

# NEWSLETTER

American Branch of the International Law Association

June 2016

## International Law Weekend 2016

October 27-29, 2016 in New York City

International Law Weekend 2016 (“ILW 2016”) – the premier international law event of the fall season – is scheduled for October 27-29, 2016 in New York City.

The theme of the Weekend is “International Law 5.0.” The world is changing at an accelerating rate. From technological advances to environmental transformations, international lawyers are forced to confront emerging forces and new scenarios. Even “settled” principles of law are no longer settled. These tectonic shifts have been felt throughout the geography of international law. Legal professionals at every level – local, national, regional, and international – must change their practice to meet a changing world. Innovation will become necessary for survival.

ILW 2016 will explore these issues through a diverse collection of engaging and provocative discussions. We expect an audience of over 1000 attendees, including practitioners, academics, U.N. diplomats, foreign experts, business leaders, federal and state government officials, NGO leaders, journalists, students, and interested citizens.

This year’s Organizing Committee is co-chaired by Profs. William Aceves and Peter Yu, and includes Samuel Baumgartner, Carlos Fuentes, Rahim Moloo, and Jessica Simonoff, as well as ILSA’s Program Director Tessa Walker and ABILA President David P. Stewart.

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### DON'T MISS IT! ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING SATURDAY OCTOBER 29, 2016

The Annual Meeting of the Branch Membership will take place at 3:30 pm on Saturday, October 29 at Fordham Law School, in conjunction with ILW. 2016. The agenda will be posted on the Branch website in advance. This meeting is for all Branch members. Your participation and input is important to the Branch.

Stay in touch! Join the American Branch group on LinkedIn.





## International Law Weekend 2016

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The opening panel and gala welcoming reception will be held on the evening of Thursday, October 27, 2016 at the New York City Bar Association (42 West 44th Street). The panel will feature a moderated discussion among the UN Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and Legal Counsel (Miguel de Serpa Soares), the Legal Adviser of the U.S. Department of State (Brian Egan), and Donald Francis Donovan (Debevoise & Plimpton LLP). Other invitations are pending.

The remaining panels will be held on Friday and Saturday at Fordham Law School (150 West 62nd Street). The keynote address on Friday will be given by Lucinda A. Low, the President of the American Society of International Law. As in prior years, a reception is planned on Friday evening at a sponsoring UN Mission. A modest fee will be charged.

CLE credit will be available for selected panels in each time period.

ILW 2016 is sponsored and organized by the American Branch of the International Law Association ("ABILA"), which welcomes new members from academia, the practicing bar, and the diplomatic world, and the International Law Students Association ("ILSA"), which also welcomes students and lawyers from around the world who are interested in the principles and purposes of international law.

Attendance at the conference is free for all ABILA and ILSA members as well as for students. Attendance is also free for members of other cosponsoring organizations, including the American Society of International Law ("ASIL"), the New York City Bar Association ("NYCBA"), and the ABA Section of International Law ("ABA/SIL"). Members of other national branches of the International Law Association ("ILA") are welcomed at the reduced rate of \$100. General admission will be \$200.

Additional information is available at [www.ilsa.org](http://www.ilsa.org) and [www.ila-americanbranch.org](http://www.ila-americanbranch.org). On-line registration for this event will open in July.

Following ILW, the ILSA Journal of International and Comparative Law will publish an issue of the Journal that contains many of the papers presented at International Law Weekend. This issue is titled "The International Practitioner's Notebook." An electronic version of this issue will be sent to all American Branch members.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

In accordance with the Branch's articles of incorporation and by-laws, Branch officers and members of the Board of Directors will be elected at the Annual Members Meeting to be held on Saturday October 29 in connection with International Law Weekend 2016.

The Branch Nominating Committee, which includes Leila Sadat, Jennifer Trahan and Ron Brand, has begun the process of soliciting nominations and expressions of interest in preparation for these elections.

The Committee will be reaching out to all current officers and directors to ask if they wish to stand for re-election, and welcomes nominations from (or on behalf of) any other Branch member. The Committee will give particular attention to candidates' records of active participation in, and significant contributions to, the various activities of the Branch as well as interest in and participation in ILA Committees which carry out the purposes of the organization as a whole.

Contact: Committee Chair (and Vice President) Leila Sadat at [sadat@wustl.edu](mailto:sadat@wustl.edu).

VISIT THE AMERICAN  
BRANCH WEBSITE:  
[WWW.ILA-AMERICAN-BRANCH.ORG](http://WWW.ILA-AMERICAN-BRANCH.ORG)

## Branch Board of Directors Meeting

The next meeting of the Branch Board of Directors will take place at 12:30 p.m., October 29, preceding the Annual Members Meeting. All members of the Board are expected to attend (we will try to arrange teleconferencing for this event, as we did last year). Those who are unable to attend should communicate promptly with the Branch's Honorary Secretary. The agenda and associated reports will be circulated to Board members in advance.



Johannesburg, South Africa

## Please Pay Your Dues

ABILA charges dues on a calendar year basis (from January to December each year). As we finish the 2nd quarter of the dues year, a fair number of members have not yet renewed. Please take time now to remedy this oversight.

You can renew your dues online at: <http://www.ila-americanbranch.org/Membership.aspx>.

If you prefer to mail a check, send it (payable to the American Branch, International Law Association) to:

Seana Flanagin, c/o  
Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP  
355 South Grand Ave., 35th  
Flr., Los Angeles, CA 90071.

If you are not sure of your status, send an inquiry to [Seana.ila.americanbranch@gmail.com](mailto:Seana.ila.americanbranch@gmail.com). We look forward to your continued membership.

## ILA BIENNIAL 2016

**Johannesburg, South Africa**  
**August 7-11, 2016**

The 77th ILA Biennial Conference will take place August 7-11, 2016 in Johannesburg, South Africa. The theme is **International Law and State Practice: Is There a North/South Divide?** As usual at ILA Biennials, the conference will include plenary sessions and addresses as well as both open and closed (working) meetings of most ILA committees and study groups.

Among the topics to be addressed are such diverse subjects as Sovereign Bankruptcy, Use of Force, Africa's Illegal Capital Flight, Marine Bio-diversity, Business and Human Rights, UN Sanctions, Global Health Law, Sustainable Natural Resources, International Securities Regulation, Cultural Heritage Law, Teaching International Law, Principles of Engagement of Domestic Courts with International Law, Due Diligence in International Law, International Law and Sea-Level Rise, the International Criminal Court, Space Law, Baselines and the International Law of the Sea, Preferential Trade Agreements, and Rule of Law and Investment Law. For additional information, and to register (there is still room), go to the official conference website: [www.ila2016.com](http://www.ila2016.com).

The American Branch has made a contribution of \$5000.00 (£3492.35) to the ILA Scholarship Fund to support the participation of younger scholars and practitioners in the Biennial (especially those from the region who would otherwise be unable to attend).





Johannesburg, South Africa

## ILA Biennial Scholarships

As previously reported, the American Branch made a contribution of \$5000.00 (£3492.35) to the ILA Scholarship Fund to support the participation of younger scholars and practitioners in the upcoming 2016 Biennial in Johannesburg (especially those from the region who would otherwise be unable to attend). Our contribution, along with those from other ILA Branches, has been used to fund the attendance of 11 recipients (out of 40 applications) chosen by the ILA's Scholarship Fund Committee. The Fund Committee gave particular emphasis in selection to applications from young scholars and practitioners from the African continent and other areas where the ILA does not currently have Branches.

Among the comments received from the successful applicants: "I am profoundly honored and excited! ... Please extend my deepest appreciation to all individuals that have made this possible. I wish I could explain how happy I am right now!" "Thank you for your notification--I am so happy to receive this news! Thank you and the Selection Committee for your consideration and for the selection." "I thank you and the members of the Scholarship Committee for choosing me. It is truly an honour." "I am extremely grateful for receiving the generous ILA scholarship award and look forward to taking part in the conference."

"I thank you and the members of the Scholarship Committee for choosing me. It is truly an honour."

"Many thanks for your message! It is my great honour to be one of the ILA scholarship recipients. I am now writing to confirm that I will take this place." "I am most grateful and honored to be a recipient and look forward to attending the conference in August 2016." "Thank you for great news. I am really thrilled and honored for being selected to receive this award and I cannot wait going to the ILA 2016 Conference." And, "Thank you very much for your email which makes me happy since the moment I received this good news."

## Good Governance Initiative: Appointment of Board of Directors Committees

### A Report from the President

In the Spring (March 2016) Newsletter, I described in some detail the progress of the Branch's "Good Governance Initiative" and our successful transition from an unincorporated membership association to a not-for-profit Delaware corporation with 501(c)(3) status.

The Spring Newsletter also noted the appointment of a **Good Governance and Best Practices Committee** of the Board of Directors, chaired by Vice President Anibal Sabater and including Honorary Secretary Amity Boye, Executive Committee members Nancy Thevenin and Sherry Holbrook, and Honorary Treasurer Houston Putnam Lowry. This committee has been helping us complete the organizational transition, monitor the budget and audit the Branch accounts and expenditures, complete the draft "governance handbook," and review Branch (corporate) policies.

Our new Branch **Nominating Committee** (chaired by Vice President Leila Sadat and including Jennifer Trahan and Ron Brand) is now hard at work on nomination of candidates for election as officers and members of the Board of Directors this fall, as well as making recommendations with respect to a "rotation policy" and standards for the election of Honorary Vice-Presidents.

Additional Board of Directors committees are now at work on other important tasks, with the goal of presenting preliminary findings and recommendations at the Board of Directors and Members meetings

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## President's Report on the Good Governance Initiative (cont'd)

*(Continued from page 4)*

in October. These efforts are part of our plan to conduct a broad reassessment of how the Branch is structured and operates, and to decide on adjustments, improvements and new directions where appropriate.

The **Publications/Communications/Outreach Committee**, chaired by Louise Ellen Teitz and including Steven Schneebaum and Karen Hudes Spergel (with assistance from Branch Webmaster Mark Cuevas and Membership Secretary Seana Flanagan) will evaluate the Branch's publications (IPN, Proceedings, Newsletter), work with Mark Cuevas on revisions to the Branch Website (including how it will connect with the new ILA website now under redesign), and investigate how we might better communicate with members (i.e., through use of social media). See Mark Cuevas' report on proposed changes to the Branch website later on in this Newsletter.

The **Membership/Growth/Diversity Committee**, chaired by Vice President Paul Dubinsky and including Board of Directors members Andrea Bjorklund, Scott Horton and Arnold Pronto, is charged with making recommendations regarding membership (and how to increase it) including through new outreach efforts to students, practitioners, the diplomatic and consular communities, the international organizations (such as the UN, the OAS, the World Bank, etc.), corporate counsel offices, non-governmental organizations,

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## ILA Executive Council Meeting May 2016

The Executive Council of the International Law Association held its semi-annual meeting in London on May 7, 2016. ABILA Vice-President Paul Dubinsky accompanied Branch President David Stewart to represent the Branch. Prof. Cynthia Lichtenstein, former President of the Branch who now serves as a Vice Chairman of the Association, was also present. Twenty-one of the ILA's 55 Branches were in attendance.

Among the items of particular note, the Council approved the reformulated proposal for new ILA Committee on the Procedure of International Courts and Tribunals, to be chaired by Profs. Helene Ruiz Fabri, Philippe Sands and Shotaro Hamamoto. Drs. Arman Sarvarian and Filippo Fontanelli will serve as Rapporteurs. The mandate of the new committee will be to identify and analyze procedural issues arising in the practice of select tribunals and to formulate proposals for reform. The focus will be on the IJC, ITLOS, PCA and WTO.

The committee intends to inaugurate its program at the ILA Biennial in Johannesburg. Branch members with an interest in being nominated should contact David Stewart at the earliest opportunity. The Branch has a procedure for considering such requests to participate in ILA Committees.

The Executive Council also approved formulation of a proposal for a new ILA Study Group on International Tax Law. The intent of the Study Group would be to examine whether it is possible to identify elements of an international tax law regime, in particular whether any international tax law principles can be identified. Consideration would be given primarily to (1) jurisdiction to tax, (1) taxpayers' rights, and (3) general principles of international tax law. A more complete proposal will be presented for final approval at the 2016 Biennial.

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London, United Kingdom

## ILA Executive Council Meeting May 2016 (cont'd)

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Prof. Marcel Brus, the ILA's Director of Studies, announced a number of appointments to Study Groups, including (from the American Branch) Joel Trachtman to the Study Group on the Content and Evolution of the Rules of Interpretation. Mara Kimmel was nominated by the Chair to the Committee on Implementation of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and Ioana Cismas was likewise nominated by the Chair to the International Human Rights Law Committee.

The Council reviewed the final plans for the upcoming ILA Biennial in Johannesburg from August 7-11. Ample space remains so any members considering attending should go online to register as soon as possible ([www.ila2016.org](http://www.ila2016.org)). It will be an excellent opportunity to become familiar with the range of work done in the ILA: some 23 committees and 10 study groups will hold open meetings (and many closed meetings as well).

The 2018 Biennial will be held in Sydney, Australia, from August 20-24, 2018. Kyoto will hold the 2020 Biennial (likely in August) and Portugal the one in 2022. A celebration of the ILA's 150th anniversary will take place in Paris in October 2023.

Finally, the Council gave substantial attention to a revised "mission statement" for the Association, authorizing the Chair, Lord Jonathan Mance, to prepare a final text.

The ILA now boasts 3989 members worldwide. The American Branch continues to be among the five largest national branches, all with more than 250 members (the others include the British, Japanese, German, and Dutch). Among the smallest (with fewer than 15 members each) are those from Croatia, Egypt, Hong Kong, Jordan, Turkey and East Africa.

*Submitted by David P. Stewart*

### ABA DAY AT THE UNITED NATIONS

On April 11, 2016 Houston Putnam Lowry and Jennifer Trahan attended ABA Day at the United Nations on behalf of ABILA. The full-day of meetings was attended by representatives from the ABA as well as several other bar associations, and included meetings with UN officials and officials at the United States Mission to the United Nations.



## Can You Help with the Branch Newsletter?

The Newsletter is one of the best ways to communicate with Branch members about events and developments of shared interest. To contribute materials, to assist or to volunteer to be the editor, please email [abilanews@gmail.com](mailto:abilanews@gmail.com).

## Patrons

Please consider becoming a Patron of the American Branch by contributing \$5,000.00 or more. Patrons become life members of the Branch.

For information about the Patrons' Program, see the Membership page at <http://www.ila-americanbranch.org/Membership.aspx> or contact the President.

Thanks to our current ABILA Patrons:

Charles N. Brower  
Lee Buchheit  
David D. Caron  
Christina Cerna  
Edward Gordon  
Tony Lee Larson  
Cynthia Lichtenstein  
Houston Putnam Lowry  
Roberto Aquirre Luzi  
John F. Murphy  
James A. R. Nafziger  
Ved P. Nanda  
Andre Newberg  
John E. Noyes  
Anibal Sabater  
Paul B. Stephan  
David P. Stewart  
Ruth Wedgwood



## President's Report on the Good Governance Initiative (cont'd)

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and sister organizations such as the ABCNY, ABA Section of International Law, AALS, ASIL, and AFLA.

The **Committee on Fundraising/Solicitation/Development**, chaired by Michael Scharf and including Gabor Rona, George Walker, Roberto Aguirre Luzi, and Branch Chair/ILA President Ruth Wedgwood, has been asked to review and make recommendations on the Branch's financial model, including inter alia our dues policy, how we pay for International Law Weekend, the best way to solicit contributions from individual patrons as well as educational and other institutional members and possible sources of support.

The **Programs Committee**, led by Vice President Philip Moreman and including Larry Johnson, Christina Cerna and James Boykin, with assistance from the Co-Directors of Studies Aaron Fellmeth and Chiara Giorgetti, together with Program Director Rachel Smith, will review how we organize, plan and present the annual International Law Weekend, the regional ILW events, the activities of Branch Committees and programs; our relations with the ILA and other ILA branches cosponsoring programs, obviously in coordination with the committee working on membership/growth/diversity issues.

The 2016 **ILW Organizing Committee**, co-chaired by Peter Yu and William Aceves and including Branch members Samuel Baumgartner, Carlos Fuentes, Rahim Moloo, and Jessica Simonoff (as well as ILSA's Program Director

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## NEWS OF BRANCH MEMBERS

**Prof. John Noyes**, former Branch President and Roger J. Traynor Professor of Law at California Western School of Law, delivered a lecture on the Law of the Sea and Human Rights for the ILA Irish Branch at the Irish Center for Human Rights in Galway on June 20, 2016.

**Prof. Aaron Fellmeth's** latest book, *Paradigms of International Human Rights Law*, which was 3 years in the making, will be published by Oxford U. Press this coming July. Prof. Fellmeth teaches at Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law and serves as Branch co-director of studies.

**Prof. James Nafziger**, an Honorary Vice President of the Branch who also serves as a "co-opted" member of the ILA's Executive Council, has been re-elected Honorary President of the International Association of Sports Law. He is Thomas B. Stoel Professor of Law, Director of International Law Programs at Willamette University and Secretary of the American Society of International Law.

**Prof. Paolo Davide Farah** has published *Energy: Policy, Legal and Social-Economic Issues Under the Dimensions of Sustainability and Security* World Scientific Reference on Globalisation in Eurasia and the Pacific Rim, Imperial College Press (London, United Kingdom) & World Scientific Publishing, December 2015. He also served as Guest Editor-in-Chief of the Special Issue on "Sustainable Energy Investments and National Security: Arbitration and Negotiations Issues," published at 8 *Journal of World Energy Law and Business* 495 (December 2015).

**Prof. Farah** will also be coordinating the 11th annual Summer Law Institute in China, with two curricula: Summer Institute in Intellectual Property Law and China, and Summer Institute in Climate Change and Environmental Protection, held in Beijing, China from July 16 -August 13, 2016.

**Prof. Louise Ellen Teitz**, a member of the Board of Directors, served as a member of the U.S. delegation (on behalf of the Uniform Law Commission) to the Special Commission of the Hague Conference on Private International Law on the Judgments Project, which met in The Hague from June 1 to 9, 2016. The Special Commission was attended by 153 participants from 53 States, as well as the EU (attending as a "Regional Economic Integration Organization") as well as a number of non-Member States, 16 international governmental and non-governmental organizations. The result of its deliberations was a revised text of a potential multi-lateral Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgments, which will be considered at a second meeting in February 2017.

On June 15, **Profs. Leila Sadat** and **Mark Drumbl**, U.S. Branch members of the ILA's Committee on Complementarity in International Criminal Law, submitted the U.S. National Report to the Committee, describing the "complicated" and sometimes "uneasy relationship" relationship between the United States and the Court, but noting that despite "considerable legal gaps in coverage, particularly as regards crimes against humanity and war crimes" as well as "tremendous political barriers to accountability for the commission" of such crimes, the United States is nonetheless "more than capable of prosecuting ICC crimes effectively" and is "sometimes ... supportive of efforts to combat impunity for the commission of ICC crimes abroad."

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## FIFTY YEARS AGO AT THE AMERICAN BRANCH

The annual meeting of the American Branch of the International Law Association was held on May 6, 1966. Cecil Olmstead was then serving as Branch President.

Professor Myres S. McDougal of Yale, a member of the Branch's Executive Committee, spoke at the annual dinner at the Cosmopolitan Club in New York City. His comments focused on U.S. foreign policy in Vietnam and the Dominican Republic, evaluating U.S. policy in light of the perspectives of the New Haven School of international law.

Earlier in the day, the American Branch and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York jointly hosted a panel on "Legal Problems in the Conduct of the War in Vietnam." Speakers included two Vice Presidents of the American Branch – Harvard Professors Louis B. Sohn and Richard R. Baxter – along with Professor McDougal and Professor Richard Falk of Princeton. See "Joint Meeting of the I.L.A., American Branch, with the Association of the Bar of the City of New York," 1965-1966 Proceedings and Committee Reports of the American Branch of the International Law Association 17.

The spring of 1966 also saw the creation of the American Branch's Human Rights Committee, initially chaired by John Carey. The Committee's first project was "to explore the meaning of the requirement in ECOSOC Resolution 1074 C that materials submitted by nongovernmental organizations under the system of periodic reports on human rights be 'objective.'" "Committee on Human Rights: Interim Report," *id.* at 106.

*Submitted by John E. Noyes*

## RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER

Every Branch member is encouraged to recruit *at least one* new member in the next three months. – a practitioner, a member of an in-house corporate law office, a law student or graduate student, a fellow academic (whether or not in the legal field), someone who works in an international organization or a governmental position – someone who would be interested in our work and be able to make a contribution to it.

Our goal is 300 paid members and 20 institutional members. The Branch depends on you for its growth and renewal. Pitch in today! If each of us can bring in 1 (or even better 2) new members, we will be well on our way. ILW 2016 is a terrific way to get new members involved. Membership brochures are available from Seana Flanagan at [Seana.ila.americanbranch@gmail.com](mailto:Seana.ila.americanbranch@gmail.com).

## President's Report on the Good Governance Initiative (cont'd)

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Tessa Walker) has been hard at work putting together a terrific program for this coming October.

The **Branch Co-Directors of Studies**, Aaron Fellmeth and Chiara Giorgetti, recently completed a thorough review of the status, leadership and work programs of the various Branch Committees, with the result that most of our committees now have been re-energized with clearer priorities and goals. Some have new leadership, some have been closed and others created. Our Co-Directors of Studies will continue to work on Branch relations with ILA committees.

As the foregoing indicates, your Board of Directors is taking a careful look at what we do as a Branch and how we can do it better. We solicit your input and counsel. If you have suggestions or proposals on any of the foregoing areas, please forward them soon to the appropriate committee chair and/or to ([stewardt@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:stewardt@law.georgetown.edu)).



## American Branch Committees

The International Commercial Arbitration Committee will now be headed by **Daniel Reich** and be renamed the International Arbitration Committee.

The International Human Rights Law Committee will host a panel on "Bringing International Human Rights Home" to the United States at ILW 2016. The panel will address the disconnection between U.S. civil rights practice and IHRL, and will explore whether the gap should be bridged and how. **Aaron Fellmeth** will moderate; the panelists include **William Aceves**, Dinah Shelton, Peter Spiro, and **Beth Stephens**.

Many other Branch Committees will present panels at ILW 2016.

## UN Liaison Report

Arnold N. Pronto, a member of the American Branch, serves as Principal Legal Officer at the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, Codification Division and a member of the Secretariat of the International Law Commission. In his capacity as the ILA's liaison to the United Nations, he has recently issued his second report on Legal Developments at the United Nations, covering the period from July 1 to December 31, 2015. His 46 page report summarizes the important work of the General Assembly, Security Council, ECOSOC, courts and tribunals, and treaty bodies. It will soon be posted on the Branch website.

## NEWS OF AMERICAN BRANCH MEMBERS (CONT'D)

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**Gabor Rona**, Visiting Professor of Law at Cardozo Law School and a member of the Branch Board of Directors, has received the Distinguished Alumni of the Year award from the Vermont Law School Alumni Association, in recognition of his career as an advocate and teacher in international human rights and humanitarian law. He recently published a co-authored article entitled "State Responsibility to Respect, Protect and Fulfill Human Rights Obligations in Cyberspace" in the Journal of National Security Law and Policy. A separate co-authored chapter on the non-discrimination provisions of the Geneva Conventions was published in the new Oxford University Press Commentary on the Conventions.

**Dr. Cristina Mariottini**, Legal Officer at The Hague Conference on Private International Law and Co-Rapporteur of the ILA Committee on the Protection of Privacy in Private International and Procedural Law, has received an "honorable mention" award from the Italian Society of International Law for her chapter on the 2010 U.S. Speech Act, which was published in Hess and Mariottini (eds), Protecting Privacy in Private International and Procedural Law and by Data Protection: European and American Developments (Nomos/Ashgate 2015).

**James Boykin**, a member of the Board of Directors' Program Committee and partner in the Arbitration & Alternative Dispute Resolution Practice Group at the Washington, D.C. office of Hughes Hubbard & Reed, recently published an article entitled "Fruits of the Poisonous Tree: The Admissibility of Unlawfully Obtained Evidence in International Arbitration," in Transnational Dispute Management and another article reviewing recent U.S. case law on the fabrication of evidence in arbitration in the Brazilian Arbitration review. He was recently recognized in The International Who's Who of Arbitration Lawyers.

**Prof. Chiara Giorgetti** of the University of Richmond School of Law and Branch Co-Director of Studies, and Prof. Jeffrey Dunhoff of Temple University Beasley School of Law, have been nominated by the Branch as members of the new ILA Committee on the Procedural Law of International Courts and Tribunals.

## MEMBER NEWS

Please let us know your news, including announcements of publications, appointments, achievements, success and other noteworthy accomplishments.

Simply email  
[abilanews@gmail.com](mailto:abilanews@gmail.com).

*For information about ILA, ABILA and co-sponsored events, please see:*

[www.ila-americanbranch.org/  
ABILA\\_ILA\\_Events.aspx](http://www.ila-americanbranch.org/ABILA_ILA_Events.aspx)

## NEWS OF ILA COMMITTEES

The ILA *International Human Rights Law Committee* held its inter-sessional meeting at the European Court of Human Rights on May 12-13, 2016. The meeting was facilitated by Committee member Judge Paulo Pinto de Albuquerque of Portugal, who invited us to hold our meeting at the Court's headquarters in Strasbourg, France. In addition to finalizing our draft Final Report, Guidelines and Resolution, we also had a tour of the Court's meeting rooms, the library and archives. We will be presenting the draft Report, Guidelines and Resolution to the ILA Biennial meeting to be held in Johannesburg in August, which will be the termination of our mandate.

*Submitted by Christina Cerna*

Several people are being proposed as additions to the ILA's *Committee on International Monetary Law* ("MOCOMILA"): Sonya Branch, General Counsel at the Bank of England, and Edouard Fernandez-Bollo, Secretary General of the Autorité de contrôle prudentiel et de résolution et de resolution and Member, European Banking Authority and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision. Professor Régis Bismuth, Professor of Public Law at the University of Poitiers and Director of Studies of the ILA's French Branch, was elected to membership at MOCOMILA's May 3-4 meeting in Athens. Current American Branch members of the Committee are Prof. Cynthia Lichtenstein, Sean Hagan, Director of the Legal Service of the International Monetary Fund; Tom Baxter, Executive Vice President of the New York Fed; and Ernie Patrikis, formerly at the NYFed and now with White and Case. The recent Committee meeting in Athens included a discussion (under Chatham House rules) of the Greek sovereign debt issues and the IMF. While Bitcoin was discussed, the Committee decided that the time was not ripe for presentation by the Committee of a proposed ILA Resolution on Bitcoin to the Johannesburg Biennial.

*Submitted by Cynthia Lichtenstein*

The recently-established ILA *Committee on Sustainable Development and the Green Economy in International Trade Law* will build on the work of the ILA International Trade Law Committee and of other ILA Committees in analyzing how the rules-based international trading system supports open, fair and development-friendly trade and in formulating proposals for strengthening the international trading system as an enabling environment for sustainable development and a green economy. The first task is to select a limited number of specific topics with the objective of presenting a final report on these topics and recommendations at the ILA Biennial Conference in 2018. For this purpose four thematic areas from which the specific topics will be selected have been identified: environment, climate and energy, food and agriculture, and development.

Within these thematic groupings topics for more detailed study include trade and environment issues, such as environmental goods and services in the international trading system; climate and energy, in the form of trade and green economy measures; trade and agriculture; and trade and development.

The anticipated outcome of the Committee's work will be a report with a set of recommendations with concrete suggestions related to specific topics for strengthening the relationship between international trade law, sustainable development and the green economy. A particularly relevant audience will be members of the UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development, which brings together over 60 UN entities and agencies and international organizations at the multilateral and regional levels.

*Submitted by Paolo Farah*

## REGIONAL MEETINGS FOR 2017 — SAVE THE DATES

In addition to the fall ILW weekend in New York City, the Branch also sponsors "regional" international law weekends at cooperating law schools around the country, in order to support their international law programs and to help bring preeminent experts to talk about current issues of international importance.

**ILW-West 2017:** The University of Denver's Sturm College of Law has graciously offered to host ILW-West on February 24-25, 2017. Theme to be determined.

**ILW-South 2017:** Texas A&M University School of Law in Ft. Worth has undertaken to host ILW-South on March 2-3, 2017. The tentative theme is "The Global and Local Future of International Trade, Human Rights, and Development."

More details on these events will follow in due course.

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## A Benefit from OUP

Oxford University Press has recently launched its global website and is offering a 20% special society discount to all ABILA and ILA members on all relevant OUP titles. Entering the special code ALFLY5F will generate the discount at checkout for any OUP book purchased via <http://global.oup.com>. The international law section of OUP's website can be accessed at <https://global.oup.com/academic/category/law/international-law/?cc=us&lang=en&>.

This discount is **strictly intended for ILA members only** and OUP asks that it not be posted on publicly visible pages or shared by any social media.

## ILW 2016 “EMERGING VOICES” PANEL: CALL FOR PROPOSALS

## CALENDAR

International Law Weekend 2016 (ILW 2016) calls on scholars and practitioners to address the accelerating nature of change in international law. From technological advances to environmental transformations, international lawyers are forced to confront emerging forces and new scenarios. Even settled principles of law are no longer settled.

These tectonic shifts have been felt throughout the geography of international law. Legal professionals at every level – local, national, regional, and international – must change their practice to meet a changing world. Innovation will become necessary for survival.

### Emerging Voices Submissions

ABILA invites the submission of abstracts from emerging scholars and practitioners in the field of international law. We will select several abstracts for presentation at ILW 2016 as part of a panel of new professionals. The abstracts may be based upon ongoing work.

While all submissions are welcome, preference will be given to papers not already published. Eligibility is restricted to applicants working in the field of international law for five years or less. Applicants should be ABILA members at the time of the conference. (To join ABILA, please visit: <http://www.ila-americanbranch.org/Membership.aspx>.)

### Submission Guidelines

Applicants must submit: (1) a 500-700 word abstract of their paper; (2) a cover letter describing their professional development; and (3) a curriculum vitae. **The submission deadline is July 31, 2016.** the subject line “Emerging Voices - ILW 2016.” Questions may also be submitted to: [conferences@ilsa.org](mailto:conferences@ilsa.org).

The 12th Annual Conference of the European Society of International Law (ESIL) will take place on September 8-10 at the Riga Graduate School of Law in Latvia. The theme of the conference is: How International Law Works in Times of Crisis. See <http://www.esil-sedi.eu/node/1060>.

The 3rd Annual Conference of the ILA’s Nigerian Branch (organized in collaboration with the International Institute for Petroleum Energy Law and Policy) will be held October 25, 2016 at the Sheraton Hotels and Towers in Abuja, Nigeria, on the theme of “Emerging Developments in the Nigerian Oil and Gas Sector: International Law Responses, Policy Issues and Adaptability.”

The ABA’s Section of International Law will hold its annual retreat on August 3-5, 2016, at the Ritz Carlton at Half Moon Bay in California. Go to <http://www.americanbar.org/intlaw>.

The 2016 Fall Meeting of the American Bar Association’s Section of International Law will convene at the Hilton Tokyo in Japan on October 18-22, 2016. See [http://www.americanbar.org/groups/international\\_law.html](http://www.americanbar.org/groups/international_law.html).

The Sixth Annual Research Forum of the American Society of International Law will take place November 11-12, 2016 at the University of the Washington School of Law, 4293 Memorial Way Northeast Seattle, WA 98195. For more information, see <https://www.asil.org/researchforum>.

The next ESIL Research Forum will take place on 30-31 March 2017 at the Granada University Law School. The call for papers can be found at <http://www.esil-sedi.eu/node/1339>.

The 2017 Annual Meeting of the American Society of International Law will take place at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Ave, NW, Washington, D.C. on April 12-15, 2017.

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## ILW 2016 “EMERGING VOICES” PANEL: CALL FOR PROPOSALS (cont’d)

Submissions should be sent to [conferences@ilsa.org](mailto:conferences@ilsa.org) with with the subject line “Emerging Voices - ILW 2016.” Questions may also be submitted to: [conferences@ilsa.org](mailto:conferences@ilsa.org).

Submissions will be competitively selected in a peer review process. Applicants will be notified by August 31, 2016.

ILW 2016 is scheduled for October 27-29, 2016 in New York City and will be held at Fordham Law School. Accepted applicants will be invited to present their papers at the Emerging Voices panel, which will be chaired by a senior scholar or practitioner. Accepted applicants will be required to pay for their own travel and lodging. However, their registration fees for ILW 2016 will be waived.



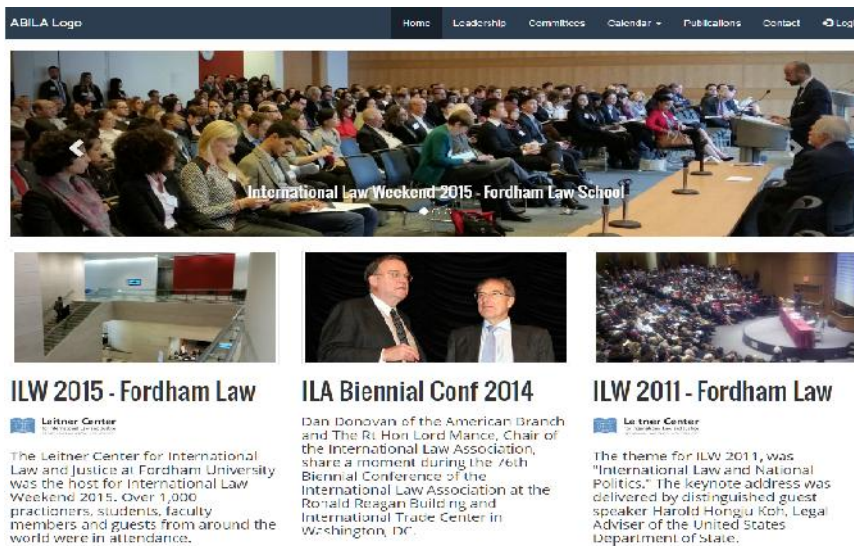
## Current State of Website

The ABILA website, in its current form, has been in existence since 2008.



Over time it has grown in various ways to accommodate online ILW registration and the like, but at this point it lacks a cohesive look and feel across its 30+ pages. Additionally, although the site is viewable on smartphones and tablets, it was not specifically designed for those purposes (tablets weren't even a thing until 2010). But the past few years have seen some strong improvements in web standards and web browsers, so we'd like to take advantage of those and redo the site. As it happens, our mother organization, the London-based International Law Association (ILA), is also in the process of redesigning their site.

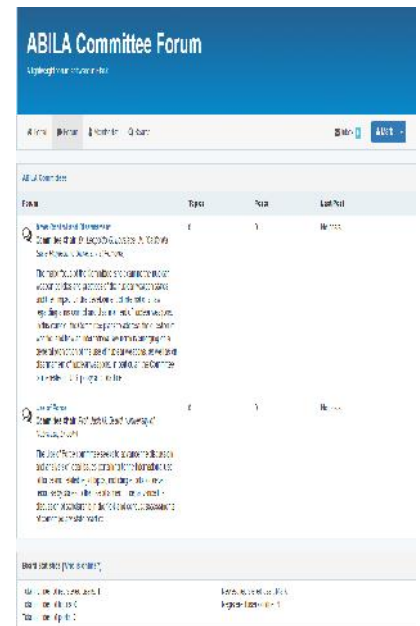
The ABILA web redesign subcommittee (Louise Ellen Teitz, Steven M. Schneebaum, and Karen Spergel) will be providing some much appreciated feedback on the various design and functionality improvements that I have in mind. But in the meantime, here is an early draft of what the main page might look like (the top picture would rotate among 3 or 4 pictures, each with a hyperlink to relevant articles).



## Current State of Website (cont'd)

I have also been experimenting with a password-protected Committee Forum where all committee members would be able to see each other's submissions and comment on them. The Committee Chair (or his or her designee) would lead the initial discussion and the committee members could introduce new topics, comment on existing ones, chat privately with other members, email other members internally, etc.

Here is what the initial (fully-functioning) prototype looks like:



What most of you may not know is that there is a password-protected Admin portion of the website. This allows us to manage our membership from anywhere. This too will need to be redone to better manage our membership lists, our committees, and how we interact with the ILA.

Stay tuned . . .

*Submitted by Mark Cuevas*