

# 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 June, and we hope you enjoyed the WILIG luncheon honoring Judge Elizabeth Odio Benito. Many of us remain in quarantine as the fall approaches, but that has not prevented us from finding ways to keep in touch with our community and to keep promoting women in international law. Below, we provide information on the launch of an exciting new initiative to highlight the experiences and stories of women in international law, details on how to submit nominations for the 2021 Prominent Women in International Law Award, an update on the Women in International Law Mentoring Program, and invitations to upcoming virtual events of interest.

We hope that you all continue to stay well and that you will take advantage of these opportunities to stay connected.

## Women in International Law: Distinguished Voices

WILIG is excited to announce a new partnership with the Harvard International Law Journal (HILJ) to create a digital library highlighting the experiences and stories of a diverse group of distinguished women in international law and celebrating their achievements and contributions to the field. Video recordings will be made available on the ASIL and HILJ websites.

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. More information about how to nominate women for consideration in the digital library is forthcoming. We will keep you posted as interviews become available and hope that you will join us in celebrating women's contributions to the field of international law.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Note from the Co-Chairs  
1

Women in International Law:  
Distinguished Voices  
1

Call for Nominations!  
2

The WILIG Mentoring Program  
2

Mark Your Calendars  
2

Requests for Thoughts  
and Feedback  
3

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### Women in International Law Interest Group

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##### Co-Chairs

Nienke Grossman  
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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.

## Call for Nominations!

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 (awardees 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.

Please address letters of nomination explaining how the nominee meets the criteria above, not to exceed five pages, to WILIG's Prominent Women in International Law (PWIL) Committee. Nominations and any questions should be submitted by **October 15, 2020**, to PWIL Selection Committee Chair, Meg deGuzman, at [deguzman@temple.edu](mailto:deguzman@temple.edu).

## The WILIG Mentoring Program

2020 marks the eighth 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 2020-2021 year is now closed.

The program will take place virtually this year, and participants will become part of a strong, interconnected, 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](mailto:wiligmentorship@asil.org).

## Mark Your Calendars

WILIG is pleased to share information on two events that may be of interest to our members.

On **September 23, 2020**, please join speakers Gabriele Ruscala (Counsel at the ICC), Wing Shek (Counsel at the LCIA), Madeline Kimei (President of the Tanzania Institute of Arbitrators) and Delphine Ho (Registrar at SIAC) and moderators Elisabeth Chan (Three Crowns) and Caroline Croft (Squire Patton Boggs) to discuss "**Getting Your First Appointment—Insights from Institutions.**"

—continued on page 3



## 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 Milena (emails below).

If you are running an event that may be of interest to WILIG's membership, please contact Tatiana Sainati, at [tsainati@wiley.law](mailto:tsainati@wiley.law), 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](mailto:ngrossman@ubalt.edu)) and Milena Sterio ([m.sterio@csuohio.edu](mailto:m.sterio@csuohio.edu)) (co-chairs)

Luli Hemmingsen (Mentoring Program Coordinator)

Tati Sainati (Secretary)

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## Mark Your Calendars *—continued from page 2*

This event is part of the Equal Representation in Arbitration Pledge program. The goal is to promote more women appointments as arbitrators. The webinar is geared to young practitioners and will cover guidance on how to obtain a first arbitral appointment and how to grow a career as an arbitrator.

On **October 28, 2020**, renowned human rights scholar and advocate, Gay McDougall, will deliver the University of Baltimore School of Law's 25th Annual John Sumner Stead Lecture in International Law, on the international community's response to the Black Lives Matter Movement. McDougall is distinguished

scholar-in-residence at the Leitner Center on International Law and Justice and the Center on Race, Law and Justice at Fordham University Law School, a recent vice chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination of the United Nations, and recipient of the MacArthur "Genius" award.

This event is cosponsored by the American Society of International Law's Blacks of the American Society of International Law (BASIL), Minorities in International Law Interest Group (MILIG), and Women in International Law Interest Group (WILIG). The event link is here: <https://ubalt.zoom.us/j/91680942200>. ■