

List of Co-chairs

Japan (Host & Co-chair)

Mr. Yoshihiro Katayama

Mr. Yoshihiro Katayama is Director, Maritime Security Policy Division of Foreign Policy Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. Mr. Katayama has assumed the present position in March, 2014, following his previous assignment as Senior Coordinator, Global Environment Division of International Cooperation Division. After graduating from university, he entered Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1980. He has worked as Deputy Director of Management and Coordination Division, Deputy Director of Second North American Division at the Ministry in Japan. He has also served overseas as Counsellor of the Japanese Embassy in Romania and in Ukraine respectively.

Vietnam (ASEAN Co-chair)

Dr. Le Quy Quynh

Dr. Le Quy Quynh is the director general of the Marine Affairs Department of the National Boundary Commission of the Vietnam Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Previously, he worked as the deputy director general of the Marine Affairs Department and as a navy commander of Vietnam. In addition, he served as the deputy director general of the Economics Department of the Vietnam Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2004 to 2007 and as the consul general of Vietnam in Ekaterinburg, Russian Federation from 2007 to 2011. Dr. Quynh holds a degree in Navigation Engineering from Bacu Maritime University of the Former Soviet Union, a Master's degree from the Naval Academy of Former Soviet Union, a Master of Science in Maritime Administration from the World Maritime University in Sweden and a Ph.D. in International Law from Vietnam National University, Hanoi.

India (Co-chair)

Dr. V.D. Sharma

Dr. V. D. Sharma is Director and Head, Legal & Treaties Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. His previous positions include: Counsellor (Legal Adviser), Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations (2011-2014), Legal Officer (Grade I), Legal & Treaties Division, Ministry of External Affairs (2001-2010), Legal Officer (Grade II), Legal & Treaties Division, Ministry of External Affairs (1995-2001), Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, India (1990-1995), Research Fellow in International Law, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, India (1986-1989). Dr. Sharma is a Life Member of the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi.

List of Speakers

Keynote Speech

Dr. Naoya OKUWAKI

Professor of the School of Law, Meiji University. Professor Emeritus of the University of Tokyo. Doctor of Laws (the University of Tokyo, dissertation: “Notion of ‘Application of Law’ in International Disputes: Introduction to the Studies of Practical International Law”). President (2003-2006) and Member Emeritus (present) of Japanese Society of International Law (JSIL). He also assumes positions as Vice-President of Japan Branch of ILA (2014-) and President of Japan Society of Ocean Policy (2014-). His themes of research are among others: International dispute settlement system, maritime jurisdictions, and structural changes in international legal order.

Session 1: International Legal Regime for Disputed Maritime Areas

Dr. Robert Harris

Robert Harris is the assistant legal adviser for East Asian and Pacific Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. Mr. Harris has been a lawyer at the Department of State since 1985 and a member of the Senior Executive Service since 1992, serving as the assistant legal adviser in the Offices of International Law Enforcement and Intelligence (1992-96), Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (1996-2003), Human Rights and Refugees (2003-2009), and Deputy Legal Adviser (2009-2010). In his time at the State Department, he has served as legal adviser and as head of delegation to more than fifty different bilateral and multilateral negotiations on topics ranging from migration, international aviation, trade-in services, counterterrorism, narcotics trafficking, extradition of criminal fugitives, mutual legal assistance in criminal matters, transboundary watercourses, maritime boundary delimitation, the international law of the sea, marine pollution and dumping at sea, transboundary environmental impact assessment, global environment protection (including persistent organic pollutants and multilateral treaties on trade-in hazardous chemicals, biological diversity and biosafety, international conservation, and stratospheric ozone protection), sustainable development (including sustainable energy, development assistance and elimination of poverty), international human rights, the protection of refugees and asylum seekers, and civil liability for nuclear accidents. As the assistant legal adviser in Oceans, Environment and Science, Mr. Harris led the U.S. delegation in a treaty with Mexico to delimit the U.S. maritime boundary with Mexico in the “Western Gap” in the Gulf of Mexico. Mr. Harris holds a J.D from Stanford Law School, an MPA from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, and an A.B. in history from Cornell University.

Dr. Mariko KAWANO

Ms. Mariko KAWANO is a professor of international law at Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan. She also serves as a counselor at the Headquarters of Ocean Policy of the Government of Japan. Her research focuses on international dispute settlement and the law of state responsibility. Previously, she was a summer visiting lecturer in public international law at The Hague Academy and contributed her lectures to the Audiovisual Library of International Law (AVL) of the United Nations. Professor KAWANO holds an M.A. from the University of Tokyo and an LL.M. from the University of Cambridge.

Session 2: Obligation of Self-restraint: Not to Hamper or Jeopardize the Reaching Final Agreement

Dr. V.D. Sharma

Dr. V. D. Sharma is Director and Head, Legal & Treaties Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. His previous positions include: Counsellor (Legal Adviser), Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations (2011-2014), Legal Officer (Grade I), Legal & Treaties Division, Ministry of External Affairs (2001-2010), Legal Officer (Grade II), Legal & Treaties Division, Ministry of External Affairs (1995-2001), Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, India (1990-1995), Research Fellow in International Law, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, India (1986-1989). Dr. Sharma is a Life Member of the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi.

Dr. Kentaro NISHIMOTO

Associate Professor at the School of Law, Tohoku University. Doctor of Laws (the University of Tokyo, dissertation: "Territoriality and Functionality in the Historical Formation of the Modern Law of the Sea"). His current research interests include the regime of continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and the settlement of maritime disputes in Asia.

Session 3: Obligation to Cooperate

Dr. Guifang (Julia) Xue

Professor Julia Xue is the chair professor of the Koguan Law School at SJTU. She also serves as the executive director of the Center for Polar and Deep Ocean Development at SJTU and as the executive director of the Research Base on National Marine Rights and Strategy. Previously, she served as a professor and the director of the Institute for the Law of the Sea, Chair of International Law for the School of Law and Political Science at the Ocean University of China (OUC). Her research interests include the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and China's practices on marine legislation, ocean management, and international cooperation. Professor Xue teaches courses on International Law of the Sea, the UNCLOS and International Fisheries Agreements, and Law of the Sea and Marine Affairs.

Dr. Lan-Anh Thi Nguyen

Dr. Lan-Anh Thi Nguyen is the deputy director general of the Institute for East Sea (South China Sea) Studies and the Vice Dean of the International Law Faculty of the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam. At the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, she teaches undergraduate students, postgraduate students, and mid-career officials, conducts research, and attends national and track II international workshops on international relations and international law. Her research interests include ocean law and policy, maritime security, and the South China Sea. She is a former research fellow at the Center for International Law of the National University of Singapore and Japan Institute of International Affairs. Dr. Nguyen received her Ph.D. in International Law from University of Bristol in the United Kingdom.

Session 4: Role of International Law in Confidence Building

Ambassador Gilberto G.B. Asuque

MR. GILBERTO G.B. ASUQUE is the Deputy Chief of Mission of the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo, Japan from 22 February 2014 to the present. Prior to his diplomatic posting in Tokyo, Mr. Asuque served as the Assistant Secretary, Ocean Concerns Office, Office of the Undersecretary for Special and Ocean Concerns, Department of Foreign Affairs from August 2011 to 20 February 2014 and Philippine Ambassador to the Republic of Lebanon from January 2009 to June 2011.

Captain Ashley Roach

Captain J Ashley ROACH, JAGC, U.S. Navy (retired) was attorney adviser in the Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State, from 1988 until he retired at the end of January 2009. He was responsible for law of the sea matters. He has taught, advised and published extensively on national maritime claims and other law of the sea issues, including piracy and armed robbery at sea. He has negotiated, and participated in the negotiation of, numerous international agreements involving law of the sea issues. He received his LL.M. (highest honors in public international law and comparative law) from the George Washington University School of Law in 1971 and his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1963.