IN THIS ISSUE

Centre Lectures & Events

Scrutinising the UK’s post-Brexit Free Trade Agreements

Climate change and the advisory function of international courts and tribunals

Visiting the Centre

and more...
Letter from the Director

Dear Reader

Welcome to the Centre's Spring/Summer 2023 newsletter.

The coming Lent term offers a rich and exciting programme of lectures, workshops and other academic events, following an equally intense and enlightening list of activities held at the Centre during last term. This newsletter describes our recent and forthcoming academic activities and invites you all to join. From this term we will be able to livestream several of our events, including the Friday Lectures and the Hersch Lauterpacht Memorial Lectures. This will enable us to reach out to our friends all over the world while still benefitting from the interaction with our engaged local community of international legal scholars and experts.

This newsletter also showcases the various important initiatives that several of our Fellows have initiated and contributed. We are fortunate to welcome new members to our midst, whether as regular Fellows or as visitors.

2022 has not been a good year for international law, with the war between Russia and Ukraine bringing to Europe memories of a dark past we had thought was no longer possible. Discussions concerning a new Pandemic treaty demonstrate that solidarity is still a precious resource. 2022 also showed how much the climate crisis is a present concern, not only one for future generations to address. But 2022 also demonstrated that international law is an important resource for addressing these crises, by consolidating collective opposition to aggression, by contributing to ending injustices through litigation and advisory opinions and by providing venues for civil society to pressure government directly or through national courts to act. International law is invoked in novel ways, witness Facebook’s Oversight Board that is relying on international human rights law to regulate speech on that platform.

I wish us all the very best for 2023, may it see the end of wars and atrocities, and experience much needed solidarity. And I look forward to seeing many of you taking part in person or online in our activities.

Best wishes

Professor Eyal Benvenisti

LCIL Director

Contents

Centre News ................................................................. 4
Lectures and Events ...................................................... 8
Scrutinising the UK’s post-Brexit Free Trade Agreements .......... 12
Climate change and the advisory function of international courts and tribunals .............................................. 14
Fellows’ News ............................................................. 16
Rosalyn Higgins Prize 2022 ........................................... 19
COPing with International Law - Implementing Treaty Regimes on Sustainability ........................................... 20
Centre Publications ..................................................... 22
Fellows’ Publications ................................................... 24
BRC/ICRC Customary International Humanitarian Law Project ................................................................. 25
Alumni News ............................................................... 26
Scholarships ............................................................... 28
Visiting Fellows ............................................................ 30
Visiting the Centre ........................................................ 34
Centre Fellows .............................................................. 36
Lauterpacht Linked Partnership Programme ........................ 37
Friends & Donors of the Centre ........................................ 38
The Centre’s Memorial Funds .......................................... 39
Lauterpacht Life ............................................................ 40

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Front Cover: Prof Sundhya Pahuja receiving the Max Planck-Cambridge Prize for International Law - December 2022
Lauterpacht Centre News is published twice a year.
Award ceremony held for Professor Sundhya Pahuja, recipient of the Max Planck-Cambridge Prize for International Law

On 1 December 2022 an award ceremony was held at the Lauterpacht Centre for Professor Sundhya Pahuja, the recipient of the 2021 Max Planck-Cambridge Prize for International Law.

By Darren Peterson & Matilda Gillis, Centre Fellows

The prize is awarded to an exceptional mid-career legal scholar who has made an outstanding contribution to the study of international law and who is likely to continue to engage in substantial, innovative and cutting-edge research. The prize is a joint initiative between the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law and the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law and the prize is awarded by a panel of younger scholars chaired by the directors of each Centre.

The recipient for 2021, Professor Sundhya Pahuja, is currently the Director of the Laureate Research Program in Global Corporations and International Law, Director of Melbourne Law School’s Institute for International Law and the Humanities (IIAH), and the Leverhulme Visiting Professor at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, University of Cambridge. The Max Planck-Cambridge Prize for International law recognises her outstanding career in international law and her important and impressive contributions to the field.

At the ceremony, Silvia Steininger from the Max Planck Institute delivered a laudation on behalf of Professor Armin von Bogdandy, who was unfortunately unable to attend in person. On behalf of Professor Bogdandy, Silvia praised the exceptional career of Professor Pahuja, including her research on decolonising international law and the breadth and importance of her interdisciplinary work. Silvia also lauded Professor Pahuja as an inspiration for younger scholars and noted that the panel was unanimous in awarding her the prize.

Professor Eyal Benvenisti, Director of the Centre, then formally presented Professor Pahuja with her award. This was followed by a conversation between Professor Pahuja and Centre Fellows Matilda Gillis and Darren Peterson. The conversation covered a number of topics including Professor Pahuja’s research, her advice to young scholars, de-colonising international law, and her current and up-coming research projects. Professor Pahuja noted how the biographical aspects of our lives influence the direction of our research, advised younger scholars of the importance of preserving the role of the scholar as a thinker in society and within our academic institutions, and the work still to be done in de-colonising international law. Professor Pahuja also noted that it was an honour to receive recognition by younger scholars and to be awarded the Max Planck-Cambridge Prize.

The event was organized by the Lauterpacht Centre staff in conjunction with the Max-Planck Institute.
Hersch Lauterpacht Memorial Lecture 2022:

*A series of three lectures*

‘*International Law Futures*’

Prof Benedict Kingsbury, New York University

By Dr Orfeas Chasapis Tassinis, Centre Fellow

On Friday 2 December 2022, Professor Benedict Kingsbury delivered this year’s lecture at the Lauterpacht Centre. He is Vice Dean and Director of the Institute for International Law and Justice at New York University as well as faculty director for the NYU Law Guarini Institute for Global Legal Studies.

While international lawyers love to talk about the future, their engagement with it is often exhausted in predictive endeavours as to the growth or contraction of the field. In this year’s lectures Professor Kingsbury gave a different vision of the future of international law, and perhaps most importantly, a different way of thinking about it all. This was not an attempted forecast regarding a discipline’s demise (or a new apogee for that matter), but rather a call for re-invigorating international law’s greatest virtues in order to tackle major planetary problems lying ahead.

It is quite common for those who teach and study international law to ponder who or what the field is about. In his first lecture, Professor Kingsbury offered a new twist to these time-old questions, asking when international law is about. This was essentially a call to think about the field’s temporarily as well as the historically forward-looking nature of the discipline as such.

As Professor Kingsbury explained, much of international law has been created, understandably, with human-scale temporal assumptions: the species’ life span. But the latter, ever increasing in absolute terms as it may be, remains miniscule compared to the planetary time scale. At the same time, as Professor Kingsbury suggested, more and more humans are coming to the realization, especially in relation to climate change but also infrastructurally about these planetary problems. The argument here was that international lawyers are already planners of some sort; that essentially being a planner and being part of the international law endowment are one and the same thing; and that if we are more conscious about all the planning that we do in our everyday professional lives we might do it better. The lecture was followed by a Q&A, where Professor Kingsbury further clarified his ideas about the publicness of the planning process and the importance of collective authorship in plans addressing the planetary.

In the second lecture, Professor Kingsbury analyzed the interaction between planning for the future, and the ideas of infrastructure and data. Infrastructure and the management of data raise important issues on their own regard, regardless of any coinciding planetary crisis, but they have become much more important when we are trying to deal with the problems such as climate change, the spreading of disease or asteroid approaches. As Professor Kingsbury further explained, while we tend to think of infrastructure as an inanimate part of the physical environment, the inanimate can also dynamically condition the way human agency is exercised and be themselves relationship-creating. But the key point here, it was argued, is not just to recognize infrastructure when you see it, but rather to think infrastructurally about the materiality of relations, processes and imaginations around us, including data and AI. In this context, the effort to directly regulate data in places such as China and Europe raises the question whether data should itself be the subject of planetary regulation, given the importance of scientific data to global governance problems.

In the third lecture, Professor Kingsbury introduced the idea of an international law endowment as a metaphor for a planning project building on the past but also embracing a responsibility towards the future. The key question posed here was ‘what more can international law be?’ International law, Professor Kingsbury suggested, should be about more than just the human – meaning the classic ordering problems of international relations such as war, trade etc – and encompass the planetary space and timescale. Thus, Professor Kingsbury suggested that the endowment of international law, with its current doctrines and ontology but also established capital of human connections, should be updated to take into account the ideas of planning and thinking

The Hersch Lauterpacht Memorial Lecture is an annual three-part lecture series given in Cambridge to commemorate the unique contribution to the development of international law of Sir Hersch Lauterpacht. These lectures are given annually by a person of eminence in the field of international law.
Lent Term 2023
LCIL Friday Lunchtime Lectures

Hersch Lauterpacht Memorial Lecture 2023
Three-part lecture series

6 pm Tuesday 14 March - Thursday 16 March, Q&A 1 pm, Friday 17 March

‘Capitalism and the Doctrines of International Law’

Dr B S Chimni
Jindal Global University

Venue: The Berkowitz/Finley Lecture Hall, Lauterpacht Centre for International Law

LECTURE 1: 6 pm, Tuesday 14 March: Mapping the Terrain

Lecture 1 will consider the reasons for examining the relationship between capitalism and the doctrines of international law, discuss the meaning of doctrine and the epistemology of doctrinal research, and identify different historical phases of doctrinal development.

LECTURE 2: 6 pm, Wednesday 15 March: Exploring Nexus

Lecture 2 will touch on some systemic, fundamental and functional doctrines to illustrate and sustain the thesis that capitalism has deeply influenced the evolution and development of the doctrines of international law.

LECTURE 3: 6 pm, Thursday 16 March: Reframing Doctrines

Lecture 3 will propose that if the multiple crises confronting the international community, especially climate crisis, is to be addressed, many of the doctrines of international law will have to be reframed to deal with the fallout of global capitalism.

Q&A - 1 pm, Friday 17 March (Sandwich lunch at 12.30 pm, The Old Library)

Hersch Lauterpacht Memorial Lecture
The Hersch Lauterpacht Memorial Lecture is an annual three-part lecture series given in Cambridge to commemorate the unique contribution to the development of international law of Sir Hersch Lauterpacht. These lectures are given annually by a person of eminence in the field of international law.

All lectures are hybrid events unless stated.
You are very welcome to attend in-person in the Berkowitz/Finley Lecture Hall at the Centre or you may register online at:
https://www.lcil.cam.ac.uk/press/events/all

1 pm, Friday 20 January
‘Women, Peace and Security: Where Now?’
Christine Chinkin
London School of Economics

1 pm, Friday 27 January
‘Digital Rights and the Outer Limits of International Human Rights Law’
Yuval Shany
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

1 pm, Friday 3 February
‘Gender and the International Judge: Misfits on the Bench’
Loveday Hodson
University of Leicester

1 pm, Friday 10 February
‘After Mythology: Contemporary Challenges for the Law of International Organisations’
Eyal Benvenisti
University of Cambridge

1 pm, Friday 17 February
‘Competing Theories of Treaty Interpretation and the Divided Application by Investor-State Tribunals of Articles 31 and 32 of the VCLT’
Charles Brower
Twenty Essex

1 pm, Friday 24 February
‘The Behavioural Turn of the United Nations and its Implications for International Law’
Anne van Aaken
University of Hamburg

1 pm, Friday 10 March
‘The Institutions of Exceptions’
Julian Arato
University of Michigan

1 pm, Friday 17 February
‘Oil and Water: The Inherent Incompatibility of International Investment Law with Climate Action’
Anil Yilmaz Vastardis
Essex Law School

1 pm, Friday 24 February
‘The Behavioural Turn of the United Nations and its Implications for International Law’
Anne van Aaken
University of Hamburg

1 pm, Friday 10 March
‘The Institutions of Exceptions’
Julian Arato
University of Michigan

The Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, 5 Cranmer Road, Cambridge, CB3 9BL

Eli Lauterpacht Lecture 2023 - 1 pm Friday 6 October 2023
Nazhat Khan, Deputy Prosecutor, International Criminal Court
Reparations for Trans-Atlantic Chattel Slavery: Challenges in Establishing the Responsibility of Private Actors

17:00 hrs – 19:00 hrs - 1 March 2023

Panel Workshop at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law

Chaired by: Prof Henning Grosse Ruse-Khan and Dr Andrew Sanger

On 1 March 2023, the Lauterpacht Centre will host an inter-disciplinary panel discussion on reparations for slavery that focuses on the responsibility of private actors who benefited from - or otherwise been involved in - the transatlantic slave trade and the enslavement of Africans. As recent attempts to obtain reparations from private actors demonstrate (e.g., the Drax case in Barbados), there are many challenging questions of law and responsibility still to be resolved. These include the impact of time on liability/reparations (manifesting itself in legal doctrines of inter-temporality, limitations, acquiescence, etc), the difficulty of identifying the substantive law for liability, the task of determining the relationship between the private actor and the historic injustice that took place, the role of international as well as domestic private law in such claims, and the relationship between the private actors and the state.

The panel will use the attempts to hold French banks responsible for financing Haiti’s so-called ‘independence loan’, which it was forced to pay France following its declaration of independence, as a case study. The private loan made it possible for Haiti to pay a significant amount of the debt forced upon it by France, but servicing it also perpetuated and entrenched the injustices that resulted from the enslavement of Haitian people by France and French slave holders. Repaying the loan took 150 years (it was not discharged until the 1960s), during which it inflicted crippling damage to the Haitian economy and the Haitian people.

Panel Outline:

- Henning Grosse Ruse-Khan (Professor of Law, University of Cambridge): The case for reparations for grave historic injustices.
- Sabine Cadeau (Lecturer in African Diaspora History at SOAS, the University of London): Haiti’s History and its Case for Reparations.
- Mathias Audit (Law Professor at the Sorbonne School of Law (University of Paris 1)): Legal aspects of claims against French banks to obtain reimbursement of the independence debt.
- Priscellia Robinson (founding member of Queens Court Chambers and Head of Chambers, UN Fellow): Liability under English law of private actors involved in the transatlantic trade.
- Andrew Sanger (Associate Professor of International Law): Responsibility of private actors for

Call for Abstracts: Workshop on Empirical Contributions to Doctrinal Research

28 March 2023

Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge

Join us at Sidney Sussex College on 28 March 2023 for an exciting one-day workshop on empirical contributions to doctrinal research methods and the concept of landmark cases!

The Workshop will bring together legal academics from across Cambridge and beyond, and cover a broad range of topics arranged around 4 key themes:

1. Doctrinal Research in the Age of Databases: Structure, Strengths, and Weaknesses
2. Landmark Cases – a (functional) coping mechanism? Definition, Downsides, Quality Control
3. Practical Data Analysis of Court Decisions: Sources, Methods, Promises, and Limitations

Participant numbers are limited: please register your interest by emailing Dr Stefan Theil (st608@cam.ac.uk) a 500-word abstract (deadline: 6 February 2023).

Successful individuals will be contacted shortly thereafter and asked to develop their abstract into a between 1,500- and 2,000-word discussion paper.
One of the main advantages of Brexit, to its supporters, has been the regaining of the UK’s ability to conduct an independent trade policy. Along with the UK now acting as a fully independent WTO Member, at the bilateral level this has meant the conclusion of free trade agreements (FTAs) with like-minded countries. These are agreements providing for the complete – or almost complete – reduction of customs duties on goods, as well as ‘behind the border’ rules facilitating trade by reducing regulatory barriers to trade in services, government procurement, investment, among others.

Free trade agreements can be politically controversial for two main reasons. The first is economic: trade liberalisation comes with import competition, which puts pressure on domestic producers. The second is to do with values, but can also have an economic dimension. Reducing trade barriers for imports made in countries with lower production standards can be politically sensitive, but it can also lead to objections that higher domestic standards are being undermined. In some cases, domestic producers might even seek to avoid these standards by relocating to those countries, taking advantage of new trade opportunities.

For several reasons, the UK was until very recently been relatively immune from these concerns. In part, this is because the UK has (not entirely accurately) traditionally seen itself as a bastion of free trade, especially compared to other countries. In part, this is because, since the UK joined the EU 50 years ago, the UK was able to shelter behind protectionist policies promoted by other EU Member States, especially in agriculture. In short, the trade-offs inherent in a policy of trade liberalisation are new to the UK public, and perhaps even to its policy making apparatus as well.

It was therefore to be expected that, when the UK came to negotiate new free trade agreements, these trade-offs would gain prominence. This took time. The UK’s first post-Brexit FTAs, mainly signed in 2019 and 2020, were ‘continuity’ agreements which essentially replicated pre-existing EU FTAs with other countries, and did not change anything for domestic producers. In addition, politically, attention was mainly focused on EU-UK trade relations, which resulted in two agreements in 2020: first, in February, the Northern Ireland Protocol to the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement, which provided for free trade in goods between Northern Ireland and the EU via a de facto customs union, and then, in December, the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA), which provides for free trade in goods (and some services) between the UK and the EU. These agreements were (and remain) controversial, but this is not because they provide for trade liberalisation. Rather, it is for the opposite reason, that they establish new administrative trade barriers within the UK (under the Protocol) and between the UK and the EU (under the TCA).

But alongside these developments, there was a growing concern that when the UK did adopt a new trade policy, this could affect domestic producers (via new import competition) and both producers and consumers (via lower standards). The lead in this was taken by the National Farmers’ Union (NFU), which wrote to the Prime Minister four days before the UK formally left the EU, on 27 January 2020, urging legislation to protect high agricultural production standards in the UK, and recommending the establishment of a statutory body to engage with these issues. A petition was launched which, with support from Jamie Oliver, the celebrity chef, achieved one million signatures by June that year. And in November, the government agreed to establish a Trade and Agriculture Commission (TAC), with a mandate of advising the government on UK agricultural standards in its trade policy.

This Commission issued its report in March 2021, at which point its mandate expired. The Government responded to this report in October 2021, and at the same time established a new Trade and Agricultural Commission, this time to be on a statutory footing, as originally requested by the NFU.

This new TAC (of which I am the Chair) has a different mandate, which is to scrutinise new UK FTAs, and to advise the Government and Parliament on whether these FTAs are undermining the UK’s statutory protections in the areas of environmental standards, agricultural health and safety standards, and animal welfare standards. There are 11 TAC members, drawn from the worlds of academia, farming, trade law and policy, and science, each working in a personal and independent capacity. (It is worth noting that this model is unique. Usually, FTAs are scrutinised prior to ratification by parliamentary committees, which often have limited time and resources to conduct their work, by professional interest groups, or by professional consultancies commissioned to write reports by the negotiating governments).

The TAC’s first commission was to examine the UK’s new FTAs with Australia and New Zealand, both signed in early 2022. These FTAs provide for full liberalisation of agricultural imports into the UK, albeit over a period of 15 years, and the economic implications of the import competition that this might generate has caused some concern over the past year in various quarters (including the UK’s former agriculture minister). The TAC’s role is not to look at these economic issues, however, but rather at whether any such increased imports are likely to also undermine UK standards. In its advice on these two FTAs, after a public consultation process, the TAC came to the view that this would be unlikely.

This was for various reasons. First, these FTAs contain exceptions which are at least as broad as those in the WTO agreements, permitting the UK to protect its domestic environment, health and safety and public morals, and in the case of New Zealand even going further, in respect of climate change. Second, both FTAs contain provisions requiring the parties to maintain high environmental standards. Third, while it is true that in some cases Australian agricultural production has lower standards than UK production, with rare exceptions this does not affect products that are likely to be imported into the UK at increased rates under the UK-Australia FTA.

For example, the TAC found that wool from sheep that had been subject to ‘mulesing’ can already be imported duty free into the UK, and beef from cattle given hormone growth promoters would not be exported to the UK. Nor was there any evidence that agricultural imports under the FTA would promote climate-unfriendly agricultural production in Australia or New Zealand. Indeed, the TAC found that in most cases New Zealand meat imports were less carbon intensive, even accounting for transport, than home-grown UK meat. The TAC did however find that the UK-Australia FTA would be likely to result in increased imports of canola (rapeseed) produced from genetically modified crops, and increased imports of certain other agricultural products grown using pesticides banned in the UK, causing potential harm to Australia’s environment, and which to this extent could not be prohibited by the UK.

The TAC’s advice on the Australia and New Zealand FTAs were welcomed by the Government and, significantly, the NFU, and there was probably a sense of relief that – whatever their economic effects – the TAC concluded that these agreements were unlikely to undermine the UK’s agricultural standards. The TAC is likely next to be tasked with scrutinising the UK’s upcoming FTA with India, and its accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), a regional free trade agreement with 11 countries, including Canada, Japan, Chile, Australia, New Zealand and Malaysia. Scrutinising these agreements will be a significant challenge, given the number of countries involved and the range of their agricultural practices – but also no doubt a rewarding one.

Climate change and the advisory function of international courts and tribunals

Prof Jorge E Viñuales

Harold Samuel Professor of Law and Environmental Policy, Cambridge; Fellow of the Lauterpacht Centre; Legal Counsel to the Republic of Vanuatu in the referenced matters.

One recent development that has attracted much attention from academics, civil society groups and international law practitioners is the resort to the advisory function of international courts and tribunals to strengthen climate action.

The impulsion was given by the Republic of Vanuatu, which in September 2021 formalised its initiative to have the UN General Assembly request an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on climate change. A draft resolution, carefully negotiated within a Core Support Group including 18 States from different continents was published on 30 November 2022 and is currently under consultation with the wider UN membership. Two more focused initiatives have also sprung within a broader context. One has taken the form of a request submitted on 12 December 2022 by the Commission of Small Island States (COSIS) on Climate Change and International Law to the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) on matters related to climate change under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

The other is the request joint by Chile and Colombia for an advisory opinion of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (ICtHR) the implications of the climate emergency on human rights, announced on 9 January 2023. From a substantive and geographical standpoint, these initiatives differ significantly. The COSIS request stems from a specific group of States (Small Island States) and focuses only on obligations of parties to the American Convention on Human Rights. By contrast, the ICJ initiative has a general scope, both substantively and geographically, which makes it politically very sensitive, as the process in the UN General Assembly so far shows. Despite these differences, what is noteworthy is the recourse to a similar instrument – the advisory jurisdiction of international courts and tribunals – in relation to climate action. I would like to offer six brief observations on such recourse in the hope that they may help clarify some of the factors underpinning this choice and dispel some misconceptions.

The first observation concerns the instrument itself. Of all the judicial routes available on the international plane, advisory opinions are the most uncontentious and constructive one. This could be seen from a glass half-full or half-empty perspective. Skeptical observers will no doubt note that advisory opinions are not binding as such, that the powers of the ITLOS to render such opinions have raised significant controversy and those of the ICtHR, which can be triggered by States, are subject to caution. However, there are clear and specific answers to each of these common objections. While an advisory opinion is, as such, not binding, the law which is examined and clarified in it is binding, and when it comes to general international law or to widely ratified treaties, the normative impact depends less on the nature of the opinion than on its specificity. As for the debates relating to the advisory jurisdiction of ITLOS and the potentially self-serving use of the ICtHR’s advisory jurisdiction, the first has been addressed in detail by the ITLOS in its 2015 advisory opinion on the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission request, whereas the second has been increasingly used in the last decade. In all events, the ICJ route could hardly be questioned from this perspective given the substantial number of UN parties (a simple majority of members present and voting) that must support the adoption of a request and the clear mandate of the ICJ including in the Charter and the Court’s Statute.

Secondly, in the past, advisory opinions have been influential instruments to address matters such as apartheid, occupation, decolonisation or the environmental dimensions of human rights, where the sole use of political processes had proven insufficient to make concrete progress. Irrespective of where one stands on the politics of some of these matters, it is the effect of the instrument that must be emphasised. A set of advisory opinions on climate change would likely be influential as a catalyst of political action and as a common base for climate-related litigation.

Thirdly, negotiations under the aegis of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement are in dire need of a catalyst. At COP 26, in Glasgow, there was general agreement that the level of ambition expressed in nationally-determined contributions (NDC) had to be raised faster. Yet, at COP 27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, the momentum for increasing the ambition and the pace of NDC was largely overshadowed by the energy security concerns resulting from the fallout of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. In such a context, a judicial statement could perform, at the international level, a catalyst – ‘word-to-deed’ – function analogous to the one climate litigation performs at the domestic level.

Fourthly, there is a strong scientific consensus on the causes of climate change, expressed mainly in the reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The two latest assessment reports (2013/14 and 2021/22) leave no doubt as to the anthropogenic causes of climate change, and their summary for policy-makers are approved through a process that involves State assent, including that of major fossil-fuel producers. This scientific consensus is compounded by increasing ‘everyday evidence’ tangibly affecting people around the globe. Climate change is driving sea level rise, floods, desertification, food and water insecurity, conflict, disease redistribution, floods, unprecedented heat waves and ‘heat domes’, cyclones/hurricanes and other extreme weather events. Stories of devastation are rapidly becoming the new normal, in particularly vulnerable States but also in other countries – including developed countries – which have been tragically caught off guard by weather events of unprecedented severity.

Fifthly, younger people and civil society at large are justifiably concerned by the daunting prospects of a world scarred by climate change. The grass-roots support for the initiatives is extremely important, particularly for the one to request an ICJ advisory opinion, which requires navigating a challenging process at the UN General Assembly. The confluence of the scientific consensus, the increasingly tangible impacts and the wide grass-roots support go a long way in explaining the success of Vanuatu’s initiative so far, as compared to previous attempts.

Last but not least, a phenomenon as vast as climate change has implications for the entirety of international law, and such implications must be fleshed out to be actionable. At present, only a handful treaties (most notably the UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement) expressly address climate change, whereas numerous others, whether environmental or not, are directly relevant to it. The requests from COSIS and Chile/Colombia, which concern two instruments that do not expressly address climate change, are good illustrations of this point. It is obvious that a range of rules of both treaty and customary international law are relevant to govern the conduct of States – and other duty-bearers – underpinning anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases. Advisory opinions offer a suitable tool to frame the issue from the perspective of existing law and clarifying in an actionable manner (unlike codification and progressive development bodies) the requirements of applicable rules. This may appear unambitious but, in fact, major legal breakthroughs often require the simple – but this time non-obvious – step of moving from what is implicit to what is explicit.

The three initiatives overlap to some extent, but this brief article is not the place to unpack their interactions. All in all, they may be seen as pieces of a puzzle, some smaller, some larger, which when put together will hopefully provide an incomplete but much clearer picture of the actionable obligations of States in relation to the conduct that is driving climate change.

Please note: The opinions expressed in this piece are strictly in my academic capacity - Jorge Viñuales
Lorand Bartels MBE has been appointed one of the UK’s arbitrators under the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement (since December 2022). Lorand is a Centre Fellow and serves on the Centre’s Committee of Management. He is also Chair of the Trade and Agriculture Commission (TAC) and has written an article for this newsletter on the UK’s post-Brexit Free Trade Agreements (see page 12).

Eyal Benvenisti returns to the Centre as Director after spending the autumn term 2022 as the Samuel Rubin Visiting Professor of Law at Columbia Law School in New York. Eyal taught two undergraduate courses - ‘International Organizations’ and ‘The Political Economy of International Law’. We are delighted to have you back, Eyal!

Dr Tugba Basaran is Deputy Director of the Centre on the Study of Global Human Movement at the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge and has recently joined the Centre as a Fellow. She holds a PhD in International Studies (Cambridge), and has held visiting positions at Harvard Law, Princeton, Sciences-Po as well as the Institute for Advanced Studies, and tenure at the University of Kent.

Dr Basaran’s research is, amongst others, on legal borders and geographies, claims to extra-territoriality and the production of indifference, law’s distinctions between liberal and illiberal and tensions between state and empire. She is author of the monograph ‘Security, Law and Borders: At the Limit of Liberties’ and a variety of articles such as ‘The Saved and the Drowned: Governing Indifference in the Name of Security’, ‘Becoming International: On Symbolic Capital, Conversion and Privilege’, ‘A Journey Through Law’s Landscapes: Close Encounters of the Scalar Kind’.

Marie-Claire Cordonier Segger enjoyed the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law annual conference in Oslo in October, chairing the plenary panel on the role of multilevel law and governance reform in facilitating the global response to climate change, and the transition to a more sustainable economy, worldwide. She chaired an intense climate law and governance programme of events, advice and engagement during the UNFCCC COP27 in Egypt in November and a fascinating biodiversity law and governance collaboration in the UNCBD CoP15 in Canada and China which adopted the new Global Biodiversity Framework in December (see related article on page 20).

She was also honoured to travel to Calgary to receive her Royal Society of Canada fellowship award and to be inducted into the Academy of Social Sciences. She delivered the Inaugural Lecture for the newly-launched Observatory for Agenda 2030 at the University of Cambridge from October 2022. Emilija’s expertise lies in International law and European Union Law. Her book Functional Responsibility of International Organisations - The European Union and International Economic Law was published in December 2021.

Maayan Menashe is a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow and Affiliated Lecturer at the Cambridge Faculty of Law and College Research Associate at Sidney Sussex College.

Matilda Gillis is the current Hong Kong Link Early Career Research Fellow and College Lecturer in Law at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. Matilda grew up in Sydney and then moved to Canberra to study for a BA and an LLB (Hons) at The Australian National University (ANU). She subsequently practised as a solicitor in constitutional law at the Australian Government Solicitor, before undertaking an LLM in International Law at Trinity College Cambridge. Her LLM was fully funded by a Henry Arthur Hollond Studentship and she also received an honorary Lionel Murphy Endowment Postgraduate Scholarship. Matilda won various prizes in the LLM, including the Clive Parry Prize for International Law (for the highest ranked student in the international law designation of the LLM). Matilda then moved to Peterhouse, Cambridge to complete her PhD in Law, which was funded by a Peterhouse Graduate Research Studentship. Her PhD examined the interactions between domestic parliaments and international courts in the area of immigration law.

Dr Emilija Leinarte, Centre Fellow and University Assistant Professor, was appointed as Co-Deputy Director of the Centre for European Legal Studies at the University of Cambridge from October 2022. Emilija’s expertise lies in International law and European Union Law. Her book Functional Responsibility of International Organisations - The European Union and International Economic Law was published in December 2021.
Darren Peterson is currently a Bye-Fellow and Director of Studies in Law at Clare College, Cambridge. Darren holds Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and Bachelor of International Studies (Distinction) degrees from the University of Wollongong, as well as a LLM from the University of Cambridge where he was awarded the Whewell Scholarship for International Law and the William Charnley Prize in law. Prior to commencing his postgraduate studies, Darren held various positions in the Australian Public Service including at the Australian Securities and Investment Commission, the Australian Treasury, the Australian Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva. His professional experience related to financial market regulation, corporate and white-collar crime, as well as human rights. Darren is currently completing his PhD at Trinity College, Cambridge where his research focuses on modern slavery, human rights, and the law of the sea. Darren has previously taught at the University of Wollongong, and currently supervises human rights law, international law and law of contract.

Sandesh Sivakumaran is Co-Deputy Director of the Lauterpacht Centre. In his capacity as 2022 Lieber Scholar at the US Military Academy Lieber Institute for Law and Land Warfare, Sandesh Sivakumaran, together with Capt Christian Burne, organized a workshop on ‘Making and Shaping the Law of Armed Conflict’. The workshop brought together individuals from government, the armed forces, civil society, and academia for three days of discussion. Topics included treaty interpretation and the Geneva Conventions, the transformative force of customary international law, and the role of regionalism in the development of the law of armed conflict. A volume on the subject will shortly be published.

Rumiana Yotova took part in a workshop funded by the Brocher Foundation and co-organised by Prof Samantha Besson and Prof Bartha Knoppers on the ‘Human Right to Science with a Focus on Health’. She presented a paper on ‘Anticipatory Duties under International Biomedical Law’, which has been submitted for publication in a special issue of the International Journal of Human Rights.

Dr Yotova gave the Lauterpacht Luncheon Lecture on 18 November on her forthcoming monograph with Cambridge University Press ‘The Public Policy of International Law: Communitarian Norms and their Legal Characteristics’.

PhD Student, Fabian Eichberger, wins Rosalyn Higgins Prize 2022

The Centre is delighted to hear that Fabian Eichberger’s paper entitled ‘Informal Communications to the International Court of Justice in Cases of Non-Appearance’ has won the Rosalyn Higgins Prize 2022.

The Rosalyn Higgins Prize is awarded annually by the Brill journal The Law & Practice of International Courts and Tribunals for an article on the International Court of Justice. The prize is named in honour of H.E. Rosalyn Higgins, GBE, KC, former President of the International Court of Justice and alumna of Girton College, University of Cambridge. This year’s jury included Judge Neeru Chadha (International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea), Professor Giuseppe Nesi (University of Trento, Member-elect of the International Law Commission), Professor Mónica Pinto (Emerita, University of Buenos Aires), and Professor August Reinisch (University of Vienna, Member of the International Law Commission).

Fabian’s paper develops a legal framework that suggests how the ICJ could best address informal communications by states that decide not to participate in proceedings. In recent years, states have frequently decided to abstain in parts of proceedings before the Court. This can put the ICJ in an awkward position as it has to strike a fair balance between the procedural rights of the participating and the non-participating party, neither of which is supposed to benefit from the situation. The article will be published open-access in the upcoming issue of The Law & Practice of International Courts and Tribunals. The prize comes with a €1.000 Brill book voucher.

In response to the award, Fabian said “I am extremely grateful to have been awarded the Rosalyn Higgins Prize 2022. Dame Rosalyn Higgins is an inspiration to international lawyers worldwide and especially so at Cambridge, her alma mater. It genuinely humbles me to receive the prize in her name and I hope that my research will contribute to resolving a thorny issue of public international law. I am extremely grateful to the unique intellectual community at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law and my supervisor, Dr Fernando Bordin. Without them I would not have been able to write this paper. My warmest congratulations go to Juan Pablo Leon Acevedo who has also been awarded the prize this year.”

Congratulations Fabian!
COping with International Law - Implementing Treaty Regimes on Sustainability

Prof Marie-Claire Cordonier-Segger, LCIL Fellow

International law commitments on sustainable development, including as part of global responses to climate change and to the degradation of the natural world, are found in several near-universal treaties which convene States and other stakeholders for cooperation (and continuing debates). Regimes implementing these accords are constantly and interactively evolving, including through annual or biannual Conferences of the Parties to the Conventions (CoPs).

During the 27th COP of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Cairo and Sharm-el-Sheik Egypt, Prof Marie-Claire Cordonier Segger, as part of her Leverhulme Trust visiting professorship, chaired an intensive programme of international law and governance activities, together with several other LCIL experts. An academic preparatory conference at Ain Shams University Faculty of Law in Cairo, which built on a pre-Glasgow COP26 academic law conference, considered emerging challenges in international law on climate change and sustainable development. Further, in Sharm-el-Sheik at COP27, through experts panels, official side events and advisory workshops, they addressed international legal advances in the climate regime, including options for structuring climate loss and damage finance, and transparency in rules of procedure for the Paris Agreement Implementation and Compliance Committee (PAIICC). Debates on such agenda items were reflected in the outcomes of the COP27, which included agreement on a new loss and damage response fund, on PAIICC rules of procedure, on redirecting infrastructure investment and trade towards net zero transitions including hydrogen valleys, on ISO net zero guidelines and also expert standards and criteria for assessing non-state actors’ net zero commitments, and other key aspects of implementing the Paris Agreement, though many important pledges for deeper emission reductions were left to COP28 in 2024.

During COP27, Prof Cordonier Segger also chaired Climate Law and Governance Day (CLGD) 2022, which built on previous CLGDs since 2005 at McGill in Montreal, and convened over 1,400 registrants from around the globe, including negotiators, general counsel, litigators and other practitioners, as well as several treaty secretariats, international and civil society leaders. Engaging experts and speakers from across the University of Cambridge including LCIL, the Centre for Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Governance (CEENRG), the Bennett Institute for Public Policy, the Centre for Climate Repair, the Hughes Hall Centre for Climate Change Engagement and Cambridge Zero, as well as from Ain Shams University, the International Law Association, the International Bar Association, Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL), the African Union Commission on International Law, the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law, UNEP, UNIDO, the International Development Law Organisation and others, the Day including a session co-hosted by LCIL Fellow Dr Markus Gehring, recent Director of the Centre for European Legal Studies (CELS), on climate change provisions in Europe’s economic treaties with the Americas, as well as five high-level plenaries on climate finance for net zero transitions, on climate litigation and on climate-conscious lawyering, and fifteen other substantive sessions addressing diverse law and governance challenges from democratizing climate law capacity, to Paris Agreement instruments for transparency and compliance, to human rights aspects of climate litigation, to legal structures for net zero, nature-based solutions and climate justice. Laureates of the 2022 climate law and governance global leadership awards were announced, with University of Cambridge co-hosts of COP26 activities winning in the academic category alongside Glasgow and Strathclyde Universities, as were winners of the climate law student essay competition in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

Alongside leading international law experts, Prof Cordonier Segger, Dr Gehring, Cambridge post-doctoral fellow Dr Antoinette Nestor, doctoral student Tejas Rao and others trained a new generation of climate law specialists in climate law and governance via a Climate Law and Governance Specialization Course on 13 November 2022. The one-day course provided a foundational understanding of the Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC and included sessions on Law, Governance & Climate Mitigation, Climate Law & Governance on Adaptation, Loss and Damage and Climate Law & Governance on Finance, Compliance & Transparency. Successful learners joined a global Registry which is part of a CLGI Glasgow COP26 Pledge to increase climate law and governance capacity from 600 to 6,000 specialists by 2024.

Further, and also this fall, during the Convention on Biological Diversity’s (CBD) CoP15 in December in Montreal a new Global Biodiversity Framework was agreed with four main goals addressing: the integrity and connectivity of ecosystems and human-induced extinctions; sustainable use and management of biodiversity, with nature’s contributions to people valued, sustained and enhanced; equitable sharing of benefits of traditional knowledge, genetic resources and digital sequence information; and provision of financial resources and other implementation means. These goals are backed by 23 specific targets, including ensuring effective conservation and management of at least 30% of the world’s lands, inland waters, coastal areas and oceans by 2030; recognising indigenous and traditional territories and practices; restoring at least 30% of degraded ecosystems by 2030; reducing to near-zero the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance; and cutting global food waste by half.

During COP15, with Parties and Observers to the CBD and other biodiversity accords, including several treaty secretariats, international organisations and academic partners, as chair of the Biodiversity Law and Governance Initiative, Prof Cordonier Segger, Dr Gehring and other colleagues convened nearly 400 jurists, negotiators, law and policy makers, practitioners, indigenous and local leaders, stakeholders and scholars, to scale up law, policy and practice contributions to implementing the CBD regime and Global Biodiversity Framework, advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through legal and institutional measures as a global symposium, Biodiversity Law and Governance Day 2022, during the COP. The global symposium was held at McGill University in Montreal, and co-hosted by the University of Montreal and the University of Quebec in Montreal, together with many partners including several treaty secretariats, the International Law Association, the International Inter-tribal Trade and Investment Law Organisation and the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law. It led to several experts interventions to assist in the Global Biodiversity Framework negotiations and implementations during and after COP15, and a pledge to assess and monitor legal and institutional means of implementation which are highlighted throughout the new Framework, as well as to scale up biodiversity law and governance capacity. Laureates of the 2022 biodiversity law and governance global leadership awards were also announced.

Back in Cambridge after the CoPs, LCIL members helped host scholarly exchanges and events with other faculty, researchers and students to share the outcomes of both sets of international COP debates, negotiations and progress in implementing the treaties, and to inspire new research and teaching in the field.

Expert advice and engagement in the CoPs can advance our understanding of how treaty law is interpreted and refined through the regimes themselves, even as the science, technology and engagement of contributing communities of practice matures and deepens. The inter-theoretical, actional theories of international law and international communities of practice matures and deepens. The inter-theoretical, actional theories of international law and international relations advanced by Professors Stephen Toope and Jutta Brunne, among others, gain resonance in this respect. Even as States, experts and other stakeholders in the UNFCCC and CBD regimes seek to advance global progress on greenhouse gas emissions reductions and biodiversity conservation, we must not ignore or forget our further financial, capacity-building and other sustainable development obligations in these accords, which remain of crucial importance to millions of people and other species most affected by climate change and biodiversity degradation, and hold the key to a more just and sustainable world.
Centre Publications

A number of leading publications in international law are edited at the Lauterpacht Centre. These include the International Law Reports (edited by Sir Christopher Greenwood and Karen Lee), the ICSID Reports (edited by Jorge Vinuales and Michael Waibel), the British Yearbook of International Law (co-edited by Eyal Benvenisti), and the European Journal of International Law (Co-Editor-In-Chief, Dr Sarah Nouwen).

International Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes Reports (ICSID)

The ICSID Reports are edited by Prof Jorge Viruáles, Fellow of the Centre, and Prof Michael Waibel, formerly Co-Deputy Director of the Centre. They are assisted by Oliver Hailes, a final-year PhD student of the Centre and Assistant Professor at the LSE Law School.

The International Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) Reports provide an authoritative published collection of investor-State arbitral decisions rendered under the auspices of the World Bank’s International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), pursuant to other bilateral or multilateral investment treaties such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT), or involving investment contracts entered by States.

Combining analytical studies with case summaries by practitioners, the ICSID Reports are an invaluable tool for those working in the field of public international law, investment treaty arbitration, or international commercial arbitration, whether advising foreign investors or States.

All 20 volumes are available in hard copy and online at Cambridge Core. Three thematic volumes have been published:


Each volume has featured an eminence guest contributor, including Jan Paulsson, Christoph Schreuer, and Meg Kinneer.

The next three volumes, under preparation, will focus on remedies (Volume 21), climate change and sustainability (Volume 22), and European Union law (Volume 23) in investment arbitration.

For updates, follow on Twitter: @ICSID_Rep

Milestone Volume of the International Law Reports (ILR)

This January 2023 will see the publication of the 200th volume of the International Law Reports.

The reports are edited by Sir Christopher Greenwood GBE CMG KC and Karen Lee, Centre Fellow and Fellow and former Vice-Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge.

The International Law Reports (ILR) have been reporting the decisions of national and international courts and tribunals on issues of public international law for over ninety years. The series captures the full range of judgments and awards on issues of international law from the increasing number of international courts and tribunals while expanding coverage of national judgments.

Supplementary Preface in the 200th Volume by Sir Christopher Greenwood

It has been the custom for what may be termed the “anniversary volumes” of the International Law Reports to include an additional preface written by the senior Editor who thus has the opportunity to make clear their gratitude to certain people who have been particularly closely involved with the preparation of the Reports. For volume 100 and volume 150 those prefaces were written by Sir Eli Lauterpacht, who had taken over the editorship on the death of his father, Sir Hersch Lauterpacht, in 1960. It was Sir Hersch who, with Lord McNair and Sir John Fisher Williams, had started what was then the Annual Digest in 1929, and Sir Eli who, during the fifty-seven years that he edited the series, kept it alive through difficult times and made it what it is today. Their work was honoured by the American Society of International Law in 1972 when it awarded them the Certificate of Merit in respect of the Reports. Although I never had the opportunity of knowing Sir Hersch, I had the enormous benefit of Sir Eli’s friendship and guidance for almost forty years.

Over the years so many people have worked on the ILR that it would be impossible for me to thank them all by name. Three people must, however, be singled out. Karen Lee, my co-editor, has given thirty years of service to the ILR. Her dedication to the series and the quality of her work shines through in every volume with which she has been associated, the first being volume 53, which appeared in 1992. For many years she has been the principal guiding hand in the editing of the Reports. Maureen MacGlashan has prepared the index with meticulous care for even longer. Her first index appeared in 1992. For many years she has been the principal guiding hand in the editing of the Reports. Maureen MacGlashan has prepared the index with meticulous care for even longer. Her first index appeared in volume 76, which was published in 1988. She has made the index and tables of treaties the invaluable means of access to the wide range of issues covered in the cases reported here. Finally, Diane Iloot has worked on the series since 1987; the first volume to have the benefit of her skills was volume 74. She has painstakingly checked the copy and proofs and has ensured that the vast range of material from numerous different sources appeared accurately and harmoniously.

To all of the above, as well as to the others who have contributed to the series, I would like to extend my warmest thanks; working with you has been a pleasure as well as a privilege.

To all of the above, as well as to the others who have contributed to the series, I would like to extend my warmest thanks; working with you has been a pleasure as well as a privilege.

For updates, follow on Twitter: @ICLIL_Rep

Further information: https://www.lcil.cam.ac.uk/publications/international-law-reports
Fellows’ Publications

Lorand Bartels
Book Chapter: “Article 13 TBT” and “Article 15 TBT” in Markus Wagner (ed(s)), Commentaries on World Trade Law, WTO Technical Barriers and SPS Measures, Vol 4 (Brill, 2022), pp. 249-60 and 274-281
Book Chapter: “Jurisdiction and Applicable Law in the WTO and Free Trade Agreements” in Daniel Bethlehem, Donald McRae, Rodney Neufeld, and Isabelle Van Damme (ed(s)), Oxford Handbook of International Trade Law (OUP, 2022), pp. 945-966

Eyal Benvenisti
Book: ‘Occupation in International Law’ – Eliav Lieblich and Eyal Benvenisti (OUP, December 2022)

Fernando Bordin
Book: ‘The European Union and Customary International Law’ Edited by Fernando Lusa Bordin, University of Cambridge, Andreas Th. Müller, Universität Innsbruck, Francisco Pascual-Vives, Universidad de Alcalá, Madrid (CUP, October 2022)

Tom Grant
Article: “Rescission of the Autonomy of Hong Kong,” (2022) 39 [2021] Chinese (Taiwan) Yearbook of International Law and Affairs 1-72

BRC/ICRC Customary International Humanitarian Law Project

The research team working on the Customary International Humanitarian Law Project of the British Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) enjoyed a successful term. The project has been hosted at the Lauterpacht Centre since its start in 2007.

The project provides geographically diverse information in the field of international humanitarian law (IHL) by updating the practice part of the ICRC’s award-winning online Customary IHL Database. The Database contains the 161 rules of customary IHL identified in the ICRC’s 2005 seminal Study and the practice related to these rules. Its aim is to provide accurate and extensive information in the field of customary IHL and to make this information readily accessible online. The Database covers national practice of States from all over the world, from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe, as well as practice found in international materials. The research team at the Lauterpacht Centre focuses on the analysis of national practice, while, since 2014, researchers based at Laval University in Canada update international materials.

In November 2022, the database was updated with new practice from Colombia and Sweden, both up to 2010. While the practice section continues to make worldwide practice available in English, since December 2019, the rules section of the database has been available in six additional languages: Arabic, Chinese, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.

Moreover, in December 2022, the Customary International Law Database underwent a substantial redesign to enhance the user experience. While the main layout and features of the previous website remain the same, some additional features were included, such as a better integration between the database and the ICRC Treaties database and the ICRC library national practice collection. All former URLs are redirected to the new ones, so that previous references and bookmarks to the database remain valid.

The team continues to enjoy being a part of the Lauterpacht Centre, contributing to its marketplace of ideas, as well as benefitting from the wide expertise of its members, and looks forward to another term ahead.
Alumni News

The Centre is always delighted to hear from Alumni! Please do send us details of your careers, degrees, honours and distinctions as well as your families and pastimes; please don’t feel that anything is too ‘ordinary’ or ‘boastful’! When sending your news, please give the year you were at the Centre. Please send your news to Vanessa Bystry at communications@lcil.cam.ac.uk. We look forward to hearing from you!

Rossana Deplano (2017) I really enjoyed my time in Cambridge and I have very fond memories of the Centre. I am happy to report that my research monograph was published in August 2022 for Cambridge University Press. (I worked on the book proposal during my time at the Lauterpacht Centre. It got accepted without correction). I have also been awarded a UKRI/AHRC Innovation Scholar grant (£64,000) to carry out an interdisciplinary project at the intersection of space law and architecture in 2023/2024. Rossana is an Associate Professor and Co-Director of the Centre for European Law and Internationalisation (CELI), University of Leicester Law School, UK.

Markus Beham (2020) It’s a great pleasure to share that I just completed my Habilitation at the University of Passau this Wednesday, granting me the permission to lecture in Public Law, Public International Law, European Law, and Foundations of the Law. This now makes me eligible to go on the market and apply for the position of Chair at any Austrian, German or Swiss university in said subjects. Photo: Markus (front middle) at his defence.

Tobias Ackermann (Summer 2018) I have fond memories of my summer at the Lauterpacht Centre, where I researched and wrote parts of my dissertation. It formed the basis for my book The Effects of Armed Conflict on Armed Conflict, recently published by Cambridge University Press.

Michael Moffatt (2019) This summer I was awarded the Diploma of the Hague Academy in Public International Law (cum laude). It was a great honour. Also, I’ve taken up a new post at the United Nations Secretariat, Office of Legal Affairs, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea in New York, which has also been quite exciting!

Alain Germeaux (2011) is the principal legal adviser of the Luxembourg foreign ministry and agent to the International Court of Justice. He joined the diplomatic service after working as research fellow at the research centre on Normative Orders, at the University of California, Los Angeles, and at the Lauterpacht Centre in 2011. Alain recently published his first monograph “The International Legal Order in Global Governance: Norms, Power and Policy” (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022), which probes the role of international law in shaping political action, as well as how power affects these processes, evidenced by the current challenges to the prevailing international legal, political and economic order - if only to name the discussions on security in the face of Russia’s aggression against Ukraine, about strategic autonomy and the European Union’s role in the international arena, on upholding accountability for international crimes, as well as concerning global equity and justice in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

His book advances an analytical framework for understanding the effect of norms on behaviour, while being informed by the practical realities and practice of international organisation in examining the challenges the international legal order faces and what the way forward may look like. In doing so, it draws on international law, political theory, cognitive psychology and behavioural economics to explore a communicative-action based approach of how norms and ideas persuade actors to engage in a course of action consonant with international law to achieve a particular outcome.


Photo: Mortimer Sellers honours James Nafziger for his work on Cultural Property Law at the ABILA International Law Weekend 2022.
Scholarships

Winiarski Scholarship 2023

The Centre is delighted to announce that Dr Mihaljo Vučić, a senior research fellow at the Institute of International Politics and Economics, Belgrade, Serbia will visit the Lauterpacht Centre this year (2023) as the Winiarski Scholar. He will be undertaking research relating to: ‘International law as the influencer of memory – from consensus to conflict’.

The Bohdan Winiarski Scholarship is named after the Polish Judge and international lawyer, Bohdan Winiarski.

The Lauterpacht Centre is grateful to the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the generous funding of this scholarship.

Polonia Scholarship 2023

The Selection Committee for the Polonia Scholarship is pleased to announce that the selection process for the 2023 scholarship has been completed. The successful candidate is Mr Milosz Gapsa from the University of Lodz who will visit the Centre this year.

The Polonia Scholarship is funded by the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law.

Congratulations to Dr Vučić and Mr Gapsa! We look forward very much to welcoming you to the Centre later this year.

Further details on available scholarships and prizes can be found on the Centre’s website at https://www.lcil.cam.ac.uk/about-centre/scholarships-prizes.

Brandon Research Fellowship

The Brandon Fellow will be welcomed as part of the community of visiting scholars at the Lauterpacht Centre. The Brandon Fellowship is a postdoctoral research fellowship and has a maximum value of £4,700. The award is intended to cover fees and costs associated with a stay of a minimum of one acceptance period at the Lauterpacht Centre (approximately 11-13 weeks).

Requirements

The Brandon Fellow will:

- Undertake a project, specified on application, on some aspect of public or private international law or international arbitration while based at the Lauterpacht Centre.
- Produce a report of their work in English at the end of their Fellowship and deposit with the Centre any publication resulting from the work undertaken during the Fellowship. The support received from the Brandon Research Fellowship at LCIL should be acknowledged in the publication.
- Candidates must be fluent in English and at least one other language of French, German or Spanish.
- Preference will be given to candidates who are nationals of members of the European Union; members of the Commonwealth; Argentina; Brazil; Chile; China; Japan; Panama; Serbia; Switzerland; and the United States of America. Preference will be given to candidates who do not have the means to come to the Centre, and who have not yet been to the Centre. Applications from regions or countries underrepresented among former LCIL visiting fellows are particularly welcome.

How to apply

Applications should consist of the following documents:

- a completed application form (including an outline of the proposed research);
- the candidate’s CV (curriculum vitae) (maximum 4 pages);
- two letters of reference.

Application guidance notes and an application form can be downloaded from the LCIL website: https://www.lcil.cam.ac.uk/brandon-research-fellowship-2023-2024

Application Deadline

The deadline for application is Tuesday 4 April 2023.
Visiting Fellows

The Lauterpacht Centre is delighted to welcome the following academic visitors for the Lent Term 2023. We hope that you enjoy your time with us and that your visit is productive and fruitful. Further information: https://www.lcil.cam.ac.uk/people/current-visiting-academics-postgraduate-students

Campbell McLachlan KC is the 2022–23 Arthur Goodhart Visiting Professor of Legal Science in the University of Cambridge and a visiting fellow of Trinity Hall. He will deliver the Goodhart Professor 2023 lecture: 'The legal science of the international' at 17:30 hrs on Monday 6 February 2023.

Campbell is Professor of Law at Victoria University of Wellington and is author of Foreign Relations Law (CUP 2014) and International Investment Arbitration: Substantive Principles (2nd edn, OUP 2017). His book, ‘The Principle of Systemic Integration in International Law,’ will be published by OUP in 2023. Elected to the Institut de Droit International in 2015, he served as Rapporteur of its 18th Commission on ‘The equality of the parties before international investment tribunals’, whose resolution was adopted in 2019. He has been invited to give the General Course at The Hague Academy of International Law in 2024. He is an associate member of Essex Court Chambers and Bankside Chambers and currently serves as president of a number of international arbitral tribunals.

Dr Junko Abe is an academic specialising in public law (specifically, constitutional law). She has worked as Associate Professor of law in Japan for several years and as a legal researcher at departments of the Japanese Government (dealing with data flow/protection and economic rules in international society) for the last two years. Her academic interest concerns the concept of rights in constitutional law and common law. Her research methodology is interdisciplinary and includes various fields including constitutional law, common law, jurisprudence and international law from both theoretical and practical perspectives. The current key word for her research is “sovereignty” in international economic law.

Alessandro Amoroso is a PhD candidate in international law at the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa, where his work focuses on international law and armed conflict. He has been a Legal Adviser with the International Committee of the Red Cross at the Paris regional delegation. Before joining the ICRC, he was a Programme Officer in Security and Law at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy. Alessandro has been awarded the SIDI Prize 2022 for the best journal article in international law by the Italian Society of International and EU Law (‘Closer to home: How national implementation affects State conduct in partnered operations’; published in the International Review of the Red Cross). He holds an LL.M. cum laude from the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights and a Law degree summa cum laude from the University of Naples Federico II. He speaks Italian, English, French and Spanish.

Marisa Beier studied law at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland and Stockholm, Sweden. After her graduation she worked in governmental and non-governmental institutions, where she specialized in international human rights law. She worked as a research assistant for Prof. Regina Kiener at the Chair of Public Law at University of Zurich. Since March 2021 she is a researcher and PhD candidate within the University Research Priority Program (URPP) “Equality of Opportunity” of the University of Zurich, which focuses on economic and social changes that lead to inequality in society, the consequences of such inequalities, and public policies that foster greater equality of opportunity. Marisa’s current research focuses on international human rights law, the right to adequate housing and poverty as well as feminist and legal gender studies.

Jan-Henrik Hinselmann is a PhD candidate at Georg-August-University Göttingen where he worked as a Research and Teaching Fellow (2017–2021), mainly in Constitutional Rights Law and Foreign Relations Law. He was assistant to Commissioner August Reinisch during the 72nd Session of International Law Commission (2021) and graduated in International Legal Studies from New York University (2022) on a full scholarship of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Since 2022, Jan-Henrik teaches Public International Law and European Union Law at Europa-Kolleg Hamburg and serves as Editor at Völkerrechtsblog. Before his stay at the Lauterpacht Centre, funded by the FAZIT Foundation, he was a Visiting Researcher at Pluricourts Oslo.

Laura Hoffmann is a PhD candidate at Ruhr University Bochum’s Institute of Development Research and Development Policy. Her research focuses on the protection of cultural heritage in the international human rights framework. From 2015 to 2020, Laura worked as a research associate at the Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV). Laura holds a BA in Liberal Arts and Sciences from University College Maastricht and an LLM in International Laws from Maastricht University. Since 2021, Laura has been working in academic publishing at Springer.

Yi-sheng Liu obtained his Doctor of Juridical Science from Indiana University in the US and has been teaching at Providence University in Taiwan since 2018. He focuses on applying emerging research methods to address social inequalities and explore the impact of new technologies on human rights practice. Dr Liu’s major research experiences are the functional theory of fundamental rights and applying new technologies in legal practice. In his doctoral research, he developed a practical theory of the right to housing in Taiwan. In addition, he has conducted several scientific investigations supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Education on the design of artificial intelligence applications in the practice of Mandarin law.
Mark Retter is a postdoctoral researcher with an independent grant to pursue inter-disciplinary research on the role of human rights in modernity, under processes of secularisation; and on ethical foundations to international legal order. Prior to this he worked as a Research Associate on the Legal Tools for Peace-Making Project at the Lauterpacht Centre; and he completed his doctoral studies, as a Gates Cambridge Scholar, at the University of Cambridge. Mark supervises undergraduate students in Jurisprudence and Public International Law at the University of Cambridge. He is a visitor at the Centre until 2023.

Akiko Okamatsu graduated from Jouchi (Sophia) University (Tokyo). She is a Member of the Compliance Group of 1996 London Protocol, Special Advisor to the Ministry of Environment (Japan), and Guest Researcher of Research Office of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defense, House of Councilors (Japan). Her job career started at Research Associate, Jouchi University, Faculty of Law, then, Postdoctoral Fellow at National Institute for Environmental Studies, Assistant Professor at Shobi University and present status up to now. She was also a visiting scholar of Harvard Law School from 2013 to 2014. Akiko is at the Centre until the end of the Michaelmas Term.

Philipp Nickels is a Research Fellow and PhD Candidate at the Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea (NCLOS) at the University of Tromsø – The Arctic University of Norway. His research interests include public international law, international environmental law, law of the sea and international climate change law. Prior to his current position, he worked as a Research Fellow at the NCLOS (formerly known as the K.G. Jebsen Centre for the Law of the Sea) in different research projects, such as the ‘BIOs-POLAR: Legal Frameworks for Bioprospecting and Bio-innovation in Polar Regions’ project, which was funded by the Norwegian Research Council. Philipp is a graduate of the 24th Rhodes Academy of Ocean Law and Policy (2019), and he has completed research stays at Edinburgh Law School in Scotland (2022) as well as the Walther Schücking Institute for International Law at Kiel University in Germany (2022).

Matilde Rocca is a PhD candidate at the University of Padova. Her research focuses on the role of private actors in the context of maritime migration and international law. Matilde is a research affiliate at the Refugee Law Initiative at the School of Advanced Studies and was previously a visiting research fellow at the University of Bergen as part of the Horizon 2020 PROTECT project. Matilde obtained her Master of Laws at the London School of Economics and was awarded the Lauterpacht/Higgins Prize for best performance in public international law. She holds a Bachelor of Laws from Sussex University.

Yanan Shi studied for her LLM from 2018 to 2021 at the University of Wuhan and is currently undertaking her PhD there. Yanan’s LLM dissertation project was entitled The Study of International Regulation on Satellite Remote Sensing Data Dissemination. Yanan’s research area is Space Law and International Environmental Law and her research title whilst a Visiting Fellow at the Centre is The Evolution of the Precautionary Principle and its Application in Outer Space.

Zvenyslava (Slava) Opeida is an Associate Professor at National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukraine. Her research interests include international trade law, WTO, trade remedies and regulation of the state intervention in the market (such as public subsidies). Slava was a visiting scholar at the University of Pittsburgh, University of Cologne, and Durham University. She also worked in the Ukrainian law firm Asters, where her practice focused on trade remedy investigations. She holds an LL.M degree from the University of Illinois and an S.J.D. (Doctor of Juridical Science) degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

Lea Schneider holds a Law degree from the University of Zurich and an LLM from King’s College London (Transnational Law Pathway). From 2020 until 2022 she was a research assistant to Prof Dr Andreas Kley at the University of Zurich. She is a PhD candidate in the field of Business and Human Rights/Transnational Law at the University of Zurich, supervised by Prof Dr Christine Kaufmann.

Philipp Nickels is a Research Fellow and PhD Candidate at the Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea (NCLOS) at the University of Tromsø – The Arctic University of Norway. His research interests include public international law, international environmental law, law of the sea and international climate change law. Prior to his current position, he worked as a Research Fellow at the NCLOS (formerly known as the K.G. Jebsen Centre for the Law of the Sea) in different research projects, such as the ‘BIOs-POLAR: Legal Frameworks for Bioprospecting and Bio-innovation in Polar Regions’ project, which was funded by the Norwegian Research Council. Philipp is a graduate of the 24th Rhodes Academy of Ocean Law and Policy (2019), and he has completed research stays at Edinburgh Law School in Scotland (2022) as well as the Walther Schücking Institute for International Law at Kiel University in Germany (2022).
Visiting the Centre

The Lauterpacht Centre welcomes academic visitors and visiting postgraduate students from around the world with interests in international law. Visitors are a key aspect of the Centre’s activities and stay for a period of research between one and three terms.

Visitors come to pursue their own research in a tranquil and congenial atmosphere where they have an opportunity to meet other scholars and to discuss matters with the Centre’s Fellows. Or they may come simply to spend a period in quiet reading.

Visitors are left to get on with their work in the manner that best suits them, but they are also encouraged to participate in the Centre’s various activities, especially the Friday lunchtime lectures which are given by visiting speakers and followed by discussion.

The Centre also arranges other occasional meetings and conferences, most notably the annual Hersch Lauterpacht Memorial Lecture and the Eli Lauterpacht Lecture which visitors are very welcome to attend.

Over the course of their stay, visitors also arrange regular sessions and round tables to present their research. This provides a great forum for discussion and debate.

If there is a decisive experience on my PhD journey that has inspired me, enriched my thinking and driven my projects forward, it is my research stay at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law (LCIL). Summer and winter alike, it is the crucible of the LCIL, that stimulates exchanges with scholars from all over the world and the creation of new universes of thought. The Centre is excellently integrated into the structures of the University of Cambridge and other research centres. The networking opportunities are unparalleled and access to an incredible number of research sources is guaranteed, even in the garden of the Lauterpacht Centre, where the history of international law, balmy evening breezes, and sometimes classical music blend into a uniquely stimulating atmosphere. The LCIL thrives on progressiveness, most wonderful staff and the magic of community across all borders.

Jennifer Maass, Brunswick European Law School (BELS), Ostfalia University of Applied Sciences - December 2022

“Cambidge has the secret sauce that no one can seem to replicate. You instantly find yourself laser-focused. Everything you need to accomplish with your visit goals is there, and there is no excuse not to get things done. Perhaps it’s something in the Centre’s special 11 am coffee!! Whatever it is – it works! I have never been so focused on my PhD Thesis. It was an absolutely delightful stay, and most importantly – an incredibly productive one. The staff are just fantastic – super helpful and quick to solve any issues you may have. Recommend the Lauterpacht Centre visit without any reservations.”

- Denis Parchajev, Queen Mary University of London – June 2022

For more information about the Centre and how to apply as an academic visitor, please visit: www.lcil.cam.ac.uk/about-centre/visiting-fellows-and-scholars

“While the Lauterpacht Centre offers a rich selection of research materials and resources, the highlight of my stay were undoubtedly the people I met. I fondly think back to the friendly encounters, conversations and inspiring discussions. The sense of community and productive atmosphere at the Centre helped me a lot to focus on my research and enabled me to make great progress in a short time. Overall, I had a wonderful time. Due to its stimulating and welcoming environment, the Centre is the perfect place for a research stay.”

Philip Nedelcu, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich - July 2022
Centre Fellows

The Centre is fortunate to benefit from the experience and knowledge of 36 Centre Fellows, who cover between them a wide range of research areas of international law. The Centre is very grateful for their support.

Dr John Barker
Prof Lorand Bartels
Dr Tugba Basaran
Prof Eyal Benvenisti
Dr Orfeas Chasapis-Tassinis
Prof Marie-Claire Cordonier Segger
Lesley Dingle
Prof Claire Fenton-Glynn
Dr Markus Gehring
Matilda Gillis
Dr Joanna Gomula
Dr Thomas Grant
Prof Henning Grosse Ruse-Khan
Karen Lee
Dr Emilia Leinarte
Dr Fernando Lusa Bordin
Maureen MacGlashan
Associate Prof Giovanni Mantilla

Dr Maayan Menashe
Dr Kate Miles
Dr Liana Minkova
Prof Sarah Nouwen
Dr Federica Paddeu
Dr Stephanie Palmer
Darren Peterson
Dr Brendan Plant
Prof Surabhi Ranganathan
Associate Prof Andrew Sanger
Prof Jason Sharman
Prof Sandesh Sivakumaran
Dr Simon De Smet
Dr Stefan Theil
Dr Jamie Trinidad
Prof Jorge Viñuales
Prof Marc Weller
Dr Rumiana Yotova

Further information: https://www.lcil.cam.ac.uk/people/fellows-researchers

Lauterpacht Linked Partnership Programme

The Lauterpacht Linked Partnership Programme gives practitioners unique and exclusive access to people, events and research associated with the Centre, in exchange for their financial and proactive support to the Centre’s infrastructure and activities.

Membership of the programme is open to select law firms, barristers’ chambers and major companies and foreign ministries with an interest in International Law.

The Lauterpacht Linked Partnership Programme deepens the relationship between practitioners who support the Centre and its wider community.

A central part of the programme is an annual careers event that allows Cambridge international law students the opportunity to interact with the world of practice right here at the Centre, and to receive advice on different career options in international law.

We thank our Lauterpacht Linked Partners for their continued support and participation.

Further information: https://www.lcil.cam.ac.uk/about-centre/lauterpacht-linked-programme

Lauterpacht Linked Partners

Mr Patrcio Grané Labat, Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer
Sally Langrish, Foreign & Commonwealth Office
Dr Konrad Marciniak, Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Dr Rustel Martha, Lindeborg Counsellors at Law Ltd
Dr Carlos Jimenez Piernas, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, Government of Spain
Mr Tomohiro Mikanagi, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Can Yeginsu, 3VB
Friends & Donors of the Centre

One outcome of the Centre’s 25th birthday celebrations in 2008 was the creation of the category Friends of the Centre, in recognition of significant financial donations. The Centre thanks the following benefactors for their generous support:

Dr Ivan & Mrs Francesca Berkowitz
Mr Michael Brandon (†)
Mr Christopher Brandon
Judge Charles N. Brower
Mrs Gabriel Cox
HE Judge James Crawford AC, SC FBA
Dr Joanna Gomula
Judge Sir Christopher Greenwood CMG KC
Judge Sir Kenneth Keith ONZ KBE KC

The Centre is also extremely thankful to those who make one-off and regular donations, and the authors who generously waive their royalties in favour of the Centre, including those in respect of the Hersch Lauterpacht Memorial Lectures.

The support provided by the Centre’s benefactors is key in ensuring that the Centre is able to continue to look towards the future and to ensure its activities work towards meeting Sir Eli’s vision of the Centre becoming the base for the study of international law both in Cambridge and wider afield.

The Eli Lauterpacht Memorial Fund

The Eli Lauterpacht Fund was launched by the Centre in November 2017 in memory of Sir Eli to support the work of the Centre which he founded, directed and inspired.

Gifts to the fund are used to improve the Centre’s facilities and to cement the Centre as one of the field’s leading research centres in the world.

With your support the Centre maintain its position as one of the leading research centres for international law in the world, consistent with Sir Eli’s vision.

The Centre would like to thank the following people for their generous donations to the Eli Lauterpacht Fund:

Mrs Hélène Alexander
Professor and Mrs Nico Bar-Yaacov
Dr Ivan & Mrs Francesca Berkowitz
Hon Charles N Brower
Mrs Jenny Byford
Mrs Gabriel Cox
Mr Michael Lauterpacht
Lady Catherine Lauterpacht
Mr John Lehman
Mr & Mrs John Lewis
Professor Christoph Schreuer
Dr Anthony Sinclair
Mr Stratis Georgilas

Donate to the Eli Lauterpacht Fund >

The James Crawford Fund

This year, the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law established the James Crawford Fund to support the teaching and research of public international law at Cambridge, to honour James Crawford’s memory, in recognition of the long-standing and generous support that James gave to the development of the Centre, its students and staff.

Donate to the James Crawford Fund >
Welcome coffee in the garden - October 2022

Christmas Jumper Day - 8 December 2022

Many thanks to all our visitors and staff who joined in the Christmas Jumper Day 2022 fundraising event on 8 December 2022. It was great fun and a huge success!

The competition winners were:

**Pin the nose on the Reindeer**: After much deliberation and discussion with an adjudicator, the winner was Juliane!

**Sweepstake: Guess Coach Christmas’s favourite Christmas song** - The Answer was “Get the Christmas Party Started” by P!NK and the winner was Liyu!

**Guess the number of jumpers**: Answer is 43 - the winner was Marc Weller who guessed 42 which was the closest!

A total of £110 was raised for Save the Children Fund which is amazing! Thank you all!