



American Society
of International Law

Advancing International Law *in a Multipolar World*



2013 YEAR IN REVIEW

Leadership Message



We live in an increasingly multipolar world. Once dominated by the clash of two superpowers – the United States and the Soviet Union – we experience today major shifts in the economic and geopolitical forces shaping our world. China, India, Russia, Brazil, South Africa, and other states in Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and Africa are expressing their voices in international institutions and questioning the dominance of the West. New alliances are forming in the major international organizations, and states are establishing new institutions to pursue their interests. A new set of actors is moving onto center stage, seeking to reshape international rules governing trade, finance, military force, the environment and beyond.



This is the stage upon which the Society has a special part to play. With some 40% of its members hailing from outside the United States, the *American Society of International Law* is very much a global Society. Its meetings and publications provide an invaluable forum for understanding and grappling with this multipolarity, challenging our members to think about how international law applies to a vast array of emerging issues and in an equally vast array of new contexts. How will human rights law, environmental law, trade law, the law of armed conflict, and the law of the use of force evolve to the new circumstances of the day and reflect the interests and influence of this new set of actors? Indeed, how will the international legal order evolve to reflect this new multipolar world?

Our 2013 Annual Meeting—convened around the theme of “International Law in a Multipolar World”—shed light on these currents. A new “Colleague Societies Initiative” gave structure and increased focus to our collaborations with our colleague societies in Europe, Asia, Latin America, and Africa to grapple with the emerging legal order. And our new website provides an exciting platform for ASIL members everywhere to “meet” and discuss international law.

This report summarizes our journey in 2013, and our efforts to embrace our unique role in understanding and shaping international law. It also recognizes the many leaders, volunteers and contributors who worked alongside our staff to make the journey as enriching as it was challenging. We thank them wholeheartedly for their dedication and special commitment to our founders’ vision to pursue “international relations on the basis of law and justice.”

Sincerely yours,

Donald Francis Donovan
President, 2012-2014

Elizabeth Andersen
Executive Director

2013 YEAR IN REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

Who We Are

Organizational Profile

ASIL is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, volunteer-led education and research organization. Its 80-member Executive Council is elected by ASIL’s membership. Headquartered in Washington, DC, its 4,000 members, 40% of whom reside in nearly 100 other countries, include lawyers, professors, international jurists, students, and representatives of government and non-governmental organizations. Its mission is “to foster the study of international law and to promote the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice.” Founded in 1906 by then-U.S. Secretary of State Elihu Root, ASIL was chartered by Congress in 1950. ASIL holds Category II Consultative Status to the United Nations and is a constituent society of the American Council of Learned Societies. In partnership with the elected leadership, ASIL is led by an executive director and supported by a professional staff of 16.

Marshaling the expertise of the global international law community to promote peace and justice through law.

The Society advances greater understanding of international law through scholarship, conferences, and educational programs, including its ASIL Insights series, distributed to more than 10,000 subscribers; *The American Journal of International Law*, the pre-eminent publication in the field; and its Annual Meeting, convening each spring in Washington, DC, some 1500 scholars and practitioners from more than 75 countries.

Long the leading organization serving the international legal expert community, the Society has over the past decade sought to reach beyond its member experts and to inform the diverse and growing constituencies of international law among policy-makers, judges and legal practitioners, the media, educators, and the general public. For policy-makers and the Washington DC-based legal community, the Society hosts regular briefings and discussions with prominent figures in the field. Webcasts of these programs, a steady stream of educational webinars, and Society blogs and on-line discussion fora engage and inform the global community of stakeholders in the international rule of law.



Incoming WILIG Co-Chair Christie Edwards (third from left) and outgoing Co-chair Kristine Huskey (right) with members of the first all-female Ethiopian Jessup Moot Court Competition team, which was able to attend the Competition, as well as the WILIG luncheon, thanks to support from ASIL members.



From left, incoming *American Journal of International Law* Co-Editors in Chief Benedict Kingsbury and José Alvarez with outgoing Co-Editors in Chief Lori Fisler Damrosch and Bernard Oxman.



Anne-Marie Slaughter, ASIL Patron, former ASIL president and former Director of Policy Planning in the U.S. Department of State.

What We Are Achieving

ASIL is American in name, but global in scope. With 40% of its members in more than 100 countries, academic and law firm partners on three continents, and close collaborations with colleague international law societies throughout the world, the Society prides itself on serving and strengthening the global international law community. In 2013, the Society sponsored or co-sponsored more than 100 conferences, workshops, and seminars in locations from coast to coast and with colleague societies from around the globe. Tillar House is a regular stop for visiting delegations to connect with Washington D.C.-based counterparts, and in 2013, we hosted delegations or speakers from Canada, the United Kingdom, Russia, Australia, Iran, Israel, Palestine, and Lebanon, and from multiple international organizations including the United Nations, European Union, Organization of American States, the African Union, World Trade Organization, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The Society informs contemporary policymaking with outstanding scholarship through its publications, seminars, working groups, and speaking tours. In 2013, the *American Journal of International Law* fostered a robust global debate on pressing current issues. Sir Daniel Bethlehem's Principles on "Self-Defense Against an Imminent or Actual Armed Attack by Nonstate Actors" sparked rejoinders from scholars, activists, and government officials in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. Likewise, a sixteen-piece Journal Agora on the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Kiobel v. Royal Dutch Petroleum Co.* highlighted vigorous debate about the implications of the case for human rights litigation in the U.S. and beyond.

2013 also saw the launch of a new series of monthly ASIL briefings for members of Congress and their staff on topics of international law with consequence for national lawmakers. "ASIL on the Hill" hosted member briefings on *The Legality of Intervention in Syria*, *The Drawdown in Afghanistan and Implications for Guantanamo*, and *The U.S. and the Convention on Rights of People with Disabilities*. And ASIL continues to invest in the next generation of international lawyers through career mentoring events and Helton Fellowships, providing financial assistance in the form of "micro-grants" for law students and young professionals to pursue human rights field work and research.



A delegation of Russian lawyers and judges at Tillar House on June 13, 2013, with ASIL Executive Director Elizabeth Andersen (seated, center) and ASIL Director of Education and Research Wes Rist (seated, right)

Notable 2013 achievements include:

The Howard M. Holtzmann Research Center for the Study of International Arbitration and Conciliation launched in February 2013 and has become the focal point for Society educational programs and research on international arbitration and dispute resolution. Under its auspices in 2013, the Center sponsored or co-sponsored seven programs and conferences, and broadcast a monthly webinar series on "Current Scholarship in International Arbitration." The Center has also launched a joint task force with the International Council for Commercial Arbitration, to explore the problem of issue conflicts in international arbitration and to develop recommendations for best practices. The effort is led by Task Force co-chairs Professor John Crook (George Washington University School of Law) and Professor Laurence Boisson de Chazournes (University of Geneva School of Law) For a review of Holtzmann Center program highlights and developments see www.asil.org/resources/howard-m-holtzmann-research-center-study-international-arbitration-and-conciliation.



From left, Hugo Siblesz, Stephen Schwebel, Corol Holtzmann, Elizabeth Andersen, and Donald Francis Donovan beside the commemorative Holtzmann Center plaque on the second floor of Tillar House, ASIL's headquarters.



Schwebel, Siblesz, and Donovan at the Howard M. Holtzmann Center launch

The Virtual Tillar House – ASIL's new website debuted in the fall of 2013, introducing a new look and functionality, while preserving the Society's heritage and high standards. A great new resource, the website poses a challenge to ASIL members as well. Only when members fully engage on the the website — by posting CVs and recent publications, commenting on blogs, sharing information and insights on group discussions and forums — will it become the online meeting place for ASIL's global community. The website is funded by the Society's 21st Century Campaign, to which more than 300 of our members have already made or pledged contributions. There is still more to do to reach the \$3 million campaign goal, but it is within reach. Funds as they are pledged or contributed are invested immediately to ensure the Society's capacity to be on the leading edge of international law in the 21st century, making resources like the Virtual Tillar House a dynamic part of members' experience today.

Looking Ahead

The Women in International Law Mentoring Program was launched under the auspices of the Women in International Law Interest Group. 137 young professional women enrolled in the program and joined mentorship “pods” in 19 cities stretching from San Diego to Washington, DC to Geneva and the Hague. Paired with forty-five experienced lawyer-mentors, the mentees benefit from a structured program of activities, feedback, and coaching. The program has been hailed as enriching and rewarding by mentees and mentors alike.

The ASIL 107th Annual Meeting focused on the theme, “International Law in a Multipolar World.” It drew more than 1,400 attendees from 54 countries to Washington, D.C. April 3-6, 2013. The conference was co-chaired by Stanimir Alexandrov (Sidle Austin), Laurence Boisson de Chazournes (University of Geneva) and Kal Raustiala (University of California-Los Angeles School of Law). Highlights included plenary discussions of “International Law in the Obama Administration,” “Twenty Years of International Criminal Law,” and a memorable luncheon conversation with Hudson Medal winner Judge Bruno Simma Throughout the proceedings, speakers and attendees grappled with the challenges and opportunities for international law in an increasingly multipolar world. Watch video of the meeting at www.asil.org/resources/2013-annual-meeting.

Career Resources for the Next Generation of International Lawyers. In 2013, the Society made a priority of serving the next generation of international lawyers. A new edition of *Careers in International Law: A Guide to Career Paths in International Law* includes practical tips and “to dos” for everyone from pre-law majors to current lawyers looking to move into the practice of international law. The guide includes advice on everything from study abroad options to scholarship opportunities to networking as well as four appendices featuring over 30 international fellowships, nearly 200 international internships, and dozens of international moot court and writing competitions. The Society’s Department of Education and Research complemented the Guide with a series of panels and mentoring sessions throughout the United States and webcast to aspiring international lawyers everywhere. To learn more about ASIL’s growing portfolio of career development services, go to www.asil.org/resources/careers-international-law.

American Journal of International Law Co-Editors José Alvarez and Benedict Kingsbury, with ASIL Executive Council member Natalie Reid at the New York Midyear Meeting, on a panel discussing the elements of good scholarship.



Investments in ASIL’s new web presence and capacity to convene and lead the global discussion of international law have been made possible by the **21st Century Campaign**, which nears completion in 2014. As we look to the new year, several exciting new developments are in the wing.

Connecting to Colleague Societies. ASIL fosters global exchange not only among its members but also through partnership with colleague societies around the world. A new Colleague Societies Liaison Committee, led by ASIL Vice President Chantal Thomas, is working to foster these ties and to use the new ASIL website to share contacts and information. Notably, in 2014, ASIL will join forces with the American Branch of the International Law Association (ILA) to host a historic joint ASIL Annual Meeting and ILA Biennial Conference in Washington, DC. In July 2014, four young ASIL scholars will present papers at the fifth “Four Societies” conference, a collaboration of the Australia New Zealand Society of International Law, the Japanese Society of International Law, the Canadian Council on International Law, and ASIL, to foster ties among junior scholars. And incoming ASIL President Lori Fisler Damrosch will launch a multi-year project to strengthen ASIL ties to colleagues in the Middle East and North Africa.



ASIL President Donald Francis Donovan in Delhi for the Biennial Conference of the Asian Society.

AJIL Unbound. For over a century, the pages of the slim green volumes of the *American Journal of International Law* (AJIL) have been the place to find the very best scholarship in the international law field. Starting in 2014, under the leadership of Co-Editors in Chief José Alvarez and Benedict Kingsbury, the Journal will be complemented by a new web presence, AJIL Unbound, where you will find open access Journal articles, on-line symposia or Agoras, and a new blog. The first two on-line Agoras will address “*Reflections on Kiobel*” and “*The End of Treaties*.” Check out www.asil.org/blogs/ajil-unbound, bookmark the page, and join the conversation!

Informing Contemporary Policy Making. The Society will continue efforts to marshal member expertise to inform international legal policy making. In early 2014, the Society, together with the International Bar Association and American University Washington College of Law, will host a two-day meeting of the Chairs of the United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies, for informal consultations aimed at capturing their collective input to the ongoing intergovernmental treaty body reform process. The Society’s Roundtable on International Law and Security will convene legal experts inside and out of government to debate the contours of the legal framework governing counter-terrorism operations. Its joint task force with the International Council for Commercial Arbitration, convened under the auspices of the Holtzmann Center, will generate a report and recommendations on issue conflicts in international arbitration. And “ASIL on the Hill” briefings will inform Congressional representatives on topics ranging from the future of the U.S. Authorization for Use of Military Force against Terrorists to current issues in the Law of the Sea.

Website Enhancements. ASIL’s international online hub – the Virtual Tillar House – will experience a heightened level of functionality in the forthcoming months of 2014. Most notable is the launch of a new Jobs Board in international law, specialized pages for ASIL’s growing number of Interest Groups, increased online streaming of content, and more robust engagement of ASIL members through social media.

New investments create new opportunity and higher value for ASIL membership. In the months ahead, we will continue to reach out to members to invest in the Society’s future, and to build upon the well-conceived organizational architecture the Society has created over these past 108 years to remain at the leading edge of international law with scholarship, programs and education for the 21st century.

2013 Financial Statements*

SUMMARY FINANCIAL DATA

Statement of Financial Position

	UNAUDITED 2013	AUDITED 2012
Assets	5,926,783	5,610,624
Liabilities	1,328,797	1,002,478
Net Assets	4,597,986	4,608,146

Revenue

	2013	2012
Subscriptions and Publications	676,092	761,621
Grants and Contributions	457,674	1,472,899
Member Dues	457,747	474,168
Sponsorships and Partners	463,989	495,614
Meetings and Events	440,470	440,958
Total Revenue	2,495,972	3,645,260

Expenses

Publications	854,666	787,712
Membership, Education, Outreach	687,960	769,165
Annual Meeting	429,524	422,496
Grant Funded Education and Events	386,772	218,909
Library	32,061	18,034
General and Administrative	365,373	384,171
Development and New Member Recruitment	333,854	299,916
Total Expenses	3,090,211	2,900,403

Operating Income

(594,239) 744,857

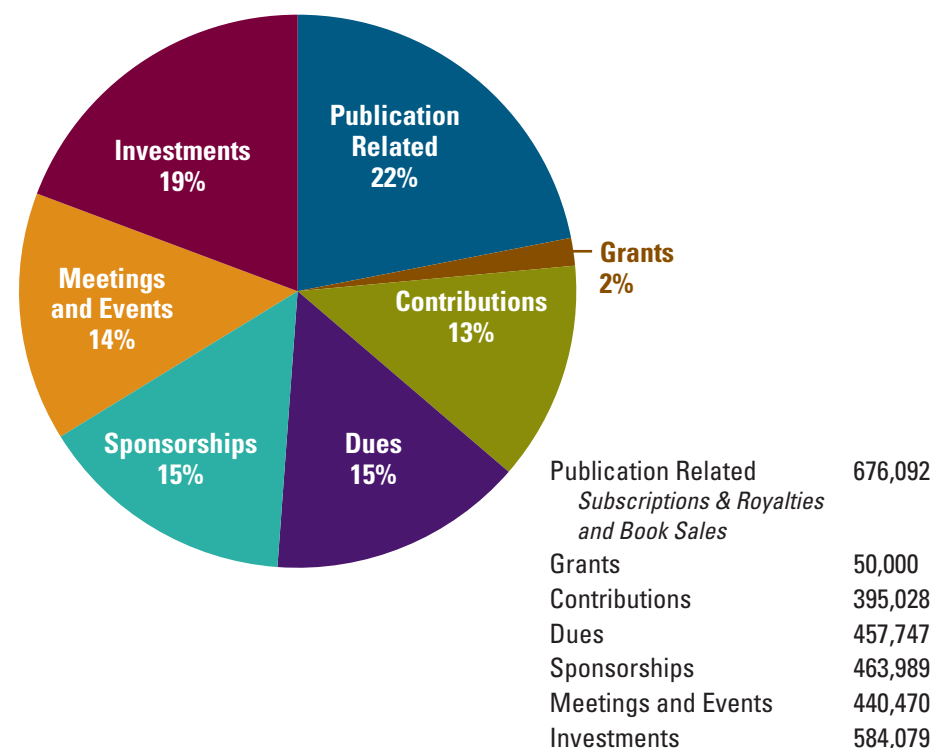
Non-Operating Investment Activity

584,079 288,978

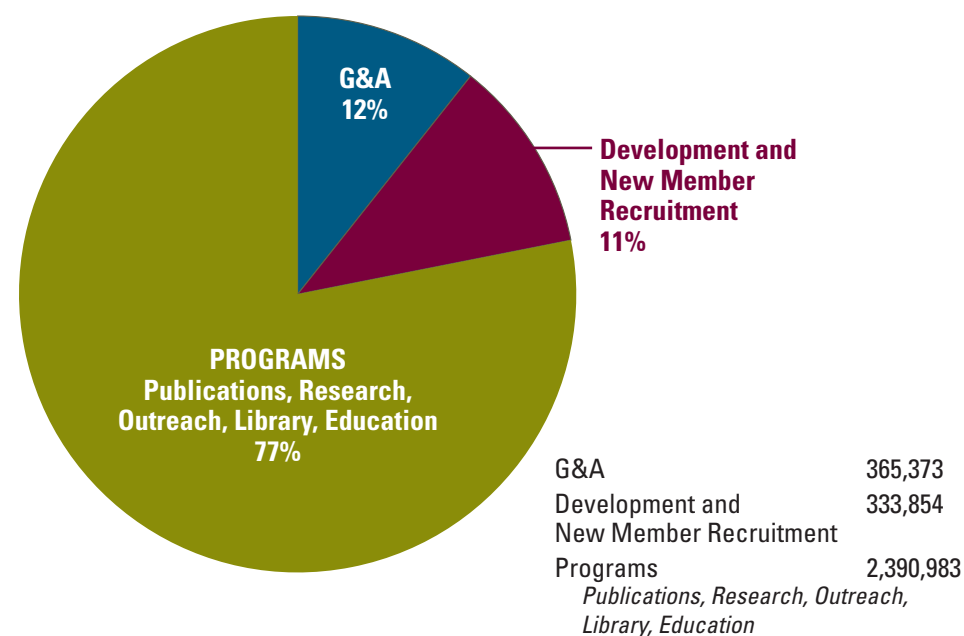
Change in Net Assets

(10,160) 1,033,835

2013 REVENUES



2013 EXPENSES



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The Society thanks the following contributors for their generous support of ASIL's Annual Appeal and 21st Century Campaign through multi-year pledges and/or gifts of \$500 or more received through March 5, 2014.

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