INTERNATIONAL LAW WEEKEND 2017 — OCTOBER 19-21, 2017

Mark your calendars! International Law Weekend 2017 will take place in New York City on October 19-21. The theme will be “International Law in Challenging Times.” This exciting annual event coincides with the 96th annual meeting of the American Branch. ILW is a joint effort of the Branch and the International Law Students Association with co-sponsorship by Fordham University School of Law and the New York City Bar Association.

Planning is well under-way for some 35 presentations and panel discussions aimed at examining a variety of current global challenges, potential solutions, and a broad range of dynamic issues in both public and private international law. The Organizing Committee (which has recently approved a number of panel proposals) is composed of Professor Milena Sterio (Chair), Jessica Simonoff, David Attanasio, Bart Smit Duijzentkunst, Justinian Doreste, and Tessa Walker. Branch President-elect Leila Sadat and President David Stewart are also assisting. Registration for this event will open in August.

For decades, international law has provided legal solutions to global problems through the development of substantive areas of law, court systems, and a framework for modern international relations. Now we must ask, is this post-WWII regime still relevant? Can it meet the needs of the global community?

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INTERNATIONAL LAW WEEKEND 2017
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The rapidly changing global landscape will test the adaptability and dynamism of international law. Unprecedented health crises, massive refugee outflows, climate change, the use of chemical weapons, the persistence of gender inequality, and other global challenges require innovative solutions. The opportunity exists for international law to reestablish its strong connection with the global community it serves.

As in prior years, the conference will open on Thursday evening with a panel discussion at the New York City Bar Association, 44 West 45th Street, followed by a reception. It will continue Friday and Saturday at Fordham University School of Law. In addition to a keynote address on Friday, plans are being made for a reception at a UN Mission on Friday evening.

In line with the changes approved by the Board of Directors and the Branch membership, registration will be $50 for all attendees including Branch members (students are exempt). Be sure your membership is current and fully paid.

Special conference rates have been arranged at the Empire Hotel, 44 West 63rd Street, New York, NY 10023. Reservations can be made online at https://make-reservations.com/web/en/choose-room/EMPIRE/2017-10-18/2017-10-21/ILW/EMPIRE/Empire-Hotel or by calling 855-265-7400 (ask for the International Law Weekend group discounted rate of $329.00 per night). This rate is valid for those making reservations by Sept. 19, 2017 or until the ABILA block of rooms is sold out.

Nafziger Elected ILA Vice Chair; Lichtenstein Steps Down

James A.R. Nafziger was elected Vice Chair of the International Law Association at the International Law Association’s Executive Council meeting in November 2016.

Professor Nafziger served as ABILA’s President from 2000 to 2004 and chaired the Executive Committee from 2004 to 2008. He is currently an Honorary Vice President of the Branch. He teaches international law at Willamette University College of Law in the areas of international law and dispute resolution, conflict of laws, international business transactions, cultural heritage law, sports law, immigration and refugee law, comparative law, and international arbitration and litigation.

Professor Nafziger also serves as Secretary of the American Society of International Law and as a member of its Executive Committee and Council. His other professional leadership activities include membership on the U.S. State Department’s Advisory Committee on International Law, honorary president of the International Association of Sports Law, past president of the Oregon International Council, and past treasurer of the American Society of Comparative Law. An elected member of the American Law Institute and the International Academy of Comparative Law, he has chaired five sections and one workshop of the Association of American Law Schools.

Pay Your Dues

The Branch’s membership year began in January. If you have not paid for 2017, please do so now. It’s easy; go online to http://ila-americanbranch.org/Membership.aspx

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Professor Cynthia Lichtenstein, Professor Emeritus at Boston College Law School and also former Branch President (1986-1992) and Executive Committee Chair (1992-1994), served as ILA Vice-Chairman from 2008 to 2016. She was a long-time member of the ILA’s International Monetary Law Committee and a former Rapporteur and former Chairman of the ILA International Securities Law Committee.

The Branch applauds Professor Lichtenstein’s longtime service to the ILA and ABILA and congratulates Professor Nafziger on his new responsibilities.

Report on ILW 2016

International Law Weekend 2016, held in New York on October 27-29, was a wonderful success, with 1,613 registrants, over a thousand of whom were students. Many sessions were standing room only. The Branch owes its appreciation to the Organizing Committee led by Co-Chairs William Aceves and Peter Yu and including Sam Baumgartner, Carlos Ivan Fuentes, Rahim Moloo, Jessica Smirnoff, and (as always) ILSA’s terrific Tessa Walker.

This was the 42nd International Law Weekend and marked the 95th annual meeting of the American Branch.

The overall theme of ILW 2016 was “International Law 5.0.” The conference aimed at evaluating the changes that we as international lawyers confront as the broader international system changes. The opening panel, held Thursday evening at the New York City Bar Association, focused on “Leadership Transitions and International Law,” reflecting in particular on leadership changes on international law and practice, particularly in the United Nations and the United States.

Restatement (Fourth) Foreign Relations Law

Members of the American Branch have been directly and actively involved in the preparation of the Restatement (Fourth), Foreign Relations Law of the United States over the past four years. The final drafts of three sections (jurisdiction, treaties, and foreign sovereign immunities) were adopted by the membership of the American Law Institute in May 2017.

ABILA member Paul Stephan was one of the two Coordinating Reporters for the project; Branch President David P. Stewart served as one of the Reporters on the immunities chapter. Branch Treasurer Houston Putnam Lowry served as one of the liaisons from the ABA Section of International Law.

The Members Consultative Group, which provided valuable expertise and advice to the Reporters, included Branch members Catherine Amirfar, Andrea Bjorklund, Ron Brand, Roger Clarke, Dalee Dorough, Norman Greene, Mark W. Janis, Charlotte Ku, Cynthia Lichtenstein, James Nafziger, Ved Nanda, Leila Sadat, David Sloss, Beth Stephens, Louise Ellen Teitz, and George Walker.

A panel discussion of the Restatement (Fourth) will be included in the ILW17 program.
IN MEMORIAM

Branch member Dr. Leopoldo Lovelace passed away on March 27, 2017. A professor of political science in the College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences at Cal Poly Pomona, Dr. Lovelace taught International Relations and American Government courses since 2007. He had served the American Branch as Co-Chair of its Arms Control and Disarmament Committee.

Participants included the UN Legal Counsel Miguel Serpa Soares, U.S. State Department Legal Adviser Brian Egan, Finnish Foreign Ministry Legal Adviser Päivi Kaukoranta, and Donald Donovan, chair of Debevoise & Plimpton’s international disputes practice.

The well-attended discussion was followed by a wonderful reception, sponsored by the law firm of White & Case, for whose support the Branch is most grateful. On Friday and Saturday, some 35 panels and presentations at Fordham Law offered participants a wide variety of opportunities to explore current topics and developments. The Friday Keynote address was delivered by Lucinda Low, President of the American Society of International Law and Partner at Steptoe & Johnson, LLP, entitled “Dealing with Bribery and Corruption in International Trade and Investment: Still at International Law 1.0?” The Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations hosted the Friday evening reception, for which the Branch again offers its thanks.

In addition to the NYCBA and Fordham, the Branch also offers its thanks to the other co-sponsors of and contributors to ILW 2016: Oxford University Press, Brill/Nijhoff Publishers, Chaffetz Lindsey LLP, Shearman & Sterling, The University of Georgia School of Law, the Center for Law and Intellectual Property at Texas A&M University School of Law, Foley Hoag, the Center for Global Affairs at New York University, Princeton University’s James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions, Georgetown University Law Center, Hart Publishing Ltd., ISDE/Columbia University Dual Master’s Degree Program in Global Sports Law & Sports Management, Princeton University Law and Public Affairs, the University of Nebraska, California Western School of Law, the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Arizona State University Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, Covington & Burling LLP, and the American Society of International Law.

Recruit New Members

Every ABILA member is urged to recruit new members. The health and success of our Branch depends on a steady infusion of new talent, enthusiasm, and energy. Please take time, now, to think about reaching out to several likely prospects, encouraging them to join, to attend ILW 2017, to participate in Branch committees, and to sponsor local and regional events.

New Membership Brochure

The Branch membership brochure has been revised and updated. The new version is dated “March 2017.” It is available for download from the Branch website at


All members are encouraged to print copies for use in recruiting new members.
Co-Sponsored Event

On January 23, 2017, the American Branch co-sponsored a conference with the International and National Security Law Practice Group and the Student Division of the Federalist Society at Georgetown University Law Center in Washington entitled “International Law in the Trump Era: Expectations, Hopes, and Fears.”

The first panel, moderated by Matthew R. A. Heiman, former Attorney Advisor in the National Security Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, focused on the future of trade law. Participants included Professor Timothy J. Keeler, former Chief of Staff, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR); Professor John O. McGinnis, former Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice; Jeff Pavlak, Legislative Representative at Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO; and Professor Alvaro Santos, Georgetown University Law Center.

The second panel discussed the future of American alliances and interventions. Moderated by Professor Jamil N. Jaffer, former Chief Counsel and Senior Advisor, U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, the panel included Brian H. Hook, former Assistant Secretary of State for International Organizations; the Hon. Lawrence Korb, former Assistant Secretary of Defense; and Amb. Kristen Silverberg, former U.S. Ambassador to the European Union.

The lunchtime panel, titled “Will International Law Matter to the Trump Administration?” included the Hon. John Bellinger, former Legal Adviser to the Department of State, and Associate Dean and Professor Rosa Brooks, Georgetown University Law Center. Focusing on whether international law will matter to the new administration. It was moderated by ABILA President David P. Stewart, Georgetown University Law Center.

YouTube link: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLVwvgqgYgoUUA9N_dUY1xJ5lwVu7z2VR5

2017 ILA-ASIL
Asia-Pacific Research Forum

The 2017 ILA-ASIL Asia-Pacific Research Forum took place May 19-20, 2017, in Taipei. Hosted by the Chinese (Taiwan) Society of International Law and the Chinese (Taiwan) Branch of the International Law Association, and cosponsored by the Center for International Law at the National Taipei University, the conference considered “The Geopolitics of International Law: Contemporary Challenges for the Asia-Pacific.” ILA Vice Chair Professor (and ABILA Honorary Vice President) James A.R. Nafziger presented opening remarks on behalf of the ILA. The Research Forum is organized in partnership with the ASIL Law in the Pacific Rim Region Interest Group and the Research Center for International Legal Studies of National Chengchi University.
REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

2017 ILW-West (Denver)

International Law Weekend-West 2017 took place on Friday, February 24, 2017 at the University of Denver’s Sturm College of Law. The theme was “International Law in a Time of Change.”

This well-attended event opened with warm welcomes by Sturm College of Law Dean Bruce Smith and ABILA’s Professor Ved Nanda, Director of the Nanda Center for International and Comparative Law at the Sturm College of Law.

The first panel focused on “The Effectiveness – or Ineffectiveness – of the Inter-American System in the Protection of Human Rights: Jurisprudential Developments and Needed Reforms.” It was moderated by Professor Andrew Reid (Sturm College of Law) and included Profs. Thomas Antkowiak (Seattle University School of Law), Eric Jantz (Seattle University School of Law) and James Nafziger (Willamette University College of Law and Vice Chair of the International Law Association).

For the second panel, the topic was “Priorities for the New Administration in International Human Rights,” moderated by Professor Anastasia Telesetsky of the University of Idaho School of Law. Other speakers included Professors Upendra Acharya, Gonzaga University Law School; Myanna Dellinger, University of South Dakota; Michael Fakhri, University of Oregon; and Anneckoos Wiersema, University of Denver Sturm College of Law.

The luncheon lecture on “The New Restatement (Fourth) of the Foreign Relations Law of the United States” was presented by Professor David P. Stewart, President of the ABILA, who teaches at Georgetown University Law Center.

The first panel of the afternoon was titled “Sustainable Development: The Quest Continues.” It was moderated by Professor Ved Nanda, the conference host. Professor Lakshman Guruswamy, the Nicolas Doman Professor of International Environmental Law at the University of Colorado School of Law, spoke about the Social Aspects of Sustainable Development Goals. Jeremy Goldstein, Denver Law J.D. ’16 and senior managing editor of the Denver Journal of International Law and Policy, discussed Indicators for Sustainable Development Goals.

The final panel addressed issues of “Increasing Access to International Arbitration for Medium and Small Businesses.” It was hosted by Todd Wells, Esq., Gleason Wells PC and Adjunct Professor of Law, Sturm College of Law, and included Coren Hinkle, Esq., Gleason Wells PC, and Giedre Stasiunaite, Roche International Business Transactions.

The concluding keynote of the conference was presented by James Anaya, Dean and Charles Inglis Thomson Professor at the University of Colorado School of Law.

The following day, many attendees joined over 500 Denver Law alumnae and friends of Professor Nanda to celebrate his many accomplishments, not the least of which was his 50th anniversary of teaching international law at the University of Denver.

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NEW BRANCH MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members of our Branch, who have joined in 2017:

MANUELA DE LA HELGUERA
HEATHER J. ALEXANDER
MARIE JOSEPH AYISSI
ELOISE OBADIA
KAMEL AIT EL HADJ
SHIFA ALKHATIB
JUSTINIAN DORESTE
ASHIKA SINGH
SAHAR AZIZ
MICHAEL A. LOSCO
TATIANA SAINATI
PROFESSOR MEGAN FAIRLIE
HUGH CARLSON
PAUL R. WILLIAMS
AISHA GOMEZ OCASIO
AARON D. SIMOWITZ
ULYANA BARDYN

Texas A&M University School of Law

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)
2017 ILW-SOUTH (FORT WORTH)

On March 2-3, 2017, the American Branch’s second regional event took place in Fort Worth at Texas A&M University School of Law, which hosted International Law Weekend – South on “The Global Future of International Trade, Human Rights, and Development.” This very successful event was co-sponsored by the American Society of International Law (ASIL).

The conference focused on a trio of areas that were the hallmarks and guiding principles of the international order created following the Second World War. That order is now undergoing change, with worldwide debate on what the future global order should look like. A range of experts from Texas A&M University School of Law as well other scholars, practitioners, and government officials spoke to such issues as how the emerging order will operate, who might gain, and how existing institutions including governments should respond.

Law School Dean Andrew Morriss opened the conference, and ABILA President David Stewart made brief remarks. Plenary speakers included Edward Kwakwa, Senior Director of the Department for Traditional Knowledge and Global Challenges (and former Legal Counsel) at the World Intellectual Property Organization, and Professor David Gantz, Samuel M. Fegtly Professor of Law and Director Emeritus of the International Economic Law and Policy Program at the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law.

A number of expert panels discussed such topics as international corruption and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, intellectual property and regional trade agreements, the role of judges in enforcing international and regional agreements, making trade work for sustainable development: possibilities and challenges, new developments in resource management and trade, and career “practice tracks” in the international arena.

Special thanks to ABILA members Associate Dean Charlotte Ku and Professor Peter Yu for their leadership in organizing this wonderful event.

New members always welcome!
FALL 2016 MEETING OF THE BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The fall meeting of the Branch Board of Directors took place on October 29, 2016 in conjunction with International Law Weekend 2016. Reports were received on the State of the Branch and its activities and the Johannesburg Biennial. Branch Secretary Amity Boye reported that the transition from association to not-for-profit corporation was completed effective January 1, 2016.

The Board approved a motion to change the titles of the Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer to “Secretary” and “Treasurer” respectively. It also considered and approved a motion to elect George Walker as Honorary Vice-President, in recognition of his many years of devoted service to the Branch. In addition, it approved the slate of candidates recommended by its Nominating Committee for election as officers and directors, to be considered by the membership.

On the recommendation of the Board Committee on Development and Fundraising, the Board approved the following changes to the Branch fees:

- ABILA membership fees: 1st year: $70, 2nd year: $100, 3rd year and beyond: $125
- ILW registration fees: $50 for all attendees (students and speakers are exempt)

Branch Vice President Phil Moremen presented the report of the Board’s Programming Committee, recommending the following initiatives: (1) developing and co-sponsoring events and programs with other like-minded groups, (2) finding ways to encourage law schools to include international law in their required curricula, (3) developing and hosting webcasts of ABILA programs on the ABILA website, and (4) endorsing Jim Boykin’s efforts to co-sponsor with ABILA a Vis pre-moot in Washington, DC. The Board approved a motion to move forward on the first and last of these initiatives. The Committee will assist with implementation and will continue to consider the other initiatives.

The Board’s Committee on Membership, Growth and Diversity, chaired by Vice President Paul Dubinsky and including Andrea Bjorklund, Scott Horton and Arnold Pronto, submitted a detailed and thoughtful report recommending various steps to increase the number of members and the diversity of the membership over the short, medium, and long term.

Aaron Fellmeth delivered the report of the Co-Directors of Studies, noting in particular that the number of Branch committees has been reduced and that volunteers are needed to serve as chairs on certain committees. He also proposed giving committees a template invitation letter and asking each member to invite three people from their field to join their committee. Other useful steps under consideration include offering students opportunities to be involved with committees, pairing new members with senior members of committees serving as mentors, and giving committees a list of suggestions on how to be more active (e.g., holding conference calls to discuss legal issues, drafting white papers and amicus briefs, hosting webcasts, and posting content on the ABILA website or other places on the internet). Arnold Pronto suggested that committees have rapporteur positions, which could be a good engine for activity.

The Board also considered additional reports on the status of the Proceedings and other Branch publications, on planned regional meetings for 2017, and on revisions to the Branch website.

The Board voted its approval of the revised Memorandum of Understanding between ABILA and ILSA on the terms of cooperation on International Law Weekend.
**SPRING 2017 MEETING OF ABILA’S BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The spring meeting of the Branch Board of Directors took place on Thursday, April 13, 2017, during the annual spring meeting of the American Society of International Law. Reports were received on the overall state and financial status of the Branch, on ILW 2016 and the two regional ILW’s, on the work of Branch committees, and on revisions to the Branch website. The next meetings of the Board and the Branch Membership will be on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017, in conjunction with ILW 2017.

**SPRING 2017 MEETING OF ILA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

The spring 2017 meeting of the ILA Executive Council was held at ILA Headquarters on May 7, 2017. ABILA members Nafziger, Stewart and Dubinsky attended. As of May 1, total ILA membership stood at 4227. Since 2002, overall membership has increased by about 1000.

The British Branch was the largest (344), followed by the German (296), American (283) and Dutch (278).

The Council approved a new ILA Study Group on “Cities as Subjects and Objects of International Law,” subject to certain proposed revisions to the mandate. Provisional approval was also given to the establishment of a new Committee on International Human Rights Law in International Emergencies, subject to revisions by the Director of Studies in consultation with the proposer of the Committee, the Executive Council and the Management Committee.

The Australian Branch reported on preparations for the 78th ILA Biennial to be held in Sydney on August 19-23, 2018 at the Intercontinental Hotel. Registration will open later this year.

The Council approved the nominations (among others) of ABILA member Professor Jack Beard of the University of Nebraska to take the place of Professor James Kraska who has resigned as a member of the ILA Committee on Use of Force.

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**ABILA’S FALL 2016 ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING**

The annual Members Meeting took place on Saturday Oct. 29, 2016, shortly after the Board meeting adjourned. The President reported on the Branch’s membership and activities, the 2016 ILA Biennial, the status of the transition from Association to Corporation and the good governance process. The Treasurer reported on the budget and the Branch’s financial situation.

The membership approved the report and recommendations of the Board’s Nominating Committee, electing the following to the Board of Directors: Jack Beard, Chiara Giorgetti, Haider Hamoudi, Andrea Harrison and Milena Sterio.

It also approved the following designations: Leila Sadat (President-elect), Christina Cerna (Vice-President), and Michael Scharf (Vice-President).
Report on ILA Executive Council Meetings

Fall 2016 Meeting

The Fall 2016 meeting of the ILA’s Executive Council was held on November 12, 2016 in London. ABILA members James Nafziger and David P. Stewart attended. The meeting opened with a memorial tribute to Professor Robert von Mehren, former ABILA President and ILA Vice Chair, presented by ILA Patron Bruce Mauleverer.

The Treasurer presented a brief report on the ILA’s financial situation, concluding that the Association remains healthy. ILA membership stood at 4169, with the largest branches including the American (355 members), British (341), Japanese (323), German (300), Dutch (288), French (217), Headquarters (145), Australian (130), Italian (126), Brazilian (124), and Swiss (111).

Director of Studies Marcel Brus reported on various decisions and nominations, including ABILA member Dr. Sara Nouwen to be Rapporteur of the Complementarity in International Law Committee. A number of ILA Committees were dissolved pursuant to decisions reached at the Biennial in Johannesburg. These included the committees on international human rights, non-state actors, cultural heritage law, and international commercial arbitration (although proposals for establishment of new committees in some of these fields are expected). The mandates of fourteen committees were extended.

Three study groups were dissolved, and the mandates of five others were extended. A new study group on international tax law was approved, with a note to ensure balance in its mandate to avoid too much focus on human rights issues.

The nominations of new committee members were approved, including ABILA members Jeffrey Dunoff and Chiara Giorgetti for the Procedure of International Courts and Tribunals committee and Professor Jose Alvarez for the Rule of Law and International Investment Law Committee.

Three new Vice Chairs of the ILA were elected: Professor Yuji Iwasawa (Japanese Branch), Professor Catherine Kessedjian (French Branch) and Professor James Nafziger (American Branch). Director of Studies Marcel Brus was reflected by consensus. The applications of two new branches (Nicaraguan and Colombian) were approved.
NEWS OF BRANCH COMMITTEES

International Criminal Court Committee

The ABILA International Criminal Court Committee sponsored a panel at ILW 2016 entitled “Challenges for the International Criminal Court in a Changing World.” It featured Karen Mosoti (Head, Liaison Office at the ICC), Jelena Piacomella (CICC), Elise Keppler (Human Rights Watch), and Professor Jennifer Trahan (NYU Global Affairs and Chair, ABILA ICC Committee) as panelists. David Donat-Cattin (Secretary-General of Parliamentarians for Global Action) moderated.

The Committee has also issued two documents: “The Death Penalty Under the International Criminal Court’s Complementarity Regime: Questions and Answers” (Nov. 13, 2016); and “The First Cultural Heritage & Al Qaeda Case Before the International Criminal Court: Questions and Answers” (Nov. 5, 2016).

The Committee on Space Law and the Committee on Use of Force

The Branch committees on space law and on the use of force are working together to prepare a special jointly-sponsored ILW panel to explore some important ways of developing civil, commercial, and military/national security trends in outer space, with a focus on how the Trump administration (and subsequent administrations) may address these issues. The tentative title for this proposed 2017 ILW panel is “Outer Space in the New Administration and Beyond: Commercial, Civil, and Growing Security Dimensions.”

NEWS OF ILA COMMITTEES AND STUDY GROUPS

COMMITTEE ON BASELINES UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL LAW OF THE SEA

Last November the ILA Executive Council approved a two-year extension of the Baseline Committee’s mandate. Since 2012 it has been studying issues related to straight baselines, and it completed its Second Report in conjunction with the 2016 ILA biennial conference in Johannesburg. The Committee will now review state practice more completely, consider the potential for dispute settlement of baseline disputes, analyze the potential impact of the decision by the Philippines v. China Annex VII arbitral tribunal concerning South China Sea issues, and assess distinctions among islands, rocks, and low-tide elevations. The Committee, which met in Washington, D.C., in April 2017, expects to complete its Final Report by the 2018 ILA biennial conference in Australia.

At the Committee’s 2016 Johannesburg working session, the Committee Chair, Captain J. Ashley Roach, and the Committee Rapporteur, Professor Donald Rothwell, spoke about aspects of the South China Sea arbitration, as well as about other significant straight baseline issues. The Working Session Report, along with the Committee’s Second Report and its previous studies and reports, may be found at http://www.ila-hq.org/en/committees/index.cfm/cid/1028.

COMMITTEE ON COMPLEMENTARITY IN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW

The ILA Committee on Complementarity in International Criminal Law explores (a) to what extent the crimes within the International Criminal Court’s jurisdiction may be addressed at the domestic level, either through investigations and prosecutions or by alternative means, and when they are not, why not; (b) how a policy of so-called “positive complementarity” could overcome any obstacles and which actors are best placed to implement such policy; and (c) to what extent domestic efforts to address international crimes could result in a successful admissibility challenge on grounds of complementarity before the Court.

This year the Committee received 23 country reports authored by committee members that explain the relationship between domestic authorities and the ICC (and, for states parties, the status of domestication of Rome Statute crimes). Leila Sadat and Mark Drumbil, the ABILA representatives on the Committee, wrote the report for the United States. Reports were presented at the ILA Meeting at Johannesburg in August 2016. The Committee will meet in Stellenbosch, South Africa, on June 30-July 1, organized by the Committee Chair Professor Mia Swart.
The Branch Committee on Use of Force

The Committee on Use of Force remains engaged in the drafting of a report on “Aggression and the Use of Force.” The Committee met during the biennial meeting in Johannesburg to review the latest draft of the report. Based on that review, the Chair (Sir Michael Wood) and Rapporteur (Noam Lubell) produced a new version of the draft report, which was discussed at a meeting in February 2017 in Heidelberg, Germany.

ILSA Sovereign Debt Study Group

The ILA’s Sovereign Debt Study Group received an extension of its mandate up to the Sydney biennial meeting in August 2018. Michael Waibel (UK) will be the new chair.

The International Human Rights Committee (Committees continued)

In December 2016 the Branch International Human Rights Committee formed a Subcommittee on U.S. compliance with international human rights law to monitor and react rapidly to severe U.S. deviations from its human rights obligations. In March 2017, the subcommittee collaborated with Professor Jonathan Hafetz of Seton Hall Law School to file an amicus brief in Darweesh v. Trump (E.D.N.Y.) explaining how the U.S. immigration ban on seven Muslim countries violated U.S. obligations under both international human rights law and international refugee law. The brief was filed on behalf of the committee authors, as well as 12 human rights NGOs and 81 international law scholars. That case was put on hold when the President rescinded the ban and issued a new one, because the amended ban mitigated some of the effects on Iraqi immigrants and refugees, and the plaintiffs in that case were Iraqi.

That same month, the Subcommittee filed an amicus brief in collaboration with Professor Hafetz and pro bono counsel at the law firm Damon Key Leong Kupchak Hastert in Hawaii v. Trump, challenging the same ban. It also filed a similar brief in collaboration with Professor Hafetz and pro bono counsel at Perkins Coie, in Washington v. Trump (in which it added Amnesty International as an NGO amicus). The plaintiffs prevailed in both cases, and a preliminary injunction was ordered halting enforcement of the ban.

In May 2017, the Subcommittee filed the same brief in the Fourth Circuit case International Refugee Assistance Project v. Trump. The plaintiffs again prevailed on May 25th. The Department of Justice has filed a petition for certiorari, and the Subcommittee will be submitting an amicus brief to the Supreme Court should the Court accept the case.

ILA Committee on the Protection of Privacy in Private International and Procedural Law

This committee met in August 2016 during the Johannesburg Biennial to discuss its draft report on “Jurisdiction and Choice-of-Law Rules for Violations of Personality Rights.” Draft guidelines on jurisdiction and applicable law were also discussed. Consensus was reiterated that the Committee should address issues of jurisdiction, applicable law, and recognition and enforcement of judgments with respect to: (i) the protection of personality rights against violations between private parties and by mass media, especially with regard to non-contractual claims, also taking into account the question of the liability of Internet service providers and intermediaries; (ii) the protection of privacy in social networks, especially with regard to contractual and quasi-contractual claims; and (iii) data protection. Questions of consumer protection and protection of minors, as well as alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, will also be included in the Committee’s activity. The next Committee meeting will take place in October 2017.
NEWS OF BRANCH MEMBERS

Professor George Walker, Dean’s Research Professor of Admiralty and International Law at Wake Forest University School of Law and recently elected Honorary Vice President of the American Branch, has been awarded a sabbatical for 2017-18 and then will retire July 1, 2018. Upon retirement he will become University Professor Emeritus of Admiralty and International Law. Professor Walker chairs the Branch’s Law of the Sea Committee research project on the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea. A retired line Captain in the Naval Reserve, he has served as Charles H. Stockton Professor of International Law at the U.S. Naval War College.

Branch President-Elect Leila Sadat, who is the James Carr Professor of International Criminal Law at the Washington University in St. Louis’ School of Law and director of the Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute, will receive an Honorary Doctorate from Northwestern University on June 16, 2017, and will receive the Arthur Holly Compton Distinguished Faculty Award at Washington University in St. Louis on November 2, 2017. Sadat joined the School of Law faculty in 1992 and is an internationally renowned human rights expert specializing in international criminal law, public international law and foreign affairs.


Branch Co-Director of Studies Peter Yu, a professor at Texas A&M University, and Professor Marketa Trimble of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas attended the 2017 meeting of the ILA Committee on Intellectual Property and Private International Law, which was held at the Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property and Competition Law in Munich, Germany on June 1-2, 2017. Alongside Professor Jane Ginsburg of Columbia Law School and Professor Rochelle Dreyfuss of New York University School of Law, they continue to work with delegates from the Headquarters and other branches to develop the ILA Guidelines on Intellectual Property and Private International Law.

Professor Jennifer Trahan received a grant to study the Future of the Field of International Justice. She commenced by conducting interviews this Fall in Nuremberg and The Hague, posing a variety of future potential scenarios and exploring them with the interviewees. She also conducted an in-house symposium on the topic at NYU’s Center for Global Affairs (where she teaches), with a variety of UN Legal Advisers, NGOs and academics as expert participants.

Professor Haider Hamoudi is completing the first modern casebook on Islamic law, coauthored with Mark Cammack, entitled Islamic Law in Modern Courts. It should be available for purchase by the end of the calendar year.

Professor Paolo Davide Farah, who teaches at West Virginia University, has published China’s Influence on Non-Trade Concerns in International Economic Law (Routledge Sept. 2016).

Myanna Dellinger, Associate Professor of Law at the University of South Dakota School of Law, won a Fulbright scholarship to research and lecture in climate change law and policy at the German Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies in Potsdam.

Professors Mark W. Janis and John E. Noyes are coauthoring International Law and International Relations, scheduled for publication this summer by West Academic Press.
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

The Institute for Transnational Arbitration will hold its 29th Annual ITA Workshop and Annual Meeting, June 14 - 16, 2017 at the Marriott at Legacy Town Center, Plano, Texas, on “Challenges to the Legitimacy of international Arbitration.”

The British Institute of International and Comparative Law will host a session on “alternative ways of dispute resolution in international family law” on Monday, June 19, 2017 from 17:00-19:00, at the Charles Clore House on Russell Square in London.

The Cypriot, French, and Hellenic Branches of the ILA are organizing a conference on international arbitration between June 30 and July 1 in Larnaca, Cyprus. The main themes of the conference are the Arbitral Legal Order, Efficiency in Dispute Resolution and International Arbitration and Financial Institutions. Further information and a program can be found here: https://ilacyarbitration.wixsite.com/arbitration2017/.

The 2017 Fall Meeting of the ABA’s Section of International Law will be held on October 24-27, 2017 in Miami, Florida. Early bird registration ends September 8.

The American Society of International Law’s 2017 Midyear Meeting will be held at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri on October 26-28. Proposals to present scholarly papers should be submitted by June 26, 2017 via the ASIL website.

The 112th Annual Meeting of the American Society of International Law will be held April 4-7, 2018 at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20001.

The International Law Association’s Biennial Conference, hosted by the Australian Branch, will be held August 19-23, 2018 at the Intercontinental Hotel in Sydney, Australia.

The Canadian Council on International Law will hold its 46th Annual Conference on November 2-3, 2018 in Ottawa. The theme will be “Canada at 150: The Return of History for International Law.”

SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO AT THE AMERICAN BRANCH

World War II affected the finances and meetings of the American Branch of the International Law Association. In 1942 the Branch forwarded a special contribution of £50 (slightly over $200) – approximately a quarter of the Branch’s own funds – to ILA Headquarters to help with the Headquarters’ war-strained finances. The Branch did hold its 21st annual meeting in New York on May 18, 1942, but “[b]ecause of the war, the usual annual dinner did not take place.” Report of the Proceedings of the Twenty-first Annual Meeting of the American Branch of the International Law Association 11 (1942).

World War II also shaped the substantive work of the American Branch. At the 1942 annual meeting, the Branch voted to “offer its assistance to the President of the American Bar Association in support of its effort to organize the war effort.” In addition, a special Branch committee was to be appointed “to suggest material in anticipation of peace to be taken up by the parent organization.” Id. Several organizations, including the American Law Institute, were studying the topic of an international bill of rights, and in conjunction with that study the 1942 American Branch Proceedings published Dr. George M. Wunderlich’s “Preparing an International Bill of Rights: The German Conception of Fundamental Rights.” Id. at 13.

Branch officers for 1942 included John Loughlin of Philadelphia, President, and P.J. Kooijman of New York, Secretary and Treasurer. U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Charles Evan Hughes was the Honorary President of the American Branch, and Cordell Hull and John Bassett Moore were among its Honorary Vice Presidents.

Submitted by John E. Noyes