

ADI/ILA 150 ANS/YEARS



2023 PARIS

Newsletter

N°1, September 2021

Interview with Gabrielle Kaufmann-Kohler, *President of the Ambassadors' Circle*



What is the ILA for you?

A venerable, inclusive and global learned society. Venerable because of its long history; from its founding in 1873 to the present day, it has contributed tirelessly to the development of international law. *Inclusive* because its mandate covers all disciplines of international law and it brings together all legal professions, lawyers, academics, judges, corporate lawyers,

governments and international organizations. *Global*, because it is culturally and geographically diverse, active on all continents,

The ILA grew out of the "peace through international law" movement that took shape in the mid-19th century. Is this concept still relevant in the 21st century?

Certainly, especially at a time of deceleration of globalization and more marked affirmation of particular interests of States. But, to be effective, international law must rely on political will. This is why the ILA's mission to "strengthen understanding among nations" is so important.

In 2023, the ILA will celebrate its 150th anniversary. What do you expect from the debates that will take place during the year?

Global challenges, such as climate change, human rights, pandemics and cyber security can only be solved by global solutions. The current health crisis provides a striking illustration. International law and institutions play an essential role in developing, facilitating and implementing such global solutions. I expect the debates of the 150th anniversary to explore ways to meet these challenges and thus build the world of tomorrow.

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ANTHROPOCENE

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1. What is the Anthropocene ?

The Anthropocene would be a new geological era, succeeding the Holocene from the industrial revolution. The impact of human activities on our environment is so vast that it would make man, for the first time in history, a determining geological force, capable of permanently modifying the major balances on which the functioning of the planet is based.

The question is still discussed among scientists, within the working group on the Anthropocene of the International Commission on Stratigraphy of the International Union of Geological Sciences, who have not yet officially recognised it as a new geological epoch. Despite this, the term is increasingly used in the literature, both by scientists working on major global environmental issues - the "earth system" - and, more recently, in the humanities and social sciences. It has also been widely used in the media, and is now increasingly known by the general public. The seriousness of global environmental threats is now indisputable, whether or not we have entered a new geological era.



“C’est à la double dimension du droit international facteur de la dégradation de l’état de la planète et outil d’une transition écologique que notre comité va s’atteler, à la recherche de solutions concrètes”

involved in this reflection.

3. What do you expect from the White Paper on the Anthropocene that you are coordinating?

Our committee is going to focus on the dual dimension of international law - a factor in the degradation of the state of the planet and a tool for ecological transition. I hope that we will be able to come up with some very concrete proposals that will truly help to *build tomorrow*

Steering Committee

Sandrine Maljean-Dubois
(Coordinator)
CNRS, University Aix-Marseille

Laurence Boisson de Chazournes *University of Geneva*

Duncan French
University of Lincoln

Louis Kotzé
North-West University
South Africa

Sarah Seck
Schulich School of Law, Marine & Environmental Law Institute

Jorge Vinuales
Cambridge University

Margaret Young
Melbourne University

Mingzhe Zhu
China University of Political Science and Law
(Beijing)

THE PARTNERSHIPS concluded as of 30 June 2021

The institutions listed below have entered into a partnership with the French Branch of the International Law Association to participate, in ways specific to each institution, in the preparatory work and discussions that will take place on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the International Law Association (ILA) in 2023.

The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)

[UNCITRAL](#) works to encourage the progressive harmonisation and modernisation of international trade law. The first page of its website explains: “In an increasingly economically interdependent world, the importance of developing and maintaining a robust cross-border legal framework for the facilitation of international trade and investment is widely acknowledged. The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) plays a key role in developing that framework in pursuit of its mandate to further the progressive harmonization and modernization of the law of international trade. UNCITRAL does this by preparing and promoting the use and adoption of legislative and non-legislative instruments in a number of key areas of commercial law.”

The Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH)

The [HCCH](#) is the oldest (1893) of the three intergovernmental private law organisations UNIDROIT, UNCITRAL and the Hague Conference. It has a universal vocation and currently has 88 members (87 States and 1 Regional Economic Integration Organisation). The Conference works on the harmonisation of private international law on subjects as varied as children, contracts, civil procedure, and the like.

The Organisation of American States (OAS), through the Inter-American Juridical Committee and the General Secretariat

The [OAS](#) is the oldest regional institution in the world. Its origins date back to the First International Conference of American States held in Washington, D.C., from October 1889 to April 1890, although it was not formally established until 1948. The main objectives of the Organisation are the peace and security of the continent through representative democracy in accordance with the principle of non-intervention. The Organisation seeks to ensure, inter alia, the peaceful settlement of disputes and the economic, social and cultural development of the citizens of the Member States.

The Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law (MPFPR)

The [MPFPR](#) is a non-governmental organisation that provides legal services and technical capacity building support to strengthen good governance and the rule of law around the world. It adheres to the strict principles of political neutrality and impartiality.

The African Society of International Law (AfsIL)

The [AfsIL](#) was established in October 2012. Its objectives are to: (a) promote international law in all its aspects on the African continent and contribute to its advancement; (b) contribute to the development and construction of expertise in African international law doctrine; (c) create a network of African and non-African internationalists with an interest in international law and Africa. On 29 and 30 October 2021 the Society will hold its 10th annual conference on the theme of International Trade Law and Africa.

The French Society for International Law (SFDI)

The [SFDI](#) was created in 1967 and its first president was Madame Suzanne Bastid. Its mandate is to promote the study and progress of international law. Mainly composed of academics, the SFDI has produced a rich library of thematic works in French published by Pedone. The SFDI is at the origin of the creation of the so-called "sister societies" movement and has organised the 2021 conference on the teaching of international law.

The French Committee on Private International Law (CFDIP)

The [CFDIP](#) was created in 1934 to contribute to the scientific and practical development of private international law. Its work is published regularly (by Pedone Editions for recent years) and has the particularity of reproducing the discussions that follow the papers, which enriches the knowledge of the issues at stake in the subject.

The Francophone Network of International Law (RFDI)

Le [RFDI](#) aims to promote French-speaking study and research in international law, in particular through the organisation of the Charles-Rousseau Moot Court Competition and international scientific meetings and symposia. It collaborates or has collaborated with many other institutions attached to the academic world and the Francophonie.

<https://www.ilaparis2023.org/en/>



The newsletter ADI/ILA 2023 n°2 will be released in October 2021