

Law of the Sea: New Frontiers and Frictions

British Institute of International and Comparative Law, Charles Clore House, 17 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5JP

14 November 2016

Speaker Biographies

Richard Barnes, McCoubrey Centre for International Law, University of Hull

Richard Barnes is Professor of International Law at the University of Hull, where he has been teaching maritime, international and environmental law for over a decade. He is also Director of the McCoubrey Centre for International Law. He is the editor of the Current Legal Developments section of the International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law, and is on the Peer Review Board of the German Yearbook of International Law and the Advisory Board of the New Zealand Yearbook of International Law. He has acted as a consultant or undertaken commissioned work for a range of public and private bodies, including the WWF, the International Transport Workers' Federation, the European Parliament and Defra. In 2011, he ran a training course on the law of the sea for the Vietnamese Ministry of Justice.

Professor Barnes has published widely on law of the sea issues. He is the author of Property Rights and Natural Resources (Hart 2009) (winner of the SLS Prize for Outstanding Legal Scholarship) and co-editor of Law of the Sea: Progress and Prospects (OUP 2006) (with D Freestone and D Ong). His most recent publications include: "Flag States" in The Oxford Handbook on the Law of the Sea (OUP 2015); 'Energy Sovereignty in Marine Spaces' (2014) International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law 1–27; 'The Law of the Sea Convention and the Integrated Regulation of the Oceans' (2012) 27 IJMCL 859.

Jill Barrett, BIICL and Queen Mary University of London

Jill Barrett is Visiting Reader in the School of Law, Queen Mary University of London, where she teaches public international law to postgraduate students, including a new LLM course on International Law and Governance of the Polar Regions. She is an Associate Member at 6 Pump Court Chambers. She also works independently as a consultant on international law. Her areas of expertise include the law and practice of treaties, the polar regions, international environmental law and law of the sea. Her recent publications include Barrett and Barnes (eds), Law of the Sea: UNCLOS as a Living Treaty, (BIICL 2016) and 'Securing the Polar Regions through international law' in Footer et al (eds) Security and International Law (Hart 2016).

Jill was until recently the Arthur Watts Senior Research Fellow in Public International Law at BICL, where she led a project on Obligations of States under Articles 74(3) and 83(3) of UNCLOS in respect of Undelimited Maritime Areas. She was Visiting Professor at Kobe University, Japan, in 2013. Prior to joining BIICL, she was Legal Counsellor at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. During her 20-year FCO career she advised on legal aspects of UK foreign policy, and represented the UK at the UN and a variety of international conferences including Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings, CCAMLR, London Convention, International Whaling Commission and UN Commission on Environment and Development. She was Deputy Agent for the UK in the Mox Plant cases under UNCLOS and the OSPAR Convention. Previously, she was Lecturer in Law at SOAS, London University, specialising in the People's Republic of China, and Lecturer in Law at Durham University.

Lowri Griffiths, Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Lowri Mai Griffiths is Head of the Maritime Policy Unit which forms part of the Overseas Territories and Maritime Team in the Legal Directorate of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The Maritime Policy Unit has responsibility for UK government policy on the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and in particular leads on the UK's interaction with the International Seabed Authority and all aspects of deep sea mining in areas beyond national jurisdiction. The Maritime Policy Unit works closely with the Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs on the proposed international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction. Lowri represents the UK at the European Council Working Group on Law of the Sea (COMAR), leads the UK delegation at the BBNJ Prepcom and is a member of the UK delegation to the International Seabed Authority. Lowri also provides legal advice to the FCO's Polar Regions Directorate and is a member of the UK's delegation to both the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting and the Commission on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

Prior to taking up her post as Head of the Maritime Policy Unit, Lowri provided advice on Overseas Territories Law and litigation against the FCO as part of the then General Law Team in the Legal Directorate. Lowri joined the FCO Legal Directorate from the Government Legal Department where she worked on counter-terrorism litigation. Before joining the Government Legal Service, Lowri worked for the Equal Opportunities Commission and was a Legal Researcher at the Law Commission of England and Wales.

Frederick Kenney, International Maritime Organisation

Frederick Kenney is the Director of Legal and External Affairs at the International Maritime Organization. In his capacity at the IMO, Kenney is responsible for advising the Secretary-General on all legal issues associated with the functioning of the Organization, with special emphasis on matters of treaty law and the law of the sea. He provides legal counsel to the Secretariat staff supporting IMO's committees and subcommittees and has particular responsibility as Secretary for the Organization's Legal Committee. He also oversees the Organization's role as depositary for the 53 multilateral conventions adopted under the aegis of IMO, and oversees the operation of the IMO's Public Information Service, its Maritime Knowledge Centre and External Relations Office.

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Prior to coming to IMO, Frederick Kenney served as The Judge Advocate General and Chief Counsel of the United States Coast Guard, attaining the rank of Rear Admiral. He was responsible for the delivery of all legal services to the USCG around the globe, with oversight of nearly 300 attorneys and 100 legal support personnel. He served as a Coast Guard judge advocate for 22 years of a thirty-three year military career, including service as the Coast Guard's Chief of Maritime and International Law and a secondment to the US Department of State in the Office of Oceans Affairs. Kenney was a member of the U.S. delegation to twelve different IMO committees and subcommittees and from 2009-2011, was the Head of the US Delegation to the IMO Legal Committee. He also served on several legal capacity-building missions in developing countries on behalf of the United States.

Ronán Long, University of Galway and University of California

Professor Ronán Long holds the Jean Monnet Chair of European Law at the National University of Ireland Galway. He is the author/co-editor of 8 books and 70 articles/chapters on oceans law and policy issues. He worked previously for the European Commission and the Irish Naval Service. He held a Scholarship-in-Residence at the University of Virginia School of Law in 2007 and a Distinguished Senior Visiting Scholarship at the University of California, Berkeley in 2015. His research interests concern the restoration of marine ecosystems, the interface between the law of the sea and human rights, as well as the maritime and economic policies of the EU with a particular focus on the law applicable to irregular migration by sea. He has undertaken commissioned work for the European Commission, the OSPAR Commission, the UN Office of Legal Affairs, the International Hydrographic Organisation and a range of other organisations.

Robert Volterra, Volterra Fietta

Founding Partner of Volterra Fietta, Robert is qualified as a barrister in Canada and as a solicitor-advocate in England and Wales. He advises and represents governments, international organisations and private clients on a wide range of contentious and non-contentious public international law and international dispute resolution issues, including international boundaries, sovereign immunities, the Law of the Sea, transboundary resources and bilateral investment treaties. He regularly acts as co-agent, counsel and advocate before the International Court of Justice and ad hoc international arbitration tribunals, including under the Permanent Court of Arbitration, ICSID, ICC, SCC, LCIA, UNCITRAL, WTO and UNCLOS rules. He regularly sits as an arbitrator in ICSID, UNCITRAL, ICC, SCC and LCIA arbitrations. Robert's practice focuses on the resolution of complex disputes and evolving issues in the field of public international law.

Robert is a Visiting Professor of International Law at University College (UCL), University of London, where he has taught the international law of foreign investment for almost 20 years. He is a Visiting Senior Lecturer at King's College, University of London, where he has taught the international law of boundary disputes for several decades. He is invited to lecture on a variety of public international law topics in Europe, the Americas, Africa and Asia. He publishes regularly. He is on the International Law Advisory Board of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. He is on the Management Board of the Investment Treaty Forum. He is a member of the ICC Latin American Arbitration Committee. He is on the Expert Panel for States of UNCTAD's Programme on Dispute Settlement in International Trade, Investment and IP. He is a Legal Expert on the Energy Charter Secretariat's Legal Advisory Task Force.

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Samuel Wordsworth QC, Essex Court Chambers

Sam Wordsworth QC practises at Essex Court Chambers. He specialises in public international law and international arbitration. He is regularly instructed by Governments in international cases and has appeared before numerous international tribunals including the International Court of Justice and Tribunals constituted with respect to the Law of the Sea. He is a Visiting Professor teaching investment arbitration at Kings College, London and is regularly instructed as counsel in investment treaty disputes. He is currently nominated as arbitrator in two ongoing ICSID cases.

Notable cases as counsel include: before the ICJ, the Bolivia v Chile case concerning the obligation to negotiate access to the Pacific Ocean (for Chile); the Georgia v Russia case concerning alleged ethnic cleansing (for Russia), the Peru v Chile and Costa Rica v Nicaragua maritime boundary cases (for Chile, for Costa Rica), the cases concerning Certain Activities and the Road (for Costa Rica), the Kosovo case (for the UK), the Diallo case (for Guinea); before the ITLOS and ad hoc tribunals, the Mox plant case (for the UK), the Chagos Islands case Mauritius v UK (for the UK), the Kishenganga case (for Pakistan); before the European Court of Human Rights, Al-Skeini v UK, Al-Jedda v UK (for the UK), the Nada and Al Dulimi cases (for the UK); before the English courts Serdar Mohammed (concerning legality of UK detention operations in Afghanistan), Belhaj (concerning alleged complicity of the UK in torture). He advises regularly on international law matters, including questions concerning treaty interpretation, international watercourses, maritime boundaries, the Law of the Sea, investment protection, State immunity, sanctions, dispute settlement procedures.

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