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Professor Doctor Marsha A. Echols is the Director of The World Food Law Institute and a Professor at Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C., where she teaches commercial law, international business and trade law, and world food law.

She is a recognized expert in the fields of international food regulation, international trade and dispute settlement. She often is invited to participate on legal panels and on delegations to meetings of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its committees. Professor Echols has extensive international dispute resolution experience, including having served terms as a Member of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal and as a Panelist in a World Trade Organization dispute between India and the European Union.

Dr. Echols studied and worked in Belgium, worked in Switzerland as an international trade negotiator for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, served as Counsel to the Vice Chairman of the U.S. International Trade Commission, then practiced with a boutique law firm that specialized in international agribusiness and food transactions and trade. She was an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Virginia and George Washington University before deciding to join the faculty at Howard University School of Law. She counseled the National Association for the Specialty Food Trade (now the Specialty Food Association) for more than twenty years about food regulation and labeling, especially as they relate to small businesses.

She is the author of several books about trade and international food law regulation, including *Geographical Indications for Food Products and Geographical Indications for Foods and Other Notions of Place and Tradition* and *Food Safety and the WTO: The Interplay of Culture, Science and Technology* (Kluwer Law). Her research and published writings also concern various aspects of food law and culture, such as *Right to Food, National Security and Trade: Resolving Regime Conflicts* (UCLA Journal of International Law & Foreign Affairs); *Institutional Cooperation and Norm Creation in International Organizations: The FAO-WHO Codex Alimentarius*, in Human Rights and international Trade (Oxford University Press); *Solutions in Terms of Self-Regulation or Self-Imposed*

Moral Codes of Business Corporations, in *WTO and Concerns Regarding Animals and Nature* (World Legal Publishers, Netherlands); *Food Safety Regulation in the European Union Food Safety and the WTO: The Interplay of Culture, Science and Technology and the United States: Different Cultures, Different Laws* (Columbia Journal of International Law); *Expressing the Value of Agrodiversity and Its Know-How in International Sales* (Howard Law Journal).

Professor Echols has taught at the Graduate Institute of International Studies (IHEI) in Geneva and in Beijing and Shenyang, China. She has lectured at HEC Paris, Harvard Law School, the University of Nantes, the University of Macerata and Eduardo Mondlane Faculty of Law in Mozambique, among others.

She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Private International Law. She was the Liaison to UNIDROIT for the ABA Section of International Law, was a member of the Board of Directors of the Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University and the Friends of the USDA National Arboretum.

Dr. Echols is one of the founders of The World Food Law Institute, a non-profit organization, and serves as its director. The Institute applies an interdisciplinary approach to discussions and research that promotes an understanding of current global food law and policy issues. The programs of the Institute bring together experts from the public and private sectors, the diplomatic community and academia in Round Tables, Lectures, the World Food Law Symposium, the World Food Law Network, and the Essay Competition, among other activities.

A graduate of Howard University (B.A., Phi Beta Kappa), she holds advanced degrees from Georgetown University Law Center (J.D.), the Free University of Brussels (LL.M.) and Columbia University Law School (LL.M., J.S.D.). Professor Echols is a member of the District of Columbia Bar. She speaks, reads and writes French.