

Women in International Law Interest Group

Note from the Co-Chairs

Dear WILIG Members,

We enjoyed seeing many of you at the Annual Meeting in March, and we hope you enjoyed the WILIG luncheon honoring Judge Gabrielle Kirk McDonald. Below, we provide information on how to submit nominations for the 2022 Prominent Women in International Law Award, recent WILIG activities, submitting an application to serve as a mentor or mentee for the Women in International Law Mentoring Program, and invitations to upcoming virtual events of interest. We also request your thoughts and feedback on future activities.

Call for Nominations for Prominent Women in International Law Award!

WILIG invites you to nominate the next winner of its Prominent Women in International Law award. Nominations will be considered for individuals who meet some or all of the following criteria:

- Employs international law to advance women and women's rights (award-ees need not be attorneys);
- Breaks through the glass ceilings for women in international law;
- Promotes women and women's voices in the field;
- Contributes substantively to advancing, researching, advocating for, or promoting women's rights and/or gender justice;
- Is considered prominent in the field of international law—or has accomplishments that merit further recognition through this prestigious award.

Past winners include distinguished judges on international courts and tribunals, founders of NGOs committed to human rights causes, and renowned scholars of international law.

To nominate a prominent woman for this award, please fill in this [form](#), and attach the relevant documents. Alternatively, you can submit letters of nomination, which should be addressed to WILIG's Prominent Woman in International Law (PWIL) Committee, to lsolano@columbiaun.org, and should not exceed 5 pages. In this case, please also submit any supporting information you wish to forward, such as the Nominee's CV, in one PDF document titled with the nominee's name and "PWIL Award". The deadline is **October 15, 2021**.

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Women in International Law Interest Group

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Views contained in this publication are those of the authors in their personal capacity. The American Society of International Law and this Interest Group do not generally take positions on substantive issues, including those addressed in this periodical.



Join the WILIG Mentoring Program

2021 marks the ninth year of the WILIG Mentoring Program. We are proud to announce a remarkable level of participation, with more than 200 mentees and 50 mentors enrolling to discuss topics of interest and engage in activities and trainings designed to help junior women develop tools to enter and succeed in the field of international law. Registration for the 2021-2022 year is open until September 15, 2021. To apply as a **mentee** please fill in this [form](#). To apply as a **mentor** please fill in this [form](#).

The program will take place virtually this year, and participants will become part of a strong, inter-connected, and global network that already spans more than 600 women in 15 countries and 38 cities. The virtual format will allow mentoring to continue in spite of distancing requirements, facilitate access to the program for mentees, and enable more flexible scheduling. For more information about the mentoring program, please contact Mentoring Program Coordinator, Luli Hemmingsen, at wiligmentorship@asil.org.

Update on WILIG Activities

New WILIG Scholarship Prize Awarded

In 2021 WILIG created and awarded the new WILIG Scholarship Prize to highlight and promote excellence in international law scholarship involving women and girls, gender, and feminist approaches. It was awarded at the WILIG Luncheon at the 2021 ASIL Annual Meeting and went to Irini Papanciopulu for her work on gender and the law of the sea. Although scholars have utilized gender and feminist analyses in international law for at least a quarter of a century, such approaches frequently fail to permeate the mainstream of international legal scholarship and practice. This prize, which will be awarded every two years, recognizes innovative contributions to international law scholarship that theorize or utilize a feminist lens or lenses, highlight and seek to address topics disproportionately affecting women and girls, or consider the impact of international law or policy on gender more broadly. We encourage you to read the book! The second prize will be awarded at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

Women in International Law: Distinguished Voices

In 2021, WILIG announced and launched a new partnership with the Harvard International Law Journal (HILJ) to create a digital library highlighting the experi-

ences and stories of a diverse group of distinguished women in international law and celebrating their achievements and contributions to the field. The 2021 Women in International Law: Distinguished Voices interviewees were Judge Rosemarie Barkett and Ms. Maxine Marcus. Video recordings are available on the ASIL WILIG site: <https://www.asil.org/community/women-international-law> and HILJ website: <https://harvardilj.org/2020/07/she-leads-online-series/>. Interviewees will include recent past winners of WILIG's Prominent Women in International Law Award, as well as women jointly selected by WILIG and HILJ. We will keep you posted as new interviews become available and hope that you will join us in celebrating women's contributions to the field of international law.

ASIL WILIG cosponsored discussion of the UN Human Rights Council Advisory Committee Report on Women's Representation and Gender Balance in Human Rights Organs and Mechanisms

On July 20, 2021, WILIG cosponsored a discussion of a new report of the UN Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, on "Current levels of representation of women in human rights organs and mechanisms: ensuring gender balance," with the Washington College of Law's Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, the Institute on African Women in Law, and the



Requests for Thoughts and Feedback

We would like to hear from you. What would you like to see WILIG do in the next few years? Would you like to co-sponsor an event with WILIG involving women and international law at your law school, law firm, NGO, international organization or elsewhere? If so, please reach out to Nienke or Meg (emails below).

If you are running an event that may be of interest to WILIG's membership, please contact Graciela Jasa, at gjasa.juridika@gmail.com and we will share information about it in our next newsletter.

We look forward to celebrating our community at the ASIL Annual Meeting and beyond.

Best regards,

Nienke Grossman (ngrossman@ubalt.edu) and Meg deGuzman (margaret.mcauliffe.deguzman@temple.edu) (co-chairs)

Luli Hemmingsen (Mentoring Program Coordinator)

Graciela Jasa (Secretary)

Mark Your Calendars

WILIG is pleased to share information on an event that may be of interest to our members.

On **October 19, 2021**, at 12pm EST ASIL's Women in International Law Interest Group (WILIG) will hold its annual career roundtable through Zoom featuring an exciting line-up of speakers, including: Nani Jansen Reventlow, Director, Digital Freedom Fund, Anna Spain Bradley, Professor of Law and Vice Chancellor for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, UCLA, Christie Edwards, Deputy Head, Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, OSCE ODIHR, and Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo, Global Disability Advisor, The World Bank.

This annual event is a great opportunity for young and experienced professionals to make new connections within the international law community. You can register for the event [here](#).

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Gqual Initiative. Co-Director and Professorial Lecturer-in-Resident of the Academy on Human Rights Claudia Martin moderated the panel, and speakers included Howard University Associate Professor of Political Science Jarpa Dawuni, University of Baltimore School of Law Professor and WILIG Co-Chair Nienke Grossman, Center for Justice and International Law Executive Director Viviana Kristicevic, UN Human Rights Council Advisory Committee Member and Pontifical Catholic University of Peru Professor Elizabeth Salmon, and Three Crowns LLP Partner Elizabeth Snodgrass. A recording of the event and the report are available at <https://bit.ly/37nhpM5>.

ASIL WILIG Mentoring Program Graduation

On July 23, 2021, the WILIG Mentoring Program held an excellent graduation ceremony during July, featuring a Q&A with ASIL's President, Catherine Amirfar, and moderated by Luli Hemmingsen, the Mentoring Program Coordinator. Congratulations to the many mentees that have successfully completed the Mentoring Program Year 2020-2021, and many thanks to all the mentors that participated in the program, whose dedication and support have made this yet another successful mentoring year! ■