



UCL/NYU Seminar

Selecting International Judges: Principle, Process and Politics

**Greenberg Lounge at the New York University (NYU) School of Law
Tuesday 9 September 2008, 9 – 5pm**

The number of international courts is increasing and international courts are exerting ever greater influence on political, social, economic and environmental issues. These developments raise an important question: how are the international judges that sit on these courts selected?

For the past two years, the Centre for International Courts and Tribunals (CICT) at University College London has been conducting a project entitled *Process and Legitimacy in the Nomination, Election and Appointment of International Judges* funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (United Kingdom). The project has focussed on nominations and elections to the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court, with broader comparative reference to other international courts, and has asked:

- (a) How do states nominate candidates for the ICJ and ICC?
- (b) How do the election procedures for those courts operate in practice?
- (c) What changes, if any, are needed to the nomination and election procedures?

The research team has interviewed over 100 individuals involved in the nomination and election of international judges. Interviewees have included diplomats, government legal advisors, members of the Permanent Court of Arbitration national groups, international and domestic judges, lawyers and academics. The project website is available at: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/laws/cict/index.shtml?judicial-selection>.

This seminar, which has been jointly organised by the Centre for International Courts and Tribunals (CICT) and the Institute for International Law and Justice (IILJ), NYU Law School, will present the preliminary findings of the project for discussion and comment. Those taking part will include diplomats dealing with these issues, personnel of international organizations, academics, and judges.

A limited number of additional places are available. If you would like attend this seminar, please contact Ms. Kate Barber on email kate.barber@ucl.ac.uk. If you are based at NYU, please contact iilj@juris.law.nyu.edu.



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Greenberg Lounge, NYU School of Law

First Floor of Vanderbilt Hall at 40 Washington Square South, between Sullivan and MacDougal Streets

Tuesday 9 September 2008

AGENDA

- 9am** Arrival and coffee
- 9.30am** **Presentation of the project and the objectives of the seminar**
- Introduction from perspective of the Global Administrative Law (GAL) Project (Professor Benedict Kingsbury)
 - Introduction of *Process and Legitimacy in the Nomination, Election and Appointment of International Judges* project (Professor Philippe Sands QC and Professor Kate Malleson)
- 10.00am** **Discussion 1: The nomination of candidates seeking election to the ICJ and ICC**
- Chair:* Professor Kate Malleson
Introduction to paper: Penny Martin
Commentator: Professor Eyal Benvenisti
- 11.15am** Coffee break
- 11.30am** **Discussion 2: The election process for the ICJ and ICC: campaigning, vote trading and other matters**
- Chair:* Professor Richard Stewart
Introduction to paper: Ruth Mackenzie
Commentator: Professor Eric Posner
- 1pm** LUNCH
- 2pm** **Discussion 3: UN regional groups and their role in nominations and elections to the ICJ and ICC**
- Chair:* Professor Philippe Sands QC
Introduction to paper: Penny Martin

Commentator: TBC

3.15pm Coffee break

3.30pm **Discussion 4: Merit vs. politics; diversity and the composition of the courts**

Chair: Professor Benedict Kingsbury

Introduction to paper: Ruth Mackenzie

Commentator: Professor José Alvarez

4.30pm **Discussion of potential proposals for change to the nomination and election of ICJ and ICC judges, with reference to other courts**

Chairs: Professor Philippe Sands QC and Professor Kate Malleson

5pm END