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Hilary Charlesworth is an Australian Research Council Laureate Fellow and Director of the Centre for International Governance and Justice in the Regulatory Institutions Network (RegNet) at the Australian National University. She also holds an appointment as Professor of International Law and Human Rights in the College of Law, ANU. She was an Australian Research Council Federation Fellow 2005-2010. She has worked at the University of Melbourne Law School (1987-1992) and the University of Adelaide Law School (1993-1996). She has held visiting appointments at various United States and European universities.

She was President of the Australian and New Zealand Society of International Law (1997-2001). She has been on a number of editorial boards, including the American Journal of International Law, the Asian Journal of International Law and the Australian Yearbook of International Law. She was joint winner of the American Society of International Law's 2006 Goler T Butcher Medal in recognition of 'outstanding contributions to the development or effective realization of international human rights law'.

She has worked with various non-governmental human rights organisations on ways to implement international human rights standards and was chair of the Australian Capital Territory government's inquiry into an ACT bill of rights, which led to the adoption of the ACT Human Rights Act 2004. In 2011 she was appointed as judge *ad hoc* to the International Court of Justice in the *Whaling in the Antarctic Case* (Australia v Japan).