



2223 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008-2864
(202) 939-6000 • Fax: (202) 797-7133
www.asil.org

For Release: March 24, 2008
Contact: Sheila Ward

+1.202.939.6018 desk
+1.202.309.0510 cell
sward@asil.org

**ASIL ANNOUNCES PROGRAM FOR 102nd ANNUAL MEETING –
PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN ADVISORS AMONG FEATURED SPEAKERS**

WASHINGTON, DC – The American Society of International Law (ASIL) will hold its 102nd Annual Meeting **April 9-12, 2008**, at the Fairmont Hotel, 2401 M Street, NW, Washington, DC. The theme of this year’s conference is “The Politics of International Law,” and foreign policy advisors from three of the U.S. presidential campaigns will be among the featured panelists. Keynote addresses by U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations **Zalmay Khalilzad**, Jordanian Ambassador to the U.S. Prince **Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein**, and Panamanian Chief Justice **Graciela Dixon** will be additional highlights.

In all, the four-day meeting will include more than 30 sessions following six tracks of international law topics ranging from the Law of War, International Criminal Law, and Human Rights to Finance, Trade, and Investment. Woven throughout the discussions will be the nexus of politics and international law. Credentialed press may attend the meeting by registering at www.asil.org/pressreg.html.

“ASIL’s 102nd Annual Meeting has a particularly timely theme given the political changes that are taking place worldwide,” said ASIL Executive Director **Elizabeth**

Andersen. “National elections in 2007 and 2008 bring, for example, new leadership in four of the five permanent UN Security Council member states. Our meeting will examine the attitudes new political leaders are taking towards international law, as well as the reactions those attitudes are generating in other countries. We will also look at how changes in the domestic political landscape will affect the future formulation and implementation of international law. Attendees can surely expect some lively, provocative discussions at this year’s event.”

The **Presidential Foreign Policy Advisers’ Panel** (co-sponsored by Georgetown University Law Center) on Thursday, **April 10, 4:30-6:00 p.m.**, will include panelists **Greg Craig** (the Obama campaign), **Lee Feinstein** (the Clinton campaign), and **Ruth Wedgwood** (the McCain campaign).

Prince **Zeid** will give this year’s Grotius Lecture (co-sponsored by American University) on Wednesday, **April 9, 2008, 4:30-6:00 p.m.** Chief Justice **Dixon** will speak on Thursday, **April 10, 2008**, when ASIL’s Women in International Law Interest Group honor her at their annual luncheon from **12:30 to 2:00 p.m.** Ambassador **Khalilzad** will deliver his plenary keynote on Friday, **April 11, 2008, 4:30-5:45 p.m.** Prior to Khalilzad’s remarks, there will be a **Legal Advisors Plenary (2:45-4:15 p.m., April 11)** in roundtable format, featuring current and former Foreign Ministry legal advisers from international organizations and several different states (both major powers and developing countries).

Hot topics in international law will also be addressed at panels such as **The Politics of Sudan**, on Thursday, **April 10, 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.** (including **Richard Goldstone**, former Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, and **Jason Small**

of the U.S. State Department), and the Tibet-related discussion **State Sovereignty & Regional Autonomy: The Asian Experience**, on **Thursday, April 10, 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.**

Complete program details along with other ASIL Annual Meeting information are available at www.asil.org/events/am08.

With more than a century of tradition and experience behind it, ASIL's Annual Meeting has become the most important gathering of international law professionals in the world. Approximately 1,000 leading legal scholars, practitioners, and officials come together for this event from some 50 countries to debate and discuss the latest issues and developments in the field.

ASIL is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational membership organization. It was founded in 1906, chartered by the US Congress in 1950, and has held Category II Consultative Status to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 1993. ASIL's mission is to foster the study of international law and promote the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice. The Society's 4,000 members (from nearly 100 countries) comprise attorneys, academics, corporate counsel, judges, representatives of governments and nongovernmental organizations, international civil servants, students, and others interested in international law. To learn more about the Society, visit www.asil.org.

#####