

**A MESSAGE FROM THE
HERITAGE CIRCLE CHAIR**

“ Even in law school, I knew that the Society was the preeminent organization in the United States, and the world, for learning about international law and its applications. Since 1973, when I first became an ASIL member, I have worked with the many great and good in the field who come together to learn, debate, and exchange views on the most pressing international issues of the day.

To this day, the Society continues to provide enrichment, fellowship, and excellence in scholarship that have been an important part of my practice of international law. That is why, as I have made plans for my family through estate planning, I have also remembered the Society. I invite you to join us as a member of the ASIL Heritage Circle, so that we can provide for the permanence of the Society in the years to come. ”

James H. Carter

Chair, ASIL Heritage Circle
ASIL President, 2004-2006
Senior Counsel, Wilmer Hale

The American Society of International Law was founded in 1906 to foster the study of international law and to promote the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice. Society membership is open to all persons of any nationality and profession who are interested in its objectives.

ASIL accomplishes much of its work through charitable support. The Society is grateful to its many members who contribute to the ASIL Annual Fund and the ASIL Endowment; to the foundations whose grants fund special programs; and to the law firms, publishers, universities, and others that sponsor ASIL activity. The Society is particularly honored to receive contributions through the 21st Century Campaign and Patrons program and to be included in our members' estate plans through the ASIL Heritage Circle.

Ensure the
Permanence
of the Society



**American Society
of International Law**

2223 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008
USA
Tel +1.202.939.6000
Fax +1.202.797.7133
www.asil.org



**American Society
of International Law**





The American Society of International Law (ASIL)

is dedicated to fostering the study of international law and to promoting the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice. Founded in 1906, the Society boasts a 100-plus-year-old tradition of convening its diverse community comprising nearly 4,000 members from more than 100 countries. It derives its strength from the committed involvement of its members. Through their fellowship and engagement in scholarship, debate, and practice and through their financial commitment, the Society's members have established ASIL as a key player on the international stage.

One way members help sustain the Society as a preeminent force for the understanding and practice of international law is to include the Society in their estate plans. These "planned gifts" provide support for ASIL programs, as well as considerable tax advantages to donors.

To encourage and support members with such gift planning, the Society in 2004 created the ASIL Heritage Circle, which has a four-part mission:

1. Provide planned and dedicated giving opportunities to ASIL members;
2. Honor members who have included commitments to ASIL in their estate plans;
3. Provide gift planning information to ASIL members; and
4. Build financial support for ASIL programs.

Why Join?

Members of the Society join the ASIL Heritage Circle for many reasons. All share a commitment to international law. All have benefited greatly from the rich experiences of debate, discussion, and the rigorous and balanced non-partisan forum that ASIL provides. For many members, joining the Heritage Circle helps ensure the permanence of the Society as the gathering place for the leading scholars and practitioners of international law around the world. Gift planning also offers Heritage Circle members tax benefits, which are sometimes significant. Using assets instead of income to make a gift also affords the donor greater flexibility in the size, type, and purpose of his or her contribution.

Using Heritage Circle Gifts

ASIL Heritage Circle contributions are used for general support of Society programs or, in certain instances, may be restricted by the donor for pre-existing programs or for the ASIL Endowment for International Law. If contributions are not restricted by the donor, they will be used wherever needed most, as determined by the Executive Council of the Society.

ASIL Endowment for International Law

The Endowment was created on January 1, 2004. The assets have grown to over \$1.5 million, and all earnings support the Society's education programs. Additions to the Endowment increase this permanent source of funding for ASIL efforts to share knowledge of international law with the growing numbers of individuals and institutions that increasingly use, influence, or are affected by it.

How to Join

ASIL members and supporters can join the Heritage Circle by notifying the Society in writing that they have included the Society in their estate plans. They may indicate this through a separate letter or by using a notification card provided by the Society. People may join anonymously or add their names to the growing list of colleagues who have made a planned gift to the Society. It is not necessary to disclose the type or value of the gift made through one's estate plan. As of January 2013 there are 18 members who have notified ASIL of their gifts.

Members are listed in each quarterly issue of the *American Journal of International Law*.

Types of Heritage Circle Gifts

Given the opportunity, most people would like to leave a legacy and advance the organizations they support during their lives. Gift planning is a process of considering what and when to give, as well as how to structure charitable gifts to meet personal financial goals.

Through gift planning, it is possible to:

1. Make gifts to the Society larger than one can afford through immediate outright contributions;
2. Retain control and use of assets one plans to donate later;
3. Receive lifetime income for oneself and family; and/or
4. Reduce income taxes, gift taxes, or estate taxes.

The most common planned gift is a charitable bequest in one's will. Others include charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts, and revocable trusts. In addition, and of increasing popularity, is designating ASIL as a beneficiary in a life insurance policy or retirement plan. This option is particularly appealing, as it can be achieved by simply notifying the plan administrator through a change to the beneficiary form. There are other such gifts as well.

The Society can provide information about the different types of bequests as well as sample language to use in a will. It also can work with donors to determine the most suitable gift instrument for their circumstances and purposes.

Selected Guiding Principles

All activity undertaken by or on behalf of the ASIL Heritage Circle will be informed by the "Model Gift Acceptance Policies and Procedures" issued by the Partnership for Philanthropic Planning (2009) and will be consistent with ASIL's Constitution and Regulations.

The Society guarantees confidentiality in all dealings that people have with the Heritage Circle program, from simple inquiries to detailed discussions about a gift instrument.

The Society does not offer legal or tax advice and always recommends that individual members consult their personal advisors when contemplating a planned gift.

Contact Us for More Information

To learn more about the ASIL Heritage Circle or to inquire about gift planning options, please contact ASIL Director of Development Michael D. Farley, M.A., CFRE, at mfarley@asil.org or +1.202.939.6003.