [Symposium: International Law in Ukraine – The View from Lviv](#)
- [Russia's Eliminationist Rhetoric Against Ukraine: A Collection](#)
- [Mapping State Reactions to the ICC Arrest Warrants for Netanyahu and Gallant](#)

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*JUST SECURITY*



## *The Just Security Podcast*

Stay ahead of the curve.

*The Just Security Podcast* is your essential briefing. We bring together leading minds to bridge the gap between theory and practice, from top academics to former government officials and international court prosecutors, to dissect and unpack complex legal and policy issues.



## *Just Security: Out Loud*

The essential reading,  
made audible.

*Just Security: Out Loud* takes the must-read articles from *Just Security* and transforms them into a daily podcast. It's the analysis you need, in the format you want.

11:30AM-  
12:45PM

Room 2-02C

*Sponsored by  
the ABILA  
Formation of  
Rules of  
Customary  
International  
Law Committee*



## Customary International Law: What Role Can It Play in Responding to Contemporary Global Crises?

Today, multiple crises affect international economic relations, the environment, human rights, and global peace and security. This panel will examine the role of such crises in challenging existing customary international law norms, creating new ones, or reaffirming established norms as a bedrock for preserving peace and respecting human rights. In particular, the panel will investigate the extent to which customary international law has unique virtues in responding to crises. For example, it can serve as a stabilizing force when states create crises or respond to them by withdrawing from or flouting treaties. At the same time, it has weaknesses, such as being slow to adapt to crisis-induced changes. The panelists will explore these themes in relation to various contemporary crises.

Moderator:

- **Brian D. Leopard**, Harold W. Conroy Distinguished Professor of Law, University of Nebraska College of Law

Speakers:

- **Noora Arajärvi**, Coordinator of the Legal Advisor's Office, European University Institute, Florence, Italy
- **Oona A. Hathaway**, Gerard C. and Bernice Latrobe Smith Professor of International Law, Yale Law School
- **Adil Haque**, Distinguished Professor of Law and Judge Jon O. Newman Scholar, Rutgers Law School
- **Sir Michael Wood KC**, Twenty Essex Chambers

11:30AM-  
12:45PM

Room 2-02B

*Sponsored by  
the ABILA  
International  
Arbitration  
Committee*

*Sponsored by  
Withers LLP*

## UN Roundtable: Leading Diplomats Reflect on the UN at 80

As the United Nations marks its 80th anniversary, international law remains a cornerstone of the multilateral system. This roundtable will bring together leading diplomats to examine concrete proposals to strengthen the UN system, drawing on national experiences and regional perspectives. Panelists will explore how the UN Charter and the International Court of Justice can contribute to institutional reform, clarify mandates, and enhance accountability. The discussion will also address initiatives featured in the Pact for the Future and other intergovernmental processes, focusing on how international legal frameworks can help the UN respond to modern threats.



Moderator:

- **Floriane Lavaud**, Senior Partner, Withers LLP; Co-Chair, ABILA International Arbitration Committee

Speakers:

- **H.E. Ambassador Milan Meetarbhan**, Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the United Nations
- **Pablo Adrián Arrocha Olabuenaga**, Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico
- **H.E. Ambassador Christian Wenaweser**, Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein to the United Nations

11:30AM-  
12:45PM

## The Digital Divide in International Cyber Law

Room 2-02A

This panel examines the impacts of the digital divide on state cyber relations, specifically how disparities in global digital infrastructure risk reinforcing and reproducing long-standing colonial-era power imbalances. Panelists will discuss how international cyber law—through treaties, regulatory frameworks, and the design of digital infrastructure, among other mediums—may inadvertently replicate the core-periphery dynamics entrenched through colonial history. The panels will critically examine the concrete measures required of states in positions of historical influence and privilege to catalyze the development of a global cyber order that diverges from the physical one, and with intentionality and diligence craft an international cyber infrastructure rooted in values of equity, inclusivity, and digital sovereignty.

Moderator:

- **Christine Carpenter**, PhD Candidate, University of Cambridge; ILW 2025 Organizing Committee

Speakers:

- **Jennifer Tridgell**, PhD Candidate, University of Cambridge
- **Roxana Vatanparast**, Assistant Professor, Capital University Law School
- **Rosey Wong**, Counsel, AHALI Dispute Resolution

11:30AM-  
12:45PM

## Crisis, Courts, and Sovereigns: Rethinking Immunity and Enforcement in a Shifting Global Order

Room 2-01B



This panel will examine the evolving contours of sovereign immunity in U.S. courts. Sovereign immunity litigation has become a flashpoint for questions at the heart of international law: how state actors are held accountable, how international arbitration intersects with public interests, and what role domestic courts play in global dispute resolution. The panel will explore this dynamic legal terrain through the lens of recent cases before the U.S. Supreme Court and appellate courts—such as *Devas v. Antrix*, *Spain v. Basket Renewables/NextEra*, *Hungary v. Simon*, and *Fuld v. PLO*. A key question will guide discussion: Are U.S. courts opening or closing their doors to suits involving foreign sovereigns?

Moderators:

- **Alec Albright**, Associate, White & Case LLP
- **Beatrice Walton**, Associate, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP

Speakers:

- **Andrea Bjorklund**, L. Yves Fortier Chair in International Arbitration and International Commercial Law, McGill University Faculty of Law
- **Ingrid (Wuerth) Brunk**, Helen Strong Curry Chair in International Law, Vanderbilt University Law School
- **Nicolle Kownacki**, Partner, White & Case LLP
- **Natalie Reid**, Partner, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP

# Friday, October 24



Fordham University School of Law, 150 W 62<sup>nd</sup> St, New York, NY 10023

11:30AM-  
12:45PM

## Planning a Career in International Law

Room 3-01

The market for legal jobs is challenging, and specializing in a particular issue, like international law, can make your job search even more frustrating. This session will discuss the steps that students and graduates can take while still in law school or in their early careers to help themselves stand out in the search for an international law position. Topics covered will include targeted job searching, managing one's professional contacts, identifying appropriate international experiences, pursuing valuable volunteer and professional membership opportunities, and other practical issues that students can pursue.

- **Taylor Kilpatrick**, Senior Program Manager, American Society of International Law

12:30PM-  
1:30PM

## ABILA Board Meeting

Room 3-07

*Lunch will be provided for members of the ABILA Board. Please leave the last panel session 15 minutes early to arrive on time.*

12:45PM-  
1:30PM

## Complimentary Boxed Lunch

Soden Lounge

*Sponsored by the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice*



**Leitner Center**  
for International Law and Justice  
AT FORDHAM LAW SCHOOL, NEW YORK CITY

12:45PM-  
1:15PM

## ABILA Committee Networking

Schmeltzer  
Dining Room,  
Second Floor

Open to ABILA members and non-members alike to learn more about the Branch's committee work. ABILA Committees range from the Formation of Rules of Customary International Law and Global Health Law to International Arbitration and Law of the Sea. Different tables will be allocated to our Committees. Please bring your lunch, speak with our Co-Chairs about your international legal interests, and explore the various opportunities available.





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1:30PM-  
2:45PM

## International Tribunals and Cultural Heritage Destruction: War Crimes, Persecution, Genocide & Discrimination

Room 2-01B

This panel explores the evolving role of cultural heritage in cases before the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court (ICC). Panelists will examine how the destruction and misappropriation of cultural heritage are increasingly framed as war crimes and targeted attacks on community identity. The discussion will highlight how cultural heritage features in ICJ and ICC cases under the Genocide Convention, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), and as persecution under the Rome Statute. Panelists will also consider the future role of cultural heritage in ICJ proceedings under the draft treaty on crimes against humanity and in future genocide prosecutions before the ICC.

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International  
Cultural  
Heritage  
Committee*

Moderator:

- **Emily Behzadi Cárdenas**, Associate Professor, California Western School of Law

Speakers:

- **Anne-Marie Carstens**, Associate Professor, University of Baltimore School of Law
- **Kristin Hausler**, Director, the Centre for International Law, British Institute of International and Comparative Law
- **Jane Levine**, Managing Partner, The ArtRisk Group; Board of Directors, U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield

1:30PM-  
2:45PM

## The International Criminal Court: Surviving the Onslaught?

Room 2-02B

The panel will examine the work of the International Criminal Court, which continues despite the imposition of sanctions by the United States and the Russian Federation. How well is the ICC performing? Is it living up to expectations? Is it achieving gender justice? Why isn't it prosecuting the crime of aggression? How were powerful states during the July 2025 Special Session of the ICC's Assembly of States Parties able to defeat a proposal to harmonize the ICC's jurisdiction over all four Rome Statute crimes? What challenges exist in terms of cooperation on arrests? What would full-court sanctions mean for the work of the ICC? The panelists will address these and other issues.

*Sponsored by  
the ABILA  
International  
Criminal Court  
Committee*

Moderator:

- **Patrick J. Keenan**, Professor of Law, University of Illinois College of Law; Co-Chair, ABILA International Criminal Court Committee

Speakers:

- **Valerie Oosterveld**, Professor and Research Chair in International Criminal Justice, University of Western Ontario Faculty of Law
- **Rebecca Shoot**, Impact Coalition on Strengthening International Judicial Institutions; Co-Convenor, Washington Working Group on the ICC; Advocacy Director, ABILA International Criminal Court Committee
- **Jennifer Trahan**, Professor, New York University Center for Global Affairs & Director of the Concentration in International Law & Human Rights; Convenor, The Global Institute for the Prevention of Aggression; Co-Chair ABILA International Criminal Court Committee
- **Maria Elena Vignoli**, Senior Counsel, International Justice Program, Human Rights Watch

1:30PM-  
2:45PM

## The WTO and the Pandemic Agreement: A Simulation of the TRIPS Council During a Pandemic Emergency

Room 2-02A

*Sponsored by  
the ABILA  
Global Health  
Committee*

January 1, 2025, marked the 30th anniversary of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) coming into effect. Over the last three decades, the global governance of intellectual property has played a significant role in international responses to health emergencies. The relationship between IP and pandemic preparedness and response was particularly evident during the COVID-19 pandemic, with growing uncertainty surrounding the scope for domestic measures to override patent rights during a public health crisis. In light of the adopted Pandemic Agreement, this session simulates a meeting of the WTO TRIPS Council, with key global health law scholars representing different scenarios and perspectives countries might use in the wake of the next public health crisis.

Moderator:

- **Matthew Carvalho**, Fellow (Global Governance and Diplomacy), Sunway Centre for Planetary Health, Sunway University; Co-Chair, ABILA Global Health Law Committee

Speakers:

- **Alexandra Finch**, Senior Associate, O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, and Adjunct Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Center
- **Sam Halabi**, Director, Center for Transformational Health Law and Professor, Georgetown University School of Health
- **Srividhya Ragavan**, Professor of Law and Dean's Research Chair, Texas A&M University School of Law
- **Ana Santos Rutschman**, Professor of Law, Villanova University School of Law; Co-Chair, ABILA Global Health Law Committee

1:30PM-  
2:45PM

## General Counsel Roundtable: Local Practice on a Global Scale

Room 2-02C

*Sponsored by  
Womble Bond  
Dickinson LLP*



General counsel play an increasingly critical and demanding role at global companies. They must carefully navigate a complex legal landscape spanning multiple jurisdictions. They must balance the need to harmonize practices across their organization with the reality of legal requirements and local differences. They have to prioritize the effective allocation of resources, deciding which legal expertise to develop in-house and which is best handled externally. At the same time, they guide senior executives through the legal and regulatory frameworks that shape strategy and operations worldwide. This panel will bring together experienced GCs to share how they tackle these challenges in practice, offering candid insights and actionable lessons that resonate across industries and with the outside counsel who advise them.

Moderator:

- **Randel Young**, Executive Director, Tulane Energy Law & Policy Center, Tulane University Law School

Speakers:

- **Renuka Drummond**, General Counsel, IDC
- **Audrey Jean**, General Counsel, 3E
- **David Rassin**, General Counsel, SAExploration



1:30PM-  
2:45PM

Room 2-01A



## From Ambition to Action? The Sustainable Development Goals Ten Years On

This panel will examine how the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have responded to the climate crisis a decade in. With the 2030 deadline approaching, we will ask: What crisis-driven changes are urgently needed, and who should lead them? Incremental progress is no longer enough. The discussion will spotlight transformative shifts, from reimagining economic systems for equity and sustainability to democratizing climate finance and integrating Indigenous knowledge into global policies. It will also confront power structures that hinder inclusive development. Central to this is leadership: the panel will explore how youth advocates, community organizers, and frontline defenders are reshaping efforts toward climate justice and driving progress toward the SDGs in this critical next phase.

Moderator:

- **Perpétua Chéry**, Associate, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP

Speakers:

- **Freya Doughty-Wagner**, ABILA Chief Operating Officer; North American Director, Global Network for Human Rights and the Environment
- **Giovanna E. Gismondi**, Visiting Associate Professor of Law and Environmental Law Fellow, George Washington University Law School
- **John H. Knox**, former U.N. Special Rapporteur for Human Rights and the Environment; Henry C. Lauerman Professor of International Law, Wake Forest University School of Law
- **Vanessa Racehorse**, Associate Professor of Law and Core Faculty Member of the American Indian Law Program, University of Colorado Law School

2:45PM-  
3:00PM

## Coffee Break

*Have coffee and tea in the Soden Lounge between panels.*

3:00PM-  
4:15PM

Room 2-02B

## A “New” Role for the ICJ?

In this panel, we will explore the ‘new’ role played by the International Court of Justice in dispute resolution. Speakers have all been involved in recent cases at the ICJ and will discuss the types of cases the ICJ is currently hearing, the growing use of advisory opinions, and the most recent decisions made by the court, as well as their significance in the interpretation, implementation, and development of international law.

Moderator:

- **Francesco Messineo**, Legal Officer, United Nations

Speakers:

- **Chiara Giorgetti**, Professor of Law, University of Richmond School of Law; Senior Fellow, International Claims and Reparations Project, Columbia Law School
- **Mohamed Helal**, Legal Advisor, Egyptian Permanent Mission to the United Nations
- **Alison Macdonald KC**, Barrister, Essex Court Chambers
- **H.E. Ambassador Franz Perrez**, Director-General, Directorate of International Law at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland
- **Arman Sarvarian**, Reader in Public International Law, University of Surrey

3:00PM-  
4:15PM

## Negotiating the Future Crimes Against Humanity Treaty: Paradigm Shift or Half-Measure?

Room 2-02C

*Sponsored by  
the ABILA  
Crimes Against  
Humanity  
Study Group*

Elinor Hammarskjöld, UN Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, has recently called the negotiation of a treaty on Crimes Against Humanity a bright light amid shrinking UN budgets, increasing global conflict, the fracturing of Western alliances, and the rise of authoritarianism. The adoption of GA Resolution 79/122 in December set out a four-year process for the treaty's negotiation, culminating in two sessions of a Diplomatic Conference in 2028 and 2029. Supported by 192 of 193 member states, it represented a moment of real consensus. Can this moment and the treaty negotiation process it began serve as a "transformative moment" that helps reshape and reconstruct international law? Can we move into new paradigms as negotiations begin, or will the looming challenges the world faces hobble efforts to reimagine international law?

Moderator:

- **Leila Nadya Sadat**, James Carr Professor of International Criminal Law, Washington University School of Law; ABILA Chair; Chair, ABILA Study Group on Crimes Against Humanity

Speakers:

- **Ana Paula Lavalle Arroyo**, Delegate for Third Committee and Sixth Committee, Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations
- **Tom Dannenbaum**, Professor of Law and Frank Stanton Professor of Nuclear Security, Stanford University
- **Akila Radhakrishnan**, Strategic Legal Adviser, Gender Justice, Atlantic Council
- **Hugo Relva**, Legal Adviser, Amnesty International
- **Sebastian Verelst**, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights' Transitional Justice Adviser

3:00PM-  
4:15PM

## Towards "Un-Crisis" Thinking in Global Migration Law

Room 1-01

International law relating to migration, like much migration policy, has long been driven by crisis, real or imaginary. In this sphere, crisis thinking operates as a mechanism of fear and exclusion, precluding holistic and equitable approaches. This discussion will examine ways of ending crisis thinking and moving towards comprehensive and rights-based migration law through questions, including: What has been the impact of crisis thinking on global migration law? What could be gained through "un-crisis" thinking? What are concrete proposals for global migration law motivated by "un-crisis" thinking? How can migration law respond to crises without being driven by them? How can domestic legal systems break free of crisis thinking and incorporate international protections of migrants in their approach to migration?

Moderator:

- **Monica Iyer**, Assistant Professor of Law, Georgia State University College of Law

Speakers:

- **Jennifer Gordon**, John D. Feerick Chair, Professor of Law, Fordham University School of Law
- **José Miranda**, Supervising Attorney (Climate), International Refugee Assistance Project
- **Siobhán Mullally**, U.N. Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children
- **Jaya Ramji-Nogales**, Sheller Family Professor in Public Interest Law, Temple University School of Law
- **Ragini Shah**, Clinical Professor of Law, Suffolk University School of Law

3:00PM-  
4:15PM

Room 2-01B

*Sponsored by  
the ABILA  
International  
Trade Law  
Committee*



## Taking Stock of the World Trading System

This panel will assess changes in U.S. trade policy and interpretations of U.S. trade law in the first ten months of President Trump's second term, and how those developments are affecting: the economy of the United States and other countries; trade flows and supply chains; international trade regimes (including the United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement and the World Trade Organization); political and economic relations among various countries; and expectations for the structure and content of international trade law development. Panelists will also consider what new trade arrangements might be possible.

Moderator:

- **Richard H. Steinberg**, Jonathan D. Varat Endowed Professor of Law and Professor of Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles

Speakers:

- **Kathleen Claussen**, Professor of Law and Anne Fleming Research Professor, Georgetown University Law Center
- **Kari Heerman**, Senior Fellow and Director of Trade and Economic Statecraft, The Brookings Institution
- **Hon. Timothy Reif**, Judge, Court of International Trade
- **Andrew Shoyer**, Partner, Sidley Austin LLP

3:00PM-  
4:15PM

Room 2-02A

*Sponsored by  
the ABILA  
Committee on  
International  
Intellectual  
Property*



## Progress in International IP? Implications of the Riyadh Design Law Treaty

International intellectual property law has, arguably, suffered a crisis of legitimacy, with the system being criticized as primarily benefiting large corporations and industrialized nations. However, 2024 was seen as a year of progress, with the conclusion of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) treaty requiring disclosure of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge in patent applications. WIPO member states also concluded the Riyadh Design Law Treaty (DLT) to harmonize and facilitate the registration of designs in different countries. Importantly, the DLT also addresses traditional cultural expressions. This panel of experts will discuss the implications of DLT in general, as well as the treaty implications for small and medium-sized enterprises, designers from developing countries, and the protection of traditional cultural expressions.

Moderator:

- **J. Janewa Osei-Tutu**, Professor of Law, University of Miami School of Law

Speakers:

- **Margo Bagley**, Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Law, Emory University School of Law; McDonald Distinguished Senior Fellow, Harvard Berkman Klein Center
- **Christine Farley**, Professor of Law, American University Washington College of Law
- **Sean Flynn**, Professor of Law and Director, Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property, American University Washington College of Law
- **Anna Morawiec Mansfield**, Legal Counsel, World Intellectual Property Organization
- **Peter K. Yu**, University Distinguished Professor of Law and Director, Center for Law and Intellectual Property, Texas A&M School of Law

4:15PM-  
4:30PM

## Coffee Break

*Have coffee and tea in the Soden Lounge between panels.*

4:30PM-  
5:45PM

## International Organization Secretariats as Crisis Managers and Change-Makers

Room 2-01B

How do international organizations respond to crises and unforeseen needs of their members, such as in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic or Ebola epidemic, the rise of disruptive technologies such as artificial intelligence, global economic and financial turbulences, or armed conflicts? Which role do secretariats and their representatives play in finding solutions? This panel will discuss how international organizations and their secretariats launch and implement innovative activities and adapt to respond to crises, members' demands, internal impulses, or interactions with the outside world. The panel brings together academics and experienced practitioners from international organizations to showcase and investigate the adaptive capacity, achievements, and limitations of international organizations in a wide variety of settings.

Moderator:

- **Michael J. Moffatt**, Associate Legal Officer, International Court of Justice

Speakers:

- **Ana Balcazar-Moreno**, Former Legal Officer, World Health Organization; PhD Research Associate, Geneva Graduate Institute
  - **Laurence Boisson de Chazournes**, Professor of International Law, University of Geneva
  - **Fernando Lusa Bordin**, Professor of International Institutional Law, Leiden University; Associate Professor in Law, Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge
  - **Charlotte Salpin**, Senior Legal Officer, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, U.N. Office of Legal Affairs
  - **Fady Zeidan**, Former General Counsel, The Global Fund; Former Deputy General Counsel, International Finance Corporation
- 

4:30PM-  
5:45PM

## AI and International Humanitarian Law: Emerging Norms

Room 2-02B

As artificial intelligence becomes increasingly integrated into military operations, international law faces new challenges in regulating armed conflict. This panel will explore the evolving use of AI in operations during armed conflicts and assess how existing IHL applies, with particular attention to questions of accountability, algorithmic decision-making, targeting, autonomy, and efficiency. Drawing on past experiences with global cybersecurity, the panel will consider the normative question of whether existing IHL is sufficient or if it contains prominent gaps in coverage or areas in need of evolution, with attention to efforts by States, civil society, and international organizations to shape new rules. The discussion thus highlights an increasingly important intersection point among law, ethics, and technology in contemporary warfare.

Moderator:

- **Duncan Hollis**, Laura H. Carnell Professor of Law, Temple Law School

Speakers:

- **Tsvetelina van Benthem**, Research Officer, Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford
- **Rebecca Crootof**, Nancy Litchfield Hicks Professor of Law, University of Richmond School of Law
- **Ana Peyró Llopis**, Principal Legal Officer of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations

4:30PM-  
5:45PM

Room 2-02C



## Creative Solutions for Accountability for Gender-Based Violence and Other Crimes in International Law

The past few years have seen an increase in atrocity crimes, ranging from the targeting of aid workers to widespread attacks against broader civilian populations. Few of these crimes will be prosecuted. Most perpetrators will not be held accountable. International mechanisms are necessary in the quest for accountability, but they do not have the capacity to address every survivor. Lawyers should explore diverse legal pathways in their fight against impunity, whether on the domestic, regional, or international levels. This event will discuss innovative litigation, including the SEC Complaint against Meta for their role in the Rohingya genocide, universal jurisdiction cases for gender-based crimes, as well as ways to use emerging technologies to locate alleged perpetrators and secure victories for survivors.

Moderator:

- **Esti Tambay**, Senior Legal Counsel, Open Society Justice Initiative

Speakers:

- **Sofia Coelho Candeias**, International Legal and Sexual Violence Expert, Department of Peace Operations
- **Yasmine Chubin**, Legal Advocacy Director, Clooney Foundation for Justice; Former International Criminal Court Prosecution Lawyer
- **Nick Leddy**, Head of Litigation, Legal Action Worldwide; Former International Criminal Court Prosecution Lawyer
- **Nema Milaninia**, Partner, Special Matters & Government Investigations, King & Spalding LLP; Former International Criminal Court Prosecution Lawyer
- **Maung Sawyeddollah**, Rohingya Human Rights Activist and Atrocity Crime Survivor

4:30PM-  
5:45PM

Room 1-01



## The Second Century of the Federal Arbitration Act

The Federal Arbitration Act celebrated its 100th anniversary in early 2025. What can we expect—and what might we hope for—in the next 100 years? The panel will build on this year's theme for ILW—reckoning with transformative moments and reimagining international law—and invite attendees to imagine how U.S. law might look like in the year 2125 in light of its evolution over the past century to meet new challenges and opportunities. The panel will address recent developments in U.S. arbitration law, emerging challenges, and proposals for reform.

Moderator:

- **H. Christopher Boehning**, Partner, Paul, Weiss LLP

Speakers:

- **Pamela Bookman**, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor of Law, Fordham University School of Law
- **Yasmine Lahlou**, Partner, Chaffetz Lindsey LLP
- **Robert Smit**, Professor of Professional Practice, Columbia Law School

# Friday, October 24



Fordham University School of Law, 150 W 62<sup>nd</sup> St, New York, NY 10023

4:30PM-  
5:45PM

## Narrative Strategies in International Environmental Law

Room 2-02A

Making the case for international environmental law often requires explaining complex causal chains, in which responsible acts are far from the ultimate consequences of environmental crises. Remedies, too, frequently require structural solutions several steps upstream from affected communities, along with buy-in from the public and policymakers to implement legislation that gives effect to State obligations. This panel will explore how environmental advocates use narrative strategies — in international courts, in domestic litigation applying international and comparative principles, and in broader public campaigns — to help make causality legible and build support. Panelists will consider what makes persuasive storytelling, how such strategies influence both legal outcomes and public engagement, and lessons for the development of international environmental law and other transnational legal movements.

Moderator:

- **Megan Corrarino**, Managing Editor, Just Security

Speakers:

- **Sue Biniaz**, Lecturer and Senior Fellow, Yale Jackson School of Global Affairs; Former Principal Deputy Special Envoy for Climate to the U.S. State Department
- **Camila Bustos**, Assistant Professor of Law, Elisabeth Haub School of Law, Pace University
- **Rebecca Hamilton**, Professor of Law, American University, Washington College of Law
- **Naima Te Maile Fifita**, Founder and Director, Moana Tasi Project; Councillor, World Future Council

6:00PM-  
7:30PM

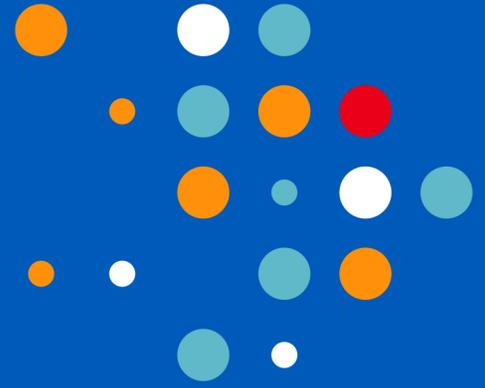
## UN Mission Reception | *Advance ticket purchase required*

466 Lexington  
Ave 20th floor,  
New York, NY  
10017

The Friday evening reception is generously hosted by the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations. Space is limited, and pre-registration is required. For security reasons, registered guests are required to present photo identification at check-in.



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Senior Vice President; Capital Markets  
Direct +1 212 419 9554 | Mobile +1 917 217 8113  
MichaelDelGrosso@ToppanMerrill.com

toppanmerrill .com

US: 800.688.4400

CANADA: 844.200.2448

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If you are interested in supporting the American Branch, please contact  
ABILA Chief Operating Officer Freya Doughty-Wagner ([freya@ila-americanbranch.org](mailto:freya@ila-americanbranch.org)) and ABILA President  
Michael P. Scharf ([mps17@case.edu](mailto:mps17@case.edu))

# Saturday, October 25



Fordham University School of Law, 150 W 62<sup>nd</sup> St, New York, NY 10023

9:00AM-  
10:15AM

## 103rd ABILA Members Meeting & Award Presentations

*The Members Meeting is open to members and non-members alike.*

Remarks by ILW Co-Chairs **William Aceves**, **Amity Boye**, and **Jess Peake**

Room 1-01

Thank you to Emerging Voices, Student Ambassadors, and representatives from ILA Branches.

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### Outstanding Achievement Award

**Brenda Hollis:** Brenda was appointed by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as Prosecutor of the Special Court for Sierra Leone in February 2010. Hollis was the Chief Prosecutor at the Special Court and served as the lead prosecutor in the trial and appeal of the case against Charles Taylor, the former President of Liberia.

Award presented by **Jennifer Trahan**, ABILA Vice-President; Co-Chair, ABILA International Criminal Court Committee. Award accepted by **James C. Johnson**, Chief Prosecutor of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone

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### Annual Award Presentations

#### Charles Siegal Distinguished Service Award

**Houston Putnam Lowry**, Partner, Ford & Paulekas, LLP, and ABILA Treasurer. Houston has taken on various roles with ABILA, including serving as the first Webmaster, Chair of the International Commercial Law Committee, and ABILA Secretary.

Award presented by **Andrea Bjorklund**, ABILA Board of Directors, and **David P. Stewart**, ABILA Honorary Vice-President

#### ABILA Book of the Year Award

**José E. Alvarez** and **Judith Bauder**, *Women's Property Rights Under CEDAW* (Oxford University Press, 2024)

#### ABILA Award for a Book on a Practical or Technical Subject

**Sir Michael Wood** and **Omri Sender**, *Identification of Customary International Law* (Oxford University Press, 2024)

#### ABILA Book Award for a First-time Author

**Erin Pobjie**, *Prohibited Force: The meaning of "Use of Force" in International Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2024)

#### ABILA Best Edited Volume Award

**Alejandro Chehtman**, **Alexandra Huneeus**, and **Sergio Puig**, *Latin American International Law in the Twenty-First Century* (Oxford University Press, 2025)

Awards presented by **Mortimer (Tim) Sellers**, Co-Chair, ABILA Legitimacy and Fundamental Principles of International Law Committee; Chair, ABILA Book Awards Committee

### 103rd Members Meeting



Fordham University School of Law, 150 W 62<sup>nd</sup> St, New York, NY 10023

10:15AM-  
10:30AM

## Coffee Break

*Have coffee and tea in the Soden Lounge between panels.*

10:30AM-  
11:45AM

## Public Health and Human Rights: New Tensions and Synergies

This roundtable will explore how government actions opposed to science-based public health policies fuel health “infodemics” such as vaccine myths; refusals to adopt evidence-based policies that prevent or slow disease epidemics; climate change denialism; and disinformation about safe abortion practices, violate the human right to the highest standard of mental and physical health as well as the human right to benefit from science. The roundtable will also explore the tools available in the international human rights law infrastructure and other strategies to help counter such anti-science policies.

Room 2-02A

*Sponsored by  
the ABILA  
International  
Human Rights  
Law Committee*

Moderator:

- **Warren Binford**, Professor and WH Lea Endowed Chair for Justice in Pediatric Law, Ethics & Policy, University of Colorado; Co-Chair, ABILA Committee on International Human Rights

Speakers:

- **Joe Amon**, Desmond M. Tutu Professor of Public Health and Human Rights and Director, Center for Health and Human Rights, Johns Hopkins University
- **Michele Heisler**, Professor, Internal Medicine, Health Behavior, and Health Equity, University of Michigan; Medical Director, Physicians for Human Rights
- **Payal Shah**, Director of Research, Litigation, and Advocacy, Physicians for Human Rights

10:30AM-  
11:45AM

## What Today's Wars Mean for Tomorrow's International Legal Order

The 1945 UN Charter and the 1949 Geneva Conventions revolutionized the international legal order's treatment of the use of force by states. From the prohibition on the use of aggressive force to detailed new rules for the conduct of hostilities and the protection of civilians, to commitments to end impunity for breaches, the past 75 years have been the golden age of law concerning armed conflict. Why, then, have the wars between neighboring States become an unprecedented stress test for the legal order that arose from the ashes of World War II? What is the future of these aspects of international law, and what benefits and burdens to humankind are likely to follow?

Room 2-02B

*Sponsored by  
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International  
Humanitarian  
Law  
Committee*

Moderator:

- **Gabor Rona**, Professor of Practice, Benjamin N. Cardozo Law School; Chair, ABILA Committee on International Humanitarian Law

Speakers:

- **Brian J. Egan**, Partner, National Security, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
- **Justice Richard Goldstone**, Former Chief Prosecutor of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda
- **Monica Hakimi**, William S. Beinecke Professor of Law, Columbia Law School
- **Chimène Keitner**, Homer G. Angelo and Ann Berryhill Professor of Law and Director of the Center for International Law and Policy, UC Davis School of Law

10:30AM-  
11:45AM

## Toward a Regional Human Rights Framework in the Middle East: Aspirations, Realities, and Lessons from Comparative Regionalism

Room 2-02C

More than a decade after the Arab Spring, the call for freedom, justice, and dignity still echoes across the Middle East. But can a bold new vision like a regional human rights convention turn aspiration into action? This panel takes on the big question: Is the time ripe for a Middle Eastern framework that protects rights through shared values, legal innovation, and regional cooperation? Drawing lessons from Europe, Africa, and the Americas, panelists will examine whether a homegrown model, rooted in the region's unique legal, cultural, and religious landscape, can be successful. From phased or hybrid commitments to new enforcement mechanisms, this session will pitch ideas, challenge assumptions, and ask: could this be the breakthrough the region has been waiting for?

Moderator:

- **Harout Ekmanian**, Associate, Foley Hoag LLP

Speakers:

- **Elise Baker**, Senior Staff Lawyer, Strategic Litigation Project, Atlantic Council
- **Kristine Beckerle**, Deputy Regional Director and Beirut Office Director, Amnesty International
- **Adrienne Fricke**, Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School's Middle East Initiative; Senior Peace Fellow, Public International Law and Policy Group
- **Salma Waheedi**, Executive Director, Program on Law and Society in the Muslim World, Harvard Law School

10:30AM-  
11:45AM

## Global Energy Governance - Strategic Weapon or Tool for Peace?

Room 2-01B



This session explores the importance of energy governance for states, as energy is essential for development and economic growth. It emphasizes that no state is fully energy independent, making control over global energy chokepoints a source of significant power. The session contrasts realpolitik and common-good approaches to governance, showing how each leads to different outcomes. It examines how legal frameworks can support more stable and effective results under both models. Ultimately, it argues that only a common-good approach can truly address global human rights challenges and outlines strategies to shift from confrontation to collaboration in energy governance.

Moderator:

- **Frédéric Sourgens**, James McCulloch Chair in Energy Law and Director of the Tulane Center for Energy Law, Tulane Law School

Speakers:

- **Catherine Banet**, Professor of Law and Head of the Department for Energy and Resources Law, University of Oslo
- **M. Imad Khan**, Partner, Winston & Strawn LLP

# Saturday, October 25



Fordham University School of Law, 150 W 62<sup>nd</sup> St, New York, NY 10023

10:30AM-  
11:45AM

Room 1-01



## Keeping Sinking States Afloat: The Crisis of Climate Change-Induced Sea-Level Rise and the International Legal Framework

There are four small island states that are in danger of becoming uninhabitable and even being completely submerged before the end of the century. Current consideration of the topic has focused on preserving statehood, while also considering the human dimension of the crisis through that lens. This panel examines how the crisis of climate change-induced sea-level rise challenges the current conception of statehood in international law and considers whether it should serve as a catalyst for the progressive development of international law, thereby preserving the statehood of states and better protecting individuals affected by this phenomenon.

Moderator:

- **Claire Robertson**, Senior Associate, DLA Piper LLP

Speakers:

- **Michael Gerrard**, Andrew Sabin Professor of Professional Practice; Founder and Faculty Director of Sabin Center for Climate Change Law, Columbia Law School
- **Benjamin Salas Kantor**, Special Assistant to the President, International Court of Justice
- **Vui Gemma Nelson**, Ocean Advisor, Alliance of Small Island States
- **Eran Sthoeger**, Litigator and Consultant in Public International Law; Adjunct Professor of Law, Brooklyn Law School; Lecturer in International Environmental Law, Columbia University
- **Patrícia Galvão Teles**, Co-Chair of the International Law Commission's Study Group on Sea-Level Rise in Relation to International Law

11:45AM-  
12:00PM

## Coffee Break

*Have coffee and tea in the Soden Lounge between panels.*

12:00PM-  
1:15PM

Room 2-02B

## Combatting State Hostage-Taking through International Law

State hostage-taking - the unlawful detention of foreign nationals for political leverage - is a growing concern that remains relatively unexplored and undefined in international law, posing challenges for legal characterization, recognition, and attribution. In 2024, Canada convened an International Independent Panel of eminent jurists to examine the existing framework and propose recommendations to strengthen international legal norms by enhancing legal clarity, promoting institutional accountability, and informing state responses. With the Panel's findings and recommendations to be released this fall, this timely session brings together legal experts, scholars, and policymakers to explore how international law can effectively respond. Panelists will assess the legal challenges, examine the Panel's proposals, and discuss the role of legal instruments and practitioners in addressing this practice.

Moderator:

- **Beatrice Maille**, Minister-Counsellor and Legal Adviser, Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations in New York City

Speakers:

- **Danielle Gilbert**, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Northwestern University
- **Claudio Grossman**, Member, Independent International Panel on Arbitrary Detention in State-to-State Relations; Professor of Law, Dean Emeritus, and the Raymond Geraldson Scholar for International and Humanitarian Law, American University Washington College of Law
- **Marina Sharpe**, Associate Professor of International Law, Royal Military College Saint-Jean



12:00PM-  
1:15PM

## Global Business at a Crossroads: Navigating a New Fragmented Reality

Room 2-02A



As the global geopolitical landscape fractures, law firms and their clients face a rapidly shifting business environment. The erosion of multilateralism, rising strategic rivalries, and the weaponization of legal tools—such as sanctions and extraterritorial regulation—are transforming the role of international lawyers. This panel explores how these disruptions are impacting global commerce, legal risk, and institutional trust. What new strategies must law firms adopt to advise clients amid fragmentation—and how might legal norms evolve to remain relevant in an era of power politics and complexity?

Speakers:

- **Jessica Beess und Chrostin**, Partner, King & Spalding LLP
- **William Burke-White**, Professor of Law, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School
- **Hugh Verrier**, Partner and Former Chair, White & Case LLP
- **Kimberly Zelnick**, Partner, Freshfields LLP

12:00PM-  
1:15PM

## The Role of Civil Society in the Face of the Crisis of the International Legal Order

Room 2-02C

The international rule of law faces serious threats as authoritarianism rises in both established and emerging democracies. Civil society organizations, often first to respond, are increasingly targeted by restrictions, harassment, and delegitimization. This roundtable will explore how civil society is confronting these challenges and responding to the erosion of domestic legal norms and the dismantling of the post-WWII international legal order. Leaders from civil society and bar associations worldwide will share strategies for defending the independence of the legal profession, resisting attacks on NGOs, and upholding legal frameworks critical to global economic stability, human rights, and security. The discussion will also focus on how civil society can remain resilient amid growing pressures on the international legal system.

Moderator:

- **Margaret E. (Peggy) McGuinness**, Co-Director, St. John's Center for International and Comparative Law, and Professor of Law, St John's University School of Law

Speakers:

- **Elizabeth Evenson**, International Justice Director, Human Rights Watch
- **Alejandro González-Arreola**, Chief Engagement Officer, World Justice Project
- **Gustavo Santillana**, Counsel, Mexican Bar Association
- **Uzra Zeya**, President and CEO, Human Rights First

12:00PM-  
1:15PM

## Does Investor-State Arbitration Impede Responses to Climate Change?

Room 2-01A

*Sponsored by  
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Investment Law  
Committee*

International investment law and investor-state arbitration have been criticized for hindering state responses to climate change. Such claims have been invoked to support calls for reform. But are these claims true? For example, the parties to the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT)—which protects energy investments in Europe and surrounding areas—adopted a “modernization” of the treaty on December 3, 2024. This multifaceted modification, among other things, excluded many hydrocarbon investments from international protection and included a range of other modifications to reflect climate change concerns. One animating concern of the ECT parties was to eliminate barriers to State climate change responses. This panel will debate whether and how investment law and investor-state arbitration restrict actions to mitigate climate change.



Moderator:

- **David L. Attanasio**, Partner, Womble Bond Dickinson LLP; Co-Chair, ABILA International Investment Law Committee

Speakers:

- **Jovana Crnčević**, Special Counsel, International Arbitration and Public International Law, Withers LLP
- **Daniel Reich**, Partner, Paul, Weiss LLP; Co-Chair, ABILA International Arbitration Committee
- **Diana Tsutieva**, Partner, International Litigation and Arbitration, Foley Hoag LLP

12:00PM-  
1:15PM

## Crimes Against the Environment, Nature, and Biodiversity – Progresses and Gaps in the Law of International and Transnational Crimes

Room 2-01B

*Sponsored by  
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International  
Environmental  
and Energy  
Law  
Committee*

Depending on their gravity, scale, and characteristics, crimes against the environment, nature, and biodiversity may fall under International Crimes or Transnational Crimes, triggering different levels of protection under International Law. The purpose of this panel will be to discuss progress, gaps, and loopholes, as well as overlapping rules. Panelists will consider the law of war crimes, proposals to include crimes against the environment in a draft UN Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Humanity, the new international crime of ecocide as well as environmental crimes reflecting business models illegally exploiting natural resources, wildlife trafficking, and destroying habitats/landscapes, to be qualified as transnational crimes, as evidenced by negotiations towards an additional protocol to UNTOC by an intergovernmental panel of experts.

Moderator:

- **Milena Sterio**, James A. Thomas Distinguished Professor of Law, Cleveland State University College of Law; ABILA Co-Director of Studies

Speakers:

- **David Donat Cattin**, Adjunct Associate Professor, Center for Global Affairs, New York University
- **Christopher Lentz**, Legal Advisor, Register of Damage for Ukraine; Lecturer in Law, University of Chicago Law School
- **Cymie Payne**, Associate Professor, Department of Human Ecology and School of Law, Rutgers University
- **Bryce Rudyk**, Climate Program Director, New York University Frank J. Guarini Centre on Environment, Energy and Land Use Law

# Saturday, October 25



Fordham University School of Law, 150 W 62<sup>nd</sup> St, New York, NY 10023

12:00PM-  
1:15PM

## Jessup Compromis/Q&A

Room 1-01



The Jessup 2026 Problem will present the following issues: (1) Who has the right to intervene in proceedings before the International Court of Justice? (2) What are the rights of indigenous peoples relating to rare earth minerals found in their land? (3) What are “the general principles of law recognized by civilized nations”? and (4) When is a state immune from the domestic jurisdiction of another state when it has caused economic harm to citizens of that state? This session is designed to allow Jessup competitors to ask questions to a team of international law experts in preparation for the 2026 National Rounds.



Moderator:

- **Michael Peil**, Executive Director, International Law Students Association

Speakers:

- **Benjamin Salas Kantor**, Lecturer in Law, Columbia Law; Associate Legal Officer, International Court of Justice
- **Chimène Keitner**, Homer G. Angelo and Ann Berryhill Professor of Law and Director of the Center for International Law and Policy, UC Davis School of Law
- **Asaf Lubin**, Associate Professor, Indiana University Maurer School of Law
- **Jessica Peake**, Director, International and Comparative Law Program, UCLA School of Law; ILW 2025 Co-Chair

1:15PM-  
2:15PM

## Complimentary Boxed Lunch

*Served in the Soden Lounge, Second Floor*

1:30PM-  
2:15PM

## Lunch Keynote: Crisis as Catalyst in International Law with Sir Howard Morrison

Room 1-01

*Sir Howard Morrison is a Former Judge with the International Criminal Court and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. Currently, he is the UK advisor on war crimes to the Ukrainian Prosecutor General.*



2:30PM-  
3:45PM

## State Capture and Kleptocracy: Reimagining International Law On Anti-Corruption in an Age of Kleptocracy

Room 1-01



The international legal regime surrounding bribery, embezzlement, and other corruption-related behavior assumes that states want to prevent and suppress corruption, but what if, as is increasingly true, it's the rulers who are stealing their country's wealth and so have no interest in pursuing an effective response? The panel will discuss the extent of the problem of systemic corruption, state capture, and kleptocracy. It will look at how the international architecture needs to change, and how international support for national initiative - especially involving the use of human rights mechanisms, private enforcement by victims, and cross-national legal actions - are already starting to revitalize and reconceptualize the field.

Moderator:

- **Belén Aguinaga**, Program Officer, Corruption and Human Rights, Due Process of Law Foundation

Speakers:

- **Elizabeth David-Barrett**, Professor of Governance and Integrity, Center for the Study of Corruption, University of Sussex
- **Gillian Dell**, Head of Conventions Unit, Transparency International
- **Rick Messick**, Editor, Global Anti-Corruption Blog
- **Naomi Roht-Arriaza**, Emerita Distinguished Professor of Law, UC Law San Francisco

2:30PM-  
3:45PM

## Prevention as a Fundamental Principal of International Law: Atrocity Prevention in a Time of Crisis

Room 2-02C

International law has long struggled to reconcile the clearly prevention-oriented approaches codified in its foundational documents and embodied in its core institutions with the reticence of states to take proactive action that could be seen as acting against sovereignty. Yet the rising tide of ongoing conflicts and mass atrocities has generated a public crisis around the legitimacy of international law. If international law can't prevent the worst offenses, the things it was literally designed to stop from happening ever again, why should we care about it? This roundtable will discuss the legitimacy crisis arising from international law's failure to prevent genocide and explore the challenges to a prevention-oriented approach to international law.

Moderator:

- **Carolyn Greco**, Washington DC Director, Crisis Action

Speakers:

- **Mutasim A. Ali**, Legal Advisor, Raoul Wallenberg Center for Human Rights; Doctoral Candidate, American University Washington College of Law
- **Megan Corrado**, Deputy Executive Director, Alliance for Peacebuilding
- **Yonah Diamond**, Senior Legal Counsel, Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights

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2:30PM-  
3:45PM

## The Force of Law for Good: Renewing the Global Commitment to Pro Bono

Room 2-02A

In a period marked by challenges for the non-profit sector, law firms can play a critical role in advancing justice. This panel examines how global law firms, with their exceptional reach and expertise, are uniquely positioned to champion international pro bono work. Through powerful case studies, three law firm-NGO pairs will share how their collaborations have delivered meaningful impact across borders. These partnerships show how legal professionals and civil society can join forces to build scalable, multi-sector solutions to global challenges. The discussion will highlight how a renewed commitment to pro bono not only strengthens the rule of law but also cultivates a new generation of capable, socially conscious lawyers.

Moderator:

- **Amity Boye**, ABILA President-Elect

Speakers:

- **Sara K. Andrews**, Senior International Pro Bono Counsel, DLA Piper LLP; Co-Executive Director, New Perimeter
- **Carmen Cheung Ka-Man**, Executive Director, Center for Justice & Accountability
- **Jason Hipp**, Partner, Jenner & Block LLP
- **Sara Lulo**, Executive Director, International Senior Lawyers Project
- **JoAnne Richardson**, Managing Director-International Programs, National Center for State Courts
- **Sven Volkmer**, Partner, White & Case LLP

2:30PM-  
3:45PM

## Charting the Deep: An Oxford-Style Debate on the Future of Seabed Governance

Room 2-01B

*Sponsored by  
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of the Sea  
Committee*

The ocean floor is becoming a key frontier for global resource extraction and a hotbed of international legal contention. As the United States moves forward with deep-sea mining while bypassing the International Seabed Authority, urgent questions surface about international governance, state sovereignty, and the future of ocean law. This Oxford-style debate will address two critical motions:

1. This House believes that the International Seabed Authority is effective in organizing and controlling mineral-resources-related activities in the Area.
2. This House believes that the United States may unilaterally explore and exploit resources available in the Area. Speakers will engage from opposing sides, offering legal and political insights into one of the most pressing global issues.

Moderator:

- **Konstantine Kopaliani**, Associate, White & Case LLP

Speakers:

- **Katherine Gorove**, Senior Counsel and Senior International Affairs Consultant, Lexpat Global Services
- **Anais Harlé**, Counsel, White & Case LLP
- **Juan Pablo Hugues**, International Law Practitioner and Consultant
- **Coalter Lathrop**, Director, Sovereign Geographic



2:30PM-  
3:45PM

## Hot Topic: The Legality of Military Strikes on Drug Traffickers

Room 2-02B

President Trump recently declared that the U.S. is in an armed conflict with drug cartels and has labeled drug smugglers as unlawful combatants subject to military attack in self-defense. In this hot topics panel, leading experts will examine whether the Trump Administration's position is consistent with international and domestic law, as well as the consequences of U.S. attacks against drug traffickers on the high seas and abroad.

Moderator:

- **Michael P. Scharf**, Associate Dean for Global Legal Studies and Joseph C. Hostetler - BakerHostetler Professor of Law, Case Western Reserve University School of Law; ABILA President

Speakers:

- **Laurie R. Blank**, Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the International Humanitarian Law Clinic, Emory University School of Law
- **Rebecca Ingber**, Professor of Law, Benjamin N. Cardozo Law School
- **Gabor Rona**, Professor of Practice, Benjamin N. Cardozo Law School; Chair, ABILA Committee on International Humanitarian Law

3:50PM-  
5:00PM

## Pathways to Employment in International Law

Room 1-01

Join us for an interactive discussion on how to launch an international legal career as a student or young lawyer. Hear speakers give practical career advice and guidance on using different networking and career tools to gain internships and entry-level legal jobs in the current job market. Speakers will discuss how to utilize your existing network to access opportunities and how to best position and present yourself as a top candidate during the interview process.

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Law and the  
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Law Students  
Association*

Moderators:

- **Angela Benson**, Membership, Meetings, and Marketing Director, American Bar Association, International Law Section
- **Michael Peil**, Executive Director, International Law Students Association

Speakers:

- **Gergő Balázs**, Associate Legal Officer, U.N. Office of Legal Affairs
- **Edmund Bao**, Associate, Litigation, Paul, Weiss LLP
- **Federico Euforbio**, Associate, International Arbitration, White & Case LLP
- **Sara Kaufhardt**, Associate, International Disputes Resolution Group, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP
- **Paulina Macías Ortega**, Wilson Fellow in International Litigation and Advocacy, Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Center; Legal Associate, Center for Reproductive Rights
- **Olga Pototskaya**, Associate, Commercial Disputes and International Arbitration, Winston & Strawn LLP

# American Branch of the International Law Association

## Committees and Study Groups

Committee	Chair(s)	Panel at ILW 2025
Arms Control and Disarmament	Luis Fortuño	
Formation of Rules of Customary International Law	Brian Lepard	Customary International Law: What Role Can It Play in Responding to Contemporary Global Crises? <i>Friday @ 11:30AM</i>
Global Health Law	Matthew Carvalho Ana Santos Rutschman	The WTO and the Pandemic Agreement: A Simulation of the TRIPS Council During a Pandemic Emergency <i>Friday @ 1:30PM</i>
International Arbitration	Floriane Lavaud Daniel Reich	UN Roundtable: Leading Diplomats Reflect on the UN at 80 <i>Friday @ 11:30AM</i>
International Criminal Court	Patrick Keenan Jennifer Trahan	The International Criminal Court: Surviving the Onslaught? <i>Friday @ 1:30PM</i>
International Commercial Law	Irene Calboli	
International Environmental and Energy Law	Carolina Arlota Myanna Dellinger	Crimes Against the Environment, Nature, and Biodiversity – Progresses and Gaps in the Law of International and Transnational Crimes <i>Saturday @ 12:00PM</i>
International Human Rights	Warren Binford Aaron Fellmeth	Public Health and Human Rights: New Tensions and Synergies <i>Saturday @ 10:30AM</i>
International Humanitarian Law	Gabor Rona	What Today's Wars Mean for Tomorrow's International Legal Order <i>Saturday @ 10:30AM</i>
International Intellectual Property Law	Sean Flynn J. Janewa Osei-Tutu	Progress in International IP? Implications of the Riyadh Design Law Treaty <i>Friday @ 3:00PM</i>
International Investment Law	David L. Attanasio Diora Ziyayeva	Does Investor-State Arbitration Impede Responses to Climate Change? <i>Saturday @ 12:00PM</i>
International Law in Domestic Courts	Martin Flaherty Steven Schneebaum	
International Trade Law	Richard Steinberg	Taking Stock of the World Trading System <i>Friday @ 3:00PM</i>
Islamic Law and Society	Sahar Aziz	
Law of the Sea	Coalter Lathrop	Charting the Deep: An Oxford-Style Debate on the Future of Seabed Governance <i>Saturday @ 2:30PM</i>
Legitimacy and Fundamental Principles of International Law	Mortimer Sellers Ioanna Tourkochoriti	
Space Law	Henry Hertzfeld Matthew Schaefer	
Study Group on the Negotiation of a Crimes Against Humanity Treaty	Leila Nadya Sadat	Negotiating the Future Crimes Against Humanity treaty: Paradigm Shift or Half-Measure? <i>Friday @ 3:00PM</i>
Teaching International Law	Milena Sterio	
United Nations Law	Christiane Ahlborn Michael J. Moffatt	
Use of Force	Jack Beard	

# How Do I Obtain CLE at ILW?

This program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board for 1.5 credit hours for each of the 14 panels designated as CLE eligible on the agenda. All credit hours can be applied toward the Areas of Professional Practice requirement. CLE attendance certificates will be issued for New York State only. If admitted to another jurisdiction, please consult your state's CLE regulations on obtaining credit for out-of-state programs. You may be able to independently apply for CLE credit in your jurisdiction using the NY CLE certificate.

To receive CLE credit, you will need to:

- Sign in and out on the Attendance Sheet for each panel you want CLE credit for.
- Listen for and take note of CLE Codes. Moderators will announce a unique attendance code during the panel that must be entered on the online Attorney Affirmation Form at the end of the conference.
- Fill out and submit the online Attorney Affirmation Form after the conference.

CLE Reading Materials, the Attorney Affirmation Form, and a Program Evaluation Form to provide feedback are available on the ILW 2025 website. If you have any questions, please email us at [CLE@ila-americanbranch.org](mailto:CLE@ila-americanbranch.org).

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## Denver Journal of International Law and Policy - *Publishing for ILW Speakers*



The *Denver Journal of International Law and Policy* ('DJILP') was founded in 1971 by the venerable Ved P. Nanda. Professor Nanda was a widely acclaimed international law scholar, a fierce human rights protector, and a vital member of the American Branch. He was involved with the American Branch for decades, serving in various roles, including as a member of the Executive Committee, Vice-President, David Dudley Field Patron, recipient of the 2023 Charles Siegal Distinguished Service Award, and Honorary Vice President until his passing. His professorial home was Strum College of Law, at the University of Denver, where he founded the International Legal Studies Program in 1972 and was the Director of the eponymous Ved Nanda Center for International and Comparative Law.

The DJILP is the second-oldest international law journal in the United States and is ranked internationally. The Journal publishes two issues annually, in the fall and spring, covering a variety of international legal topics. The American Branch has partnered with the *Denver Journal of International Law and Policy* to offer an **exclusive publishing opportunity** for International Law Weekend 2025 speakers. Authors are welcome to submit their contributions through DJILP's website, and all submissions will be considered for Volume 55, to be published in the fall of 2026 and spring of 2027.

Questions? Contact Editor-in-Chief Anya Szentes at [Anya.Szentes@du.edu](mailto:Anya.Szentes@du.edu) or speak to Student Ambassador Callie Borst at the Registration Desk.

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