



— YEARS —
OF THE **INTERNATIONAL
LAW COMMISSION**

GENEVA
5–6 JULY 2018

PALAIS DES NATIONS
COUNCIL CHAMBER

*DRAWING A BALANCE
FOR THE FUTURE*



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The commemoration of the 70th session of the International Law Commission has been made possible thanks to the generous contributions of:

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Japan	<i>and</i>
Portugal	Istanbul Bilgi University

THURSDAY 5 JULY 2018

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Divertimento No. 1

Arlequin Trio

10:00–11:15

70 YEARS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION: A SOLEMN MEETING

- **Statement by Mr. Eduardo Valencia-Ospina**,
Chair of the International Law Commission
- **Statement by Mr. Miguel de Serpa Soares**,
United Nations Legal Counsel
- **Statement by H.E. Ms. Corinne Cicéron Bühler**, *Director of the Directorate of International Law and Legal Adviser of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland*
- **Statement by Ms. Kate Gilmore**, *United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights*

Jacques Ibert, Cinq pièces en trio

Arlequin Trio

- **Keynote address by H.E. Mr. Abdulqawi Yusuf**,
President of the International Court of Justice

Ludwig van Beethoven: Trio in C major, op. 87

Arlequin Trio

Coffee break

70 YEARS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION: DRAWING A BALANCE FOR THE FUTURE

11:35–11:45

Introductory remarks by Mr. Georg Nolte,
Chair of the Commission at its sixty-ninth session

11:45–13:00

PANEL 1: The Commission and its impact

What happens to the final products of the International Law Commission? What has been the impact of the Commission's work on State practice, including court decisions and legal scholarship? To what extent does the form of the work of the Commission affect its impact?

- **CHAIR: Mr. Pedro Comissário Afonso,**
former Chair of the International Law Commission
- **Mr. Alejandro Rodiles,** *Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México*
- **Ms. Laurence Boisson de Chazournes,**
Université de Genève
- **Mr. Pavel Šturma,** *International Law Commission*

Discussion

13:15–14:45

LUNCH RECEPTION hosted by Germany

*Château de Penthes, Espace Gallatin;
Chemin de l'Impératrice 18, 1292 Pregny-Chambésy*

15:00–16:15

PANEL 2: The working methods of the Commission

Should the Commission adapt its working methods to the outcomes of its work? How has the communication with other bodies and persons changed and how could it be improved? The role of Special Rapporteurs; the role of the Drafting Committee; the role of commentaries; the role of the Codification Division; and other support.

- **CHAIR: Mr. Aleksandar Gajić,**
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Serbia
- **Ms. Danae Azaria,** *University College London*
- **Mr. Maurice Kamto,** *Université de Yaoundé II*
- **Mr. Shinya Murase,** *International Law Commission*

Discussion

Coffee break

16:45–18:00

PANEL 3: The function of the Commission: How much identifying existing law, how much proposing new law?

The need for an ‘international law commission’—then (and now?); Is it true that the distinction between progressive development and codification is usually difficult to maintain? Or are there topics where this distinction should be emphasized in the work of the Commission? Should the Commission emphasize the consolidation of existing law, or should it emphasize the development of new law?

- **CHAIR: Ms. Davinia Aziz**, *Attorney-General’s Chambers, Singapore*
- **Mr. Yifeng Chen**, *Peking University*
- **Ms. Ineta Ziemele**, *Riga Graduate School of Law*
- **Mr. Sean Murphy**, *International Law Commission*

Discussion

18:30–20:30

EVENING RECEPTION hosted by Switzerland

Cour d’honneur du Palais des Nations.

In case of rain: Salle des pas perdus, Palais des Nations

FRIDAY 6 JULY 2018

10:00–11:15

PANEL 4: The changing landscape of international law

The Commission and the development of international law: an assessment after 70 years; What topics should the Commission take up next? Should the methods of the Commission to select its topics be reconsidered? What role can States play in the identification of topics?

- **CHAIR: Ms. Elinor Hammar skjöld**, *Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden*
- **Ms. Hajer Gueldich**, *Université de Carthage, Tunis*
- **Mr. Keun-Gwan Lee**, *Seoul National University*
- **Mr. Claudio Grossman Guiloff**, *International Law Commission*

Discussion

Coffee break



11:45–13:00

PANEL 5: The authority and the membership of the Commission in the future

How is the Commission and the outcome of its work perceived by Governments, courts and other international law-making bodies and processes? Does the relationship with the Sixth Committee need to be improved? Are the different legal traditions, regional origins, and professions of its members influencing the work of the Commission? How to attain gender parity, and perhaps other forms of diversity, such as generational diversity? And what are the possibilities and the pitfalls for the Commission in the decade to come?

- **CHAIR: Mr. Djamchid Momtaz**, *former member of the International Law Commission*
- **Ms. Zuzana Trávníčková**, *University of Economics, Prague*
- **Ms. Mónica Pinto**, *University of Buenos Aires*
- **Mr. Dire Tladi**, *International Law Commission*

Discussion and concluding remarks



13:30–15:00

LUNCH RECEPTION hosted by Austria and the Czech Republic

Villa Moyrier; Rue de Lausanne 120B, 1202 Geneva