

United Nations  Nations Unies

HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017

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9 October 2015

Dear Colleagues,

I have the honour to refer to the upcoming 26<sup>th</sup> annual informal meeting of the Legal Advisers of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the States Members to the United Nations, scheduled for 2 and 3 November 2015 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. In this connection, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Canada, and in particular our colleagues Mr. William Crosbie, Legal Adviser to the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development of Canada, and Mr. Giles Norman, Legal Adviser to the Canadian Mission to the United Nations in New York, for organizing this year's meeting and for establishing, in close cooperation with all of you, a very interesting programme. I am sure that you have all received the programme for the meeting which has also been placed on the website of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat at: <http://www.un.org/law/counsel/meetings2015.html>.

I also wish to express our sincere gratitude to the New York City Bar, and in particular Mr. Lawrence Moss, for hosting the traditional reception in honour of the Legal Advisers in capital and here in New York. This reception will take place on Monday, 2 November 2015, at the House of the New York City Bar. I am attaching an invitation to this reception and I hope that many of you can make it.

Further, I wish to take this opportunity to draw your attention to an event by New York University's School of Law in cooperation with my Office which will be convened to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations and to discuss the contribution it has made to the development of international law. This event will take place at NYU Law School on Sunday, 1 November 2015, and I am attaching an invitation to this event.

As you are aware, there will be a range of other important formal and informal events and functions taking place during this year's "international law week", and I wish to just mention one of those which my Office has been supporting for many years, the "International Law Weekend 2015" which is presented by the American Branch of the International Law Association (ABILA) and the International Law Student Association (ILSA), and which will take place from 5 to 7 November 2015. Further information regarding this event can be found at: [http://www.ila-americanbranch.org/intl\\_law\\_wknd.aspx](http://www.ila-americanbranch.org/intl_law_wknd.aspx).

To the  
Legal Advisers to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the  
States Members of the United Nations and the  
Legal Advisers to the Permanent Missions of the  
States Members of the United Nations in New York

Allow me to close by expressing how much my deputy, Mr. Stephen Mathias, Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, and I are looking forward to seeing you all again soon in New York.

Yours sincerely,



Miguel de Serpa Soares  
Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs  
and United Nations Legal Counsel



**NEW YORK  
CITY BAR**

**THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

CORDIALLY INVITES

**THE LEGAL ADVISER**

OF THE

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

OF EACH OF THE

**MEMBER STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

AND

**THE LEGAL ADVISER**

OF EACH OF THE

**PERMANENT MISSIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK**

TO A

**RECEPTION**

ON THE OCCASION OF THE

**26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL INFORMAL MEETING**

OF THE

**LEGAL ADVISERS**

OF THE

**MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

OF THE

**MEMBER STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

ON

**MONDAY, THE SECOND OF NOVEMBER, 2015**

**6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.**

AT

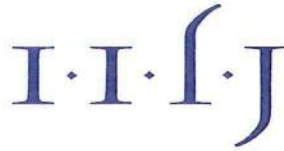
**THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

**42 WEST 44<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

**(BETWEEN FIFTH AVENUE AND AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS (SIXTH AVENUE))**

**NO RSVP IS NECESSARY**

INFORMATION: LAWRENCE C. MOSS (+1 212-396-6564 AND LM313@HUNTER.CUNY.EDU)



INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW AND JUSTICE  
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

**“The Pre and Post UN Charter Order”**

The Institute of International Law and Justice at the New York University School of Law, with the cooperation of the Office of Legal Affairs of the UN, invites you to attend a conference in honor of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations. The conference will explore the impact of that organization on international law.

**Sunday, November 1, 2015**

**1:30 pm – 6:00 pm**

**NYU School of Law, Vanderbilt Hall, Greenberg Lounge  
40 Washington Square South, New York**

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1:30 pm	<b>Welcoming Remarks:</b> Miguel de Serpa Soares, UN Under-Secretary General for Legal Affairs
1:45 pm	<b>Keynote Address—The UN Charter and the Rule of Law:</b> Jeremy Waldron, University Professor, NYU
2:15 pm	<b>Keynote Address—The UN Charter and International Order:</b> Beth Simmons, Clarence Dillon Professor of International Affairs, Harvard
2:45 – 3:00 pm	<b>Q&amp;A session with Keynote Speakers</b>
3:00 – 5:00 pm	<b>How has the UN affected international law? A Conversation</b> <i>Eminent Persons Roundtable: José E. Alvarez (moderator), Anthony Appiah, Rita Faden, Pablo de Greiff, Rita Hauser, Pang Khang Chau, Jan Klabbers, Liesbeth Lijnzaad, Iain Macleod, Rahmat Mohamad, Georg Nolte, Phoebe Okowa, Bernardo Sepulveda-Amor, Maria Telalian, Dire Tladi, and Michelle Walker</i>
5:00 – 6:00 pm	<b>Reception</b>

## Principal Speakers:



**Miguel de Serpa Soares** has been Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and UN Legal Counsel since September 2013. Prior to that, he was Director General of the Department of Legal Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Portugal (2008-2013) and Legal Adviser to the Permanent Representation of Portugal to the European Union (1999-2008).



**Beth Simmons** is Clarence Dillon Professor of International Affairs at Harvard and a member of the National Academy of Sciences. She authored *Mobilizing for Human Rights: International Law in Domestic Politics* (Cambridge 2009), and has written about the International Criminal Court, international investment agreements, and the international economy during the interwar years.



**Jeremy Waldron** is University Professor at New York University School of Law, and was until recently Chichele Professor of Political Theory at Oxford. His recent books include *Torture, Terror, and Trade-offs* (Oxford 2010), and *Partly Laws Common to All Mankind: Foreign Law in American Courts* (Yale 2012). He has also written extensively about the rule of law.

**Please send RSVPs to [rachel.jones@nyu.edu](mailto:rachel.jones@nyu.edu)**

**Please note that photo ids will be required to enter Vanderbilt Hall.**