

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

To: Executive Council, American Society of International Law

From: Tom Ginsburg, Chair, 2023-4, ASIL Honors Committee (on behalf of Committee Members Dapo Akande, Michael Scharf, Fleur Johns, and Monica Pinto)

Date: November 17, 2023

Subject: Revised ASIL Honors Committee Report and Recommendations

This memorandum constitutes the report of the 2023-24 ASIL Honors Committee and contains the Committee's recommendations to the Executive Council for the award of the three main ASIL honors for 2024. The honors are the following:

- The Manley O. Hudson Medal, awarded to a distinguished person of American or other nationality for outstanding contributions to scholarship and achievement in international law. The 2023 recipient was Professor Antony Anghie. For the 2024 Manley O. Hudson Medal, the Committee nominates **Professor Jose Alvarez**.
- The Goler T. Butcher Medal, awarded to a distinguished person of American or other nationality for outstanding contributions to the development of effective realization of international human rights. The 2023 recipient was Patricia Viseur Sellers. For the 2024 Goler T. Butcher Medal, the Committee nominates **Roya Boroumand**.
- The Honorary Member Award, awarded to an individual of American or other nationality who has rendered distinguished contributions or service in the field of international law. The 2023 recipient was Felice Gaer. For the 2024 Honorary Member Award, the Committee nominates **Ben Kioko**.

The 2023-2024 ASIL Honors Committee was appointed in the spring of 2023 by ASIL President Gregory Shaffer. In summer 2023 the Society circulated a Call for Nominations in a range of venues. The Committee received multiple nominations in each category from this Call and added several other nominations to the pool for each category. As a result, the Committee had a strong and accomplished set of nominees to consider for each of the three awards. Background materials relating to all of the nominations were reviewed by the Committee and were discussed in two zoom meetings and numerous email exchanges. The Committee is grateful for the help and advice of Executive Director Michael Cooper and for the support and assistance of Selma Laporte in managing the process smoothly and efficiently.

The Committee unanimously nominates the following candidates to the Executive Council for the awards below:

The Manley O Hudson Medal:

Jose Alvarez

Professor Jose Alvarez' scholarship, teaching and insights have had a profound and transformative influence on the field of international law and international legal scholarship, and also contributed greatly to the Society.

José Alvarez is the Herbert and Rose Rubin Professor of International Law at New York University School of Law. Before coming to NYU, he was the Hamilton Fish Professor of International Law and Diplomacy and the executive director of the Center on Global Legal Problems at Columbia Law School, a professor of law at the University of Michigan Law School, an associate professor at the George Washington University's National Law Center, and an adjunct professor at Georgetown Law Center. He served as president of the American Society of International Law (ASIL) from 2006-2008 and was also co-editor-in-chief, along with his NYU colleague, Benedict Kingsbury, of the *American Journal of International Law*. His lectures on ["The Public International Law Regime Governing International Investment"](#) at the Hague Academy of International Law were published as a pocketbook in 2011. His other books are a collection of essays, co-edited with others, entitled *The Evolving International Investment Regime* (OUP 2011) and *International Organizations as Law-Makers* (OUP 2005). He has published over 150 articles and book chapters.

Before entering academia on a full time basis in 1989, Alvarez was an attorney adviser with the Office of the Legal Adviser of the US Department of State where he worked on cases before the Iran-US Claims Tribunal, served on the negotiation teams for bilateral investment treaties and the Canada-US Free Trade Agreement, and was the legal adviser to the administration of justice program in Latin America coordinated by the Agency of International Development. Educated at Harvard College, Harvard Law School, and Oxford University, Alvarez has also been in private practice and was a judicial clerk to the late Hon. Thomas Gibbs Gee of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. He has taught in NYU's Singapore program at the National University of Singapore (NUS) and serves on the Advisory Panel of Centre for International Law located at NUS. He has also taught undergraduate students at NYU Abu Dhabi. He has delivered a number of endowed lectures at universities in the United States and abroad and delivered the General Course on international law at the Xiamen Academy of International Law in 2013 in Xiamen, China.

Alvarez's activities outside of academe include memberships in the Council on Foreign Relations, the US Department of State's Advisory Committee on Public International Law, and service on the board of the Center for Reproductive Rights, as special adviser on public international law to the International Criminal Court's first prosecutor, Luis Moreno Ocampo, and as an expert witness in a number of investor-state arbitrations. Prof. Alvarez is the lead faculty director for NYU's US-Asia Law Institute and is the faculty director of the International Legal Studies LLM specialization. Professor Alvarez was elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences in 2021.

The Goler T. Butcher Medal

Roya Boroumand

Roya Boroumand is the founder and Executive Director of the [Abdorrahman Boroumand Center](#), a non-governmental organization dedicated to the promotion of human rights and democracy in Iran. The organization was established in memory of her late father, Abdorrahman Boroumand, a critic of both the Shah and Khomeini, who was assassinated in April 1991 by Iranian government agents in Paris. Drawing on the values enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Center is dedicated to promoting public awareness of issues concerning democracy and human rights in Iran. Through its programs of research, documentation, publications, and outreach, the Center hopes to help restore the dignity of Iran's countless victims of human rights violations. Among its many projects is an Internet database cataloguing the victims of summary, arbitrary or extrajudicial executions carried out by the Islamic Republic. Ms. Boroumand has served as a source of rigorous, objective documentation aimed at achieving justice and accountability under international law, leveraging the UN Human Rights system to expose and target the abuses carried out by the Iranian government.

Honorary Member Award

Ben Kioko

Ben Kioko is a Justice of the African Court of Human and People's Rights, on which he has served since 2012, and is responsible for some of the greatest contributions to the development or effective realization of international human rights in Africa.

Prior to joining the African Court, Justice Kioko was Chief Legal Counsel to the African Union (AU) and Director for the unified Central Legal Service for the AU, its organs and institutions, including the AU Commission, regional as well as representative offices for more than a decade. In the capacity of Chief Legal Counsel, he was responsible for oversight of all legal matters, including provision of legal advice, drafting of treaties and agreements, and conduct of all elections, as well as advising all AU organs and institutions. including the Executive Council and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

While at the AU, he worked oversaw the drafting and negotiation of at least twenty-five treaties on different areas, including human rights, governance, and peace and security, and in the building of their treaty bodies. These including among others the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) and the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (ACDEG). The latter has been one of the most important international instruments for the protection of democracy anywhere. He was also involved in the conceptualisation, drafting, negotiations, and adoption processes for the African Court Protocol, leading to the institutionalization of the Court. He played a similar role for the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC).

As a judge and later Vice-President at the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, Kioko participated in developing the foundational jurisprudential principles during the African Court's formative years on which the Court continues to rely. He has helped to steer the Court through the critical phases of its development. Justice Kioko has also made important contributions to international human rights scholarship and continues to serve on the editorial boards of various international law journals. He is also an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya.