



RRU CENTRE
for
RCIL
INTERNATIONAL LAW

RCIL INTERNATIONAL LAW NEWS COVERAGE

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UN INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

- The Official Report of the International Law Commission (**Seventy-fourth session**) has been published. The report includes information concerning the organisation of the session, the progress of work and the future work of the Commission on the topics given substantive consideration during the session, the texts of draft articles and commentaries adopted by the Commission during the session, any procedural recommendations of the Commission calling for a decision on the part of the General Assembly as well as other decisions and conclusions of the Commission.
- Professor Bimal N Patel, the Vice Chancellor of Rashtriya Raksha University, and a member of the International Law Commission (ILC), addressed the topic of the "Law and Practice of Investment Arbitration in India." He discussed the dynamic nature of Investment Arbitration in India, highlighting its continual evolution. He emphasized the need to promote, protect, and pursue the interests of Rule-Based International Law. He believes that while India has not historically been a litigating nation, there is a pressing need to take the lead. Institutions like Rashtriya Raksha University are fully prepared to embrace this challenge, and the RRU Centre for International Law (RCIL) can lead the way by providing academic training in this field.

Professor Patel further asserts that regional approaches must be brought into play to contribute to the universalism of international law. He provides example of how nations have adopted 'lawfare' as part of their national security strategy, emphasizing that this is a reality that cannot be ignored. He strongly believes that a dedicated pool of international investment arbitrators is required to ensure India's economic security.

[Link](#)



UNGA SIXTH COMMITTEE (LEGAL)

No Updates

UN TREATY COLLECTION – DEPOSITORY NOTIFICATIONS

Date	Country	Issue	Action
20/11/23	Netherlands	Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Chapter - XVIII-12-a)	Acceptance
24/11/2023	Australia	Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization (Chapter XII-1-i)	Acceptance
28/11/2023	Nigeria	United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation (Chapter XXII-4)	Ratification
28/11/2023	Germany	Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization (Chapter XII-1-i)	Acceptance
30/11/2023	Ireland	Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization (Chapter XII-1-i)	Acceptance
06/12/2023	Congo	Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization (Chapter XII-1-i)	Acceptance

18/12/2023	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Paris Agreement (Chapter XXVII-7-d)	Territorial Extension
18/12/2023	Liechtenstein	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Chapter IV-15)	Ratification

For further information, please refer [here](#).



UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

1. SG/A/2244
5 DECEMBER 2023

Secretary General Appoints Seraphine Wakana of Burundi United Nations Resident Coordinators in Sierra Leone

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has designated Seraphine Wakana from Burundi as the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Sierra Leone, a role officially sanctioned by the host government. With an extensive background spanning over 28 years in coordination, political engagement, and development planning, Ms. Wakana's appointment underscores her wealth of experience.

Before assuming her current role, Ms. Wakana served as the UN Resident Coordinator in the Gambia, leading efforts to support the country's national development priorities and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda. In Guinea, from 2014 to 2018, she held the position of UN Resident Coordinator and UN Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative, overseeing strategic initiatives and technical support by various UN agencies.

Her career featured diverse roles, including Senior Economist at the African Development Bank, International Consultant with UNDP, the African Development Bank, and the World Bank, and Honorary Consul of the Republic of Korea in Burundi. Ms. Wakana's earlier engagements included serving as Minister of Development Planning and Reconstruction and Chief of Staff in the Government of Burundi, showcasing her versatile leadership.

Throughout her career, Ms. Wakana held executive positions at the Institute of Statistics and Economic and Social Studies of Burundi, contributing significantly to statistical processing and household statistics. She holds a master's degree in development economics from Brandeis University and a bachelor's degree in economics and administration from the University of Burundi, Bujumbura. The appointment of Ms. Wakana reflects the UN's commitment to seasoned professionals in pivotal roles, emphasizing a dedication to sustainable development.

2. SG/A/2247
8 DECEMBER 2023

Secretary General Appoints Anita Kiki Gbeho of Ghana Deputy Special Representative in South Sudan

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has appointed Anita Kiki Gbeho from Ghana as the Deputy Special Representative in the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), also serving as the Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator. She succeeds Sara Beysolow Nyanti of Liberia, and the Secretary-General expresses gratitude for Nyanti's dedicated service.

With over 25 years of experience in strategic planning and coordination in political, development, and humanitarian affairs, Ms. Gbeho previously served as Deputy Special Representative (Political) in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) since 2021. She played a crucial role in supporting Somalia's peace and State-building goals.

Ms. Gbeho's background includes serving as Deputy Joint Special Representative of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) and as Resident Coordinator and Resident Representative with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Namibia. Her academic credentials include a master's degree in international relations from the University of Ghana, Legon. This appointment underscores the UN's commitment to experienced professionals in key roles, furthering its objectives in South Sudan.

**3. GA/12577
20 DECEMBER 2023**

Until Palestine Question Is Resolved, Arab-Israeli Conflict Will Continue, Be Passed Down to Next Generations, Speakers Warn General Assembly during Emergency Session

The General Assembly discussed the Arab-Israeli conflict and emphasized the need to find a solution to the Palestinian question to prevent the perpetuation of the conflict across generations. The recent adoption of a resolution called for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza and compliance with international law.

Various representatives expressed their views, with Lebanon highlighting the ongoing aggression by Israel, Yemen condemning the international community's failure to protect Palestinian civilians, and Norway acknowledging Israel's right to self-defence but criticizing the extent of its military operations.

Other countries like Finland, Mexico, France, Bangladesh, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea also shared their perspectives on the situation, calling for accountability, humanitarian measures, and an end to Israel's actions. The delegate for the United Arab Emirates emphasized the need for an end to the occupation for lasting peace and stability in the region.

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

- On 20 December 2023, the Court has authorized the Pacific Islands Forum and the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), at their request, to participate in the advisory proceedings on the Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change (**Request for Advisory Opinion**). Available in: **English, French**.
- On 19 December 2023, the Court granted extension of time limits for the submission of written statements and written comments on the Obligation of States in respect of Climate Change (**Request for Advisory Opinion**). Available in: **English, French**.
- On 11 December 2023, the Court gave permission to the Republic of Guatemala to intervene in the proceedings between **Belize v. Honduras**. Available in: **English, French**.
- On 27 November 2023, the Court makes an order to organise for proceedings in the **Right to Strike under ILO Convention** No 87 (Request for Advisory Opinion). Available in: **English, French**.
- On 28 November 2023, the Court delivered its order on the **Arbitral Award of 3 October, 1899**, the Court indicated provisional measures. Available in: **English, French**.

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

No such updates as such. For more information, please [visit](#).

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA

- On 6 December 2023 Judge Tomas Heidar, President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, addressed the plenary of the seventy-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly yesterday during its consideration of agenda item 75(a) “Oceans and the law of the sea”. **Link**

INTERNATIONAL LAW CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND

- 1. Call for Policy Brief Abstract**
 - **Hosted by:** T20 Brazil (Calling G20 Countries)
 - **Topic:** Strengthening Multilateralism and Global Governance
 - **Deadline:** 29 January, 2023
 - **Further Details:** [here](#)

- 2. Call for Papers for Rhodes Academy – International Cable Protection Committee Submarine Cables Writing Award 2024**
 - **Hosted by:** NUS Centre for International Law
 - **Further Details:** [here](#)

- 3. Call for Abstracts: International Workshop on India’s Polar Region Policy towards Building Partnerships for Sustainable Development**
 - **Hosted by:** School of Integrated Coastal and Maritime Security Studies (SICMSS), Rashtriya Raksha University
 - **Further Details:** [here](#)
 - **Deadline:** 5th January, 2024

- 4. Call for Papers: Cambridge International Law Journal 12th Annual Conference**
 - **Hosted by:** Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge
 - **Further Details:** [here](#)
 - **Deadline:** 7 January, 2024

- 5. Applications for United Nations Regional Courses in International Law (Latin America and the Caribbean)**
 - **Hosted by:** United Nations
 - **Details:** [here](#)
 - **Deadline:** 9 January, 2024

- 6. Call for Experts: Commission of Studies on various issues**
 - **Call by:** Centre for Trade & Investment Law
 - **Details:** [here](#)
 - **Deadlines:** 22nd December, 2024

THIS WEEK'S READS

1. Identifying Legal Gaps in International Humanitarian Law Governing Peace Operations

By: Varun VM

2. “We’re going wrong” Human rights and constitutionalism after 50 years of Chile’s coup d’État

By: Jorge Contesse

3. Asia and the International Financial Institutions

By: Vikram Raghavan & Advait Tambe

Happy Holidays!

Next Issue: 1 January 2024

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