

**MR. SURYA P. SUBEDI**

*Professor of International Law  
University of Leeds*

Professor Surya P. Subedi, QC, OBE, DCL is an international jurist who has worked throughout his career as a legal scholar, barrister, and a diplomat. He obtained a Master of Laws degree with Distinction at the University of Hull in 1988 and a DPhil (PhD) in Law with a prize at the University of Oxford in 1993. He was called to the Bar of England at the Middle Temple in 2007 and appointed a QC (Hon) in 2017.

In 2019, he was awarded the highest degree – the Doctor of Civil Law (DCL) - by the University of Oxford in recognition of his contribution to international law and human rights. In 2020, two new prizes named after his name – one for the best attainment in Human Rights Law in the Final Honours School of Jurisprudence and another one for the best doctoral thesis (DPhil) of the year in Law – were established at the University of Oxford. He also was awarded the degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD), *honoris causa*, in 2020 by the University of Hull in recognition of his accomplishments in the field of international law and human rights.

Professor Subedi has taught at several universities in the UK, the Netherlands, and the United States. He has been Professor of International Law at the University of Leeds since 2004. He also is a visiting faculty member on the international human rights law programme of the University of Oxford and a practising Barrister at Three Stone Chambers, Lincoln's Inn, London.

He has advised governments in several countries on international legal matters and acted as a counsel in a number of cases before the International Court of Justice. He has been a human rights adviser to the British Foreign Secretary between 2010 and 2015 and was from 2009 to 2015 the UN Special Rapporteur for human rights in Cambodia. He was nominated by Nepal as a candidate for appointment as the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in 2014. He was elected to the *Institut de Droit International* in 2011. He has been a member of a Task Force on Investment Policy of the World Economic Forum in Davos and served as the Crown Representative on the Governing Board of SOAS University of

London. Professor Subedi has published eight books and more than 60 scholarly articles in several areas of international law in a number of international law journals. His publications include a book entitled “The Effectiveness of the UN Human Rights System: Reform and the Judicialisation of Human Rights”, which covers the rationale and effectiveness of UN human rights mechanisms and suggests measures to reform them. Another book of his is entitled “International Investment Law: Reconciling Policy and Principle”. First published in 2008, it now is in its 4th edition. It deals with the tension between the principles of the law of foreign investment and other competing principles of international law.

Many of the pioneering ideas that were advanced in the first edition of this book in 2008 have been taken up by governments and international organisations in their attempts to reform the investor-State dispute settlement mechanism and strike a balance between different competing principles in developing international investment law. It has been translated into foreign languages, including Chinese and Farsi, and published in several countries.

Professor Subedi also has served as the editor of a Routledge series of books on “Human Rights and International Law” and has edited 12 volumes that have been published in this series. They analyse a wide range of international human rights issues and offer policy recommendations that can make a difference to the real life of the people across the globe. He was the General or Chief Editor of 6 volumes of the Asian Yearbook of International Law (published by Martinus Nijhoff/Brill in The Hague) between 1999 and 2006. In addition, he served as a founding Executive Editor of the *Asian Journal of International Law* (published by Cambridge University Press) between 2010 and 2015 and has been the Chairman of its Board of Editors since 2015. A total of 10 volumes of this journal have been published thus far.

Professor Subedi has received high-level state honours from both the UK and Nepal for his services to international law. He was made an OBE by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in 2004 and decorated with Suprabal Gorkhadaxinbahu by King Birendra of Nepal in 1998.

In addition to the DCL and DPhil from Oxford, he holds an LLM with Distinction from the University of Hull, and an MA and an LLB from Tribhuvan University. He was the recipient of a British Council Scholarship (known these days as Chevening scholarships) to study for an LLM at Hull and a British Foreign & Commonwealth Office Scholarship to study for a DPhil at Oxford. He was awarded the Dasturzada Pavry Memorial Prize for an outstanding DPhil thesis of the year in Social Sciences, Modern History, and Law by the University of Oxford in 1993, the Josephine Onoh Memorial Prize for best LLM student by the University of Hull in 1988 and an SPTL Prize for Outstanding Legal Scholarship by Younger Scholars by the British Society of Legal Scholars in 1998.