



American Society
of International Law

Personalizing International Law

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Emerging from the darkest days of the COVID pandemic, it is clear now that our Society has not simply *survived* but has indeed *thrived*. The Society's



116th Annual Meeting was a great success, drawing our members together in-person for the first time since the pandemic pushed programing onto virtual platforms.

The Midyear Meeting in Miami was, likewise, a great success, with over 100 speakers and 240 registrants for the Research Forum and a standing-room-only Practitioner's Forum. It was the second largest Midyear Meeting in ASIL's history, following that in New York.

In December, the Society held its second Gala where it presented the 2022 *Champion of International Rule of Law Award* to Dr. Fiona Hill for her distinguished service to our country and her defense of the rule of law. A former National Security Council official, Dr. Hill is renowned for her expertise on Russian and European affairs. CNN anchor John Avalon moderated the discussion with Dr. Hill, and Gala attendance was strong. The 2022 President's Appeal also finished strong, exceeding our campaign goal.

Our November 2022 meeting of the Judicial Advisory Board, chaired by Justice Stephen Breyer, was exceptionally productive. From the lively conversation emerged the blueprint for a comprehensive federal bench engagement program that, with adequate funding, we hope to develop this year.

We reopened Tillar House in the fall and have held numerous gatherings. ASIL hosted several frank closed-door conversations between legal advisors, ambassadors, and others in the D.C. area through our *International Legal Attachés of Washington* program. An exciting new development was the inauguration of the *Robert E. Dalton Roundtable on International Law in Government Practice*, which featured a discussion among five U.S. government attorneys and keynote remarks by Brian J. Egan, former Legal Adviser at the U.S. Department of State.

Convened by ICJ Judge Patrick L. Robinson, we held our second *Symposium on Reparations under International Law for Enslavement of African Persons in the Americas and the Caribbean* in cooperation with the University of the West Indies. This Symposium focused on the methodology

for calculating reparations and broader policy responses available under the rubric of satisfaction.

For fourteen years ASIL has co-hosted the annual *International Humanitarian Law Roundtables* (formerly known as *Dialogues*) at Lake Chautauqua and published the proceedings in hardcopy. Last year, we published the entire series of Roundtable Proceedings electronically, dating back to 2007.

Our virtual events continue to flourish, as we host roughly two ASIL events per week, including through our interest groups and co-sponsorships. Our Signature Topic on *Cooperation and Compliance through International Law and Institutions* is ambitious, and it has convened panels in New York with key U.N. Member States and with our colleague society, the African Society of International Law.

The *American Journal of International Law* and *AJIL Unbound* remain second to none, standing alongside *International Legal Materials*, *ASIL Insights*, *International Law in Brief*, and our popular podcast, *International Law Behind the Headlines* as the leading publications in our field.

The year also brought new challenges. After a celebrated tenure, former Executive Director Mark Agrast completed his final term in October, and Deputy Executive Director Wes Rist left to join the State Department in February 2023. Our Finance Director Ursula Moore and Accounting Manager Malissa Crenshaw departed in December to launch their own for-profit venture. We are recruiting new team members in the coming months and embracing change with both energy and optimism.

Finally, we are at a historic inflection point. With its brutal invasion of Ukraine, Russia has spurned fundamental tenants of international law and threatened to upend the broader global order. The war strikes at the heart of our Society's mission, our very purpose. We are called not only to reassess the role of international law, but also to demonstrate international law's relevance. Our Society will meet that obligation.



Gregory Shaffer
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The Society's 3,500 members from more than 100 nations include attorneys, academics, corporate counsel, judges, representatives of governments and nongovernmental organizations, international civil servants, students and others interested in international law. Through our meetings, publications, information services and outreach programs, ASIL advances international law scholarship and education for international law professionals as well as for broader policy-making audiences and the public.

ASIL is a volunteer-led organization governed by a 60-member Executive Council elected by its membership. In partnership with the elected leadership, ASIL is led by an executive director and supported by a professional staff of 10.

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