



American Society
of International Law

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW



2014
YEAR IN
REVIEW

LEADERSHIP MESSAGE



The year just past has provided many reminders that not all nations, groups or individuals ascribe to the principles of international law or observe them in practice. Those principles have been under challenge in every corner of the globe, from the carnage in Syria and Iraq to Russian incursions in Ukraine; from the wanton killings and kidnappings by Boko Haram in Nigeria to the continuing armed conflicts in Darfur and Somalia, to name only a few. Given the inability of the international community to curtail such persistent acts of violence and lawlessness, 2014 was an appropriate moment for the Society to examine "The Effectiveness of International Law."

After all, it was to meet such challenges that the American Society of International Law was created: to envision and advance an alternative to tyranny and barbarism—an international order based on law and justice. The Society has labored to uphold that vision in the face of the horrors of this century and the last, and to reinforce the efficacy of international law and institutions when they falter.

Over the past year, we challenged ourselves to scrutinize the successes and failures of international law and consider what tools are needed to enhance its effectiveness. Among the venues for that exercise was the convening of a joint conference between ASIL and our colleagues in the International Law Association for an unprecedented exchange of ideas that highlighted the global dimensions of the problem and the search for solutions.

The Society is exceptionally well-positioned to undertake that search. Our worldwide membership includes scholars, jurists, practitioners, government officials, and leaders in international and nongovernmental organizations. Together, they bring to bear formidable intelligence, deep learning, and a passionate commitment to justice.

"[A]lmost all nations observe almost all principles of international law and almost all of their obligations almost all of the time."

LOUIS HENKIN

This report presents the highlights of the past year and illustrates the myriad ways in which the Society seeks to foster thoughtful debate and serve the needs of our members and the public. We would like to thank our former executive director, Elizabeth Andersen, for her inspirational leadership and boundless energy in guiding the Society over the past eight years; and to acknowledge the leadership of our past president, Donald Francis Donovan, for his

wise stewardship of the Society and his leadership of our 21st Century Campaign, which has made possible critical investments in new programming and infrastructure.

Finally, we wish to recognize the many leaders, volunteers, donors and staff whose contributions have sustained the Society when it is needed most.

Lori Damrosch
President

Mark Agrast
Executive Director

WHO WE ARE

The American Society of International Law (ASIL) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational membership organization founded in 1906 by U.S. Secretary of State Elihu Root and chartered by Congress in 1950. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., 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." ASIL holds Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and is a constituent society of the American Council of Learned Societies.

Building communities of learning and practice across the world to promote peace and justice through the greater understanding and use of international law.



From left, Lori Damrosch, Diane Wood, Diane Amann, and David Stewart discuss the role of international law in U.S. Courts.

The Society's nearly 4,000 members hail from more than 100 nations with nearly 40% residing outside the United States. Its members include scholars, jurists, practitioners, government officials, leaders in international and nongovernmental organizations, students and others interested in international law.

Through its many publications, conferences, briefings and educational events, ASIL seeks to serve the needs of its diverse membership and to advance understanding of international law among policymakers 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 15.



Pictured in front of the U.S. Supreme Court is the delegation of UN human rights treaty body chairs who gave the January 13, 2014 "ASIL on the Hill" briefing, with former ASIL Executive Director Betsy Andersen, International Bar Association North American Director Michael Maya, and Coordinator of American University Washington College of Law's UN Committee against Torture Project Jennifer de Laurentiis.

American in name, global in scope.

In 2012 the Society launched its 21st Century Campaign to support strategic investments in infrastructure and technology. Over the past year, those investments have enabled the Society to expand its reach across multiple dimensions, strengthening its connections with its worldwide membership, nurturing its relationships with colleagues across the globe, and increasing its outreach to policymakers and the public.

Fostering Engagement and Inclusion –

In 2014, we inaugurated the virtual **ASIL Community**, a web-based and social media platform designed to enhance the member experience, facilitate the work of our Interest Groups, and strengthen our links with our colleague societies around the world. Today, some 2,000 members are actively engaged in our **35 Interest Groups**, and those groups are generating a steady stream of conferences, workshops, and publications. Over the past year alone, we collaborated with **20 colleague societies** and other organizations in presenting some 150 substantive programs. 2014 also marked the historic collaboration of ASIL and the International Law Association in a joint conference in Washington, DC, with record attendance of 1672 participants from 75 countries. In the fall, we held our fifth Midyear Meeting and Research Forum in Chicago, featuring keynote events with Anne-Marie Slaughter and Chief Judge Diane Wood, and the launch of Blacks of the American Society of International Law (BASIL), led by co-chairs Judge Gabrielle Kirk McDonald and Adrien Wing, as part of President Damrosch's Inclusion Initiative.



Women in International Law Interest Group Co-Chairs Christie Edwards (left) and Clara Brillembourg (right) present former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor with a thank you gift for her appearance as a special guest at the WILIG luncheon.

Education and Outreach – We continued to offer a wide variety of high-quality **Continuing Legal Education (CLE)** programs and webinars, which our new web-based CLE platform has made available for on-demand viewing. In addition, the Society's **Howard M. Holtzmann Center for the Study of International Arbitration and Conciliation** began offering innovative programs on significant developments in the field. As part of



Members of the Blacks of the American Society of International Law (BASIL) Task Force at their inaugural meeting in November.



Deak Prize Winner Kristina Daugirdas with *Journal* Co-Editors and Chief José Alvarez and Benedict Kingsbury.

our commitment to Judicial Education, we released our online *Benchbook on International Law*. Another exciting development was the debut of our new online companion to the *American Journal of International Law*, **AJIL Unbound**, featuring web-exclusive essays, symposia, and timely commentary on the latest developments in international law.

Informing Policymakers – ASIL continued to leverage the expertise of its members to inform the international policymaking process in various forums, both public and nonpublic. The Society convened a series of off-the-record **National Security Roundtables** with legal experts inside and outside of government to debate various issues related to the post-9/11 legal framework. We hosted a meeting of the chairs of the 10 **United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies** to explore solutions for more effective enforcement of human rights treaties among states; we welcomed **UN Special Rapporteur on Counter Terrorism and Human Rights** Ben Emmerson for a series of on- and off-the-record events; and we convened a meeting of NGO representatives on Guidelines for Strengthening Legal Protections for Victims of Armed Conflict, in partnership with the International Committee of the Red Cross. In addition, we held a series of **"ASIL on the Hill"** briefings to inform members of the U.S. Congress and



From left, ICJ President Peter Tomka and Hudson Medal recipient Alain Pellet in conversation at a luncheon in Pellet's honor.



International Economic Law Interest Group (IECLIG) Co-Chairs Elizabeth Trujillo and Jason Yackee at the group's biennial conference.

their staff on topics ranging from the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force to competing claims in the South China Sea.

Training and Mentoring the Next Generation of International Lawyers

Each year since 2004, ASIL has awarded fellowships in memory of noted human rights lawyer Arthur C. Helton to law students and young professionals to pursue fieldwork and research on significant issues in international law, human rights, and humanitarian affairs. In 2014, eight **Helton Fellows** were selected to undertake work with educational institutions and NGOs in Egypt, Guatemala, Jordan, Thailand, Turkey, and India. We also continued our **Women in International Law Mentoring Program**, which provided mentors for more than 100 women in international law in 17 cities throughout the world. Since its inception in 2013, the program has enrolled 244 women, a number of whom have become mentors themselves. We also added an online **Jobs Board** to our robust portfolio of **career development resources**, which already includes onsite mentoring of law students in preparing for legal careers, training for career officers in ASIL Academic Partner schools, and the latest edition of *Careers in International Law*.



Participants in the Washington, DC chapter of the Women in International Law Mentoring Program at their "graduation" on May 13, 2014 at ASIL headquarters.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

OUR AGENDA FOR 2015 WILL FOCUS ON FOUR KEY AREAS:

Providing Value for Our Members – Members join ASIL for a variety of reasons: to access programs and publications on the latest developments in international legal scholarship; to develop and enhance their knowledge and skills; to speak, write, and interact with colleagues and thought leaders in the field; and to be part of a diverse international community of scholars and practitioners who share their commitment to international law. Whatever their reasons for joining, we will focus on enhancing their member experience by offering useful and timely information and analysis, opportunities for engagement and professional development, and pathways to leadership within the Society and the profession.

Providing Resources for Policymakers –

One of the core strengths of the Society is its capacity to bring together people of diverse viewpoints and perspectives for inquiry and debate. During the coming year, we will convene an international legal dialogue in the Middle East in partnership with Columbia University's Global Center in Amman, Jordan; a new series of national security roundtables bringing together government officials, outside experts, and representatives of nongovernmental organizations; closed-door breakfast briefings for Washington-based embassy officials by senior lawyers in the U.S. Government; issue briefings for members of Congress and their staffs; and the ninth annual International Humanitarian Law Dialogs at the Chautauqua Institution.



From left, Larissa van den Herik, Ruth Wedgwood, Barry Kellman, and Michael Morkin discuss the MH17 incident at the Midyear Meeting opening plenary last November, sponsored by Baker and McKenzie.

Strengthening Connections – We will continue our efforts to strengthen the links between the academy and those who practice international law in government, business, international institutions, NGOs and the private bar; between ASIL and its colleague societies throughout the world; and with schools, community-based organizations and professionals in other disciplines.



Four Societies: Participants in the fifth Four Societies Conference held July 1-2, 2014 in Canberra, Australia with the theme "Experts, Networks, and International Law." ASIL President Lori Damrosch is pictured fourth from right.



From left, Abiodun Williams moderates Annual Meeting plenary discussion with 2014 Prominent Women in International Law Award recipients ICJ Judges Xue Hanqin, Joan Donoghue, and Julia Sebutinde.

Sustaining the Society into the Future – In a period of rising costs and shrinking revenues, learned societies and other not-for-profit associations must be nimble and entrepreneurial in developing new sources of financial support. The Society is not immune from these challenges, and we will be working over the coming year to develop stable and diversified revenue sources through innovative publishing arrangements, income-producing programs and activities, partnerships, and philanthropy.

The future of the Society will depend on our ability to harness the energy, commitment and generosity of our members, both old and new, to adapt to a rapidly changing marketplace, and to serve the needs of an increasingly international and diverse constituency.



From left, Honorary Membership Winner Fatou Bensouda, ASIL President Lori Damrosch, Nuremberg prosecutor Ben Ferencz, and Butcher Medalist Cherif Bassiouni.



New Professionals Interest Group Co-Chair Lisl Brunner, Grace Menck of the Inter-American Development Bank, Simone Schwartz-Delgado of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, ASIL Law Fellow Steven Koh, and Tracy Begley of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

HOW WE ARE ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

SOURCES OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES FOR 2014

3400+ members
— in —
100 countries

"ASIL has been an **essential part of my professional development**, giving me access to a **global network...** and opportunities to share my scholarship."
Academic Partner
School Law Professor

1,978 ASIL MEMBERS
(60%) active in
35 INTEREST GROUPS

12 International Law Firm Members

244 young professional women have enrolled in ASIL's mentoring program as mentors and mentees in **17** cities from Tucson to Singapore since **2013**

"ASIL serves as a rich and **invaluable asset** for students interested in international law... It has opened a door to a **welcoming community** and provided **unique opportunities** to rub elbows with the 'who's who' of international law."
Law Student

"To develop our full potential as a 'Society,' we must be – and be perceived to be **genuinely inclusive** in membership and leadership opportunities."
ASIL President Lori Damrosch

"(ASIL) promotes the most rigorous standards of thinking about international law... **It is the most important law forum in the United States.**"
ASIL Law Firm Member

"The Society IS really its members, and is **enriched by age, race, gender, nationality, ideology...** GET INVOLVED... you'll meet people you continue to see throughout your career, and you can support a terrific organization."
ASIL Patron and Heritage Circle Member

2,500+ daily visitors to the new ASIL website

"All serious scholars and practitioners in the field... belong to ASIL, and our **partnership is an important part of our overall law publishing strategy.**"
Publisher Partner

52 Academic Partners

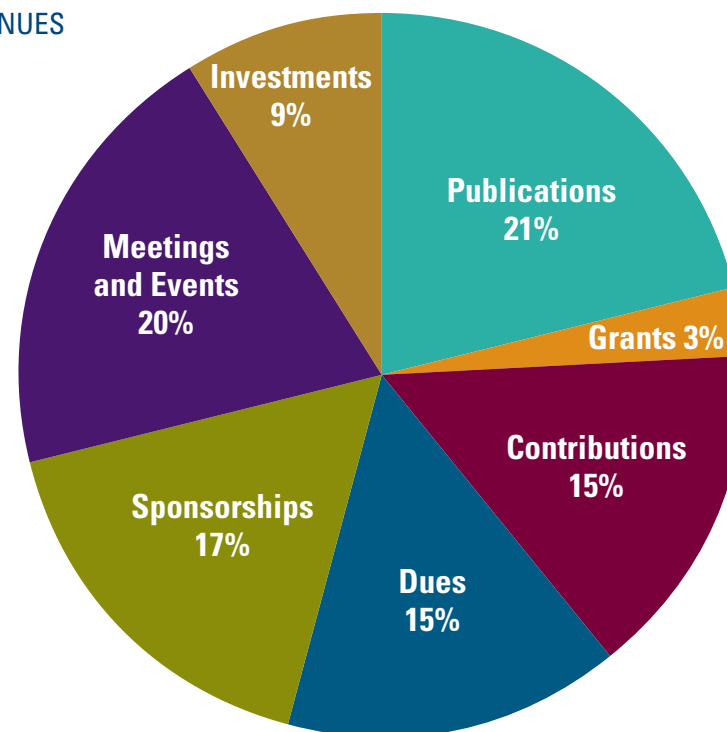
643 scholarly articles, manuscripts, analyses and commentary on current developments in international law in **8** ASIL publications during 2014

150 substantive programs annually throughout the **US** in collaboration with over **20** colleague societies and organizations

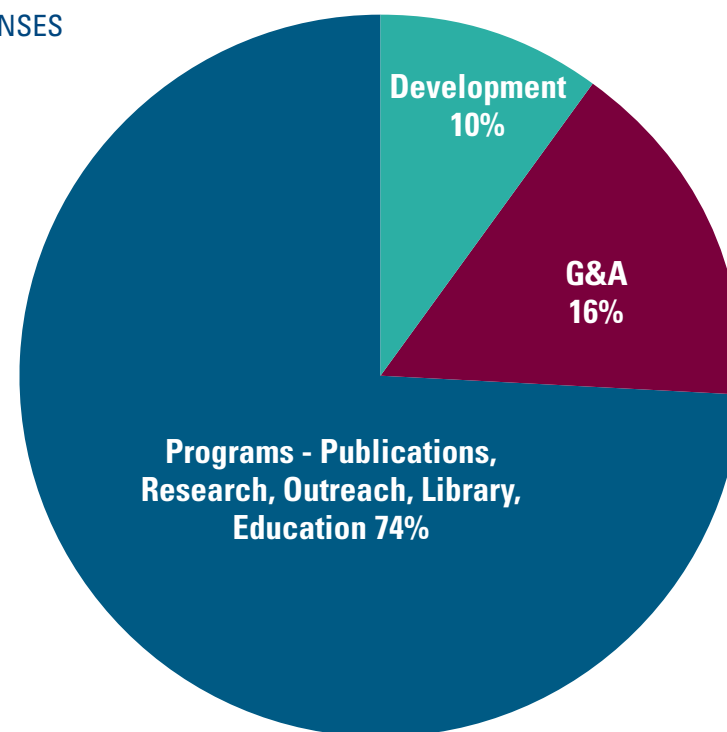
1,400+ participants at the historic Joint ASIL/ILA Conference in 2014

17 Publishers and Annual Meeting Exhibitors

2014 REVENUES



2014 EXPENSES



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