



Marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction – where are we now?

9am ET / 2pm GMT / 3pm CET
Wednesday 18th November 2020



Matrix Chambers, Fietta LLP and the American Society of International Law jointly invite you to an interdisciplinary panel discussion about marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction and recent developments. The panel will examine some of the key themes up for debate in the ongoing fourth session of the Intergovernmental Conference dedicated to the negotiation of a legally binding instrument under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.

[Professor Zachary Douglas QC](#) (Matrix Chambers) will moderate the panel. He will be joined by four distinguished speakers and experts in this field, [Professor David Freestone](#) (The George Washington University Law School), [Professor Cymie R. Payne](#) (Rutgers Law School), [Professor J Murray Roberts](#) (University of Edinburgh) and [Oonagh Sands](#) (Fietta LLP).

Click [here](#) to register for this event.

SPEAKERS



Professor Zachary Douglas QC has a substantial practice before international courts and tribunals as counsel, arbitrator and expert witness, and also frequently appears before the English courts and the courts of other common law jurisdictions in cases with a public or private international law element. He is a Professor of International Law at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva and was formerly a member of the Faculty of Law of Cambridge University. He is currently teaching the law of the sea, general international law and international arbitration.

Zachary has been instructed by States in relation to proceedings in the International Court of Justice and the Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. He has acted as counsel in investment treaty arbitrations and commercial arbitrations under the ICC, LCIA, SCC, UNCITRAL, Swiss and ICSID Arbitration Rules and has served as an arbitrator in more than 130 cases under the LCIA, ICC, Swiss, UNCITRAL and ICSID Rules, including as chairperson and as sole-arbitrator in more than half of those cases.

Zachary has acted as counsel in cases before the English courts and other municipal courts relating to state immunity, human rights and humanitarian law, state succession, constitutional law, challenges to investment treaty awards, private international law, civil fraud and money laundering. He has represented individuals and companies in proceedings before the European Court of Human Rights. He has also acted in dozens of cases before the Court of Arbitration for Sport, having formerly represented the International Olympic Committee.



Professor David Freestone is a Professorial Lecturer and Visiting Scholar at The George Washington University Law School (Washington D.C.). He is co-rapporteur of the International Law Association Committee on International Law and Sea Level Rise, dealing with the law of the sea issues. He is founding Editor of the *International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law*. His most recent books are *International Law and Sea Level Rise*. (Brill, 2019; with Davor Vidas and Jane McAdam) and *Conserving Biodiversity in Areas beyond National Jurisdiction* (Ed., Brill, 2019). In 2008, he was awarded the Elizabeth Haub Gold Medal for Environmental Law. Professor Freestone was previously senior adviser and deputy general counsel at The World Bank and, for eight years, was chief counsel and head of the Environment and International Law Group. He is also senior adviser to the USA Multilateral Office of the International Union of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). He is a visiting professor at the UN University Institute of Advanced Studies and on the List of Experts in Environmental Law

appointed by the Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague.



Professor Cymie R. Payne is a member of the Rutgers University faculty, where she teaches international and environmental law. She has appeared as counsel before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in its deep seabed mining and fisheries advisory opinion cases and as expert on environmental reparations in the International Court of Justice case *Certain Activities (Costa Rica v. Nicaragua)*. Currently, she is legal advisor to International Union for Conservation of Nature's delegation to the intergovernmental conference for a legally binding agreement on conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction and Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law - Ocean, Coasts and Coral Reefs Specialist Group. She participated, as counsel for the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC), in reparations for environmental damage due to armed conflict and in the creation of a related environmental award oversight program to ensure that awards were used to restore the environmental harm. She is the editor, with Peter H. Sand, of *Gulf War Reparations and the UN Compensation Commission: Environmental Liability* (Oxford University Press 2011). She has also been a member of the Berkeley Law faculty and served as attorney with the U.S. Department of the Interior and the law firm of Goodwin, Procter. She holds a MA from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and a JD from the University of California, Berkeley, and is a Fellow of the American College of Environmental Lawyers and a member of the International Law Association Committee on Sustainable Natural Resource Management For Development.



Professor J Murray Roberts is Professor of Applied Marine Biology & Ecology at the University of Edinburgh's School of GeoSciences. He leads the Changing Oceans research group and coordinates the European Horizon 2020 ATLAS and iAtlantic projects. Murray studies structural habitats in the deep ocean, notably those formed by cold-water corals, in order to enhance plans for their long-term management and conservation. He is senior author of the 'Cold-water Corals', the first book covering the biology and geology of these important deep-sea habitats, a contributing author to the 2014 and 2019 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Reports, and co-lead editor of a 2014 United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity report on ocean acidification. Murray is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology; a Member Expert of the United Nations Panel for Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects; and a Member of the Pool of Experts of the Regular Process United Nations World Ocean Assessment. He has led or participated in 23 offshore research cruises, published 90 peer-reviewed publications and has raised £21.3M in research grants since July 1999.



Oonagh Sands is a dually-qualified English and US-lawyer. The Legal 500 has recognised Oonagh as a “Rising Star” in public international law.

She has significant experience representing sovereign States and their State-owned entities, as well as individuals and private entities, before leading world dispute resolution fora. She has represented clients before the International Court of Justice, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, as well as investor-State arbitral tribunals constituted under ICSID, ICSID Additional Facility, UNCITRAL, SCC and ICC rules. She has counselled States on territorial and maritime boundary disputes, the law of State responsibility, treaty interpretation, international environmental law, and the law of the sea. In May 2020, the American Society of International Law appointed Oonagh to serve on its Program Committee, alongside prominent US academics and international law practitioners. Oonagh has also served on ASIL’s Steering Committee for its signature topic, “Beyond National Jurisdiction: Human Activities in the Oceans, Polar Regions, Cyberspace and Outer Space”, following her tenure as elected Co-Chair of the Society’s ‘Space Law Interest Group’.

Prior to joining Fietta, Oonagh worked at major law firms in Washington DC and London. Oonagh has also worked for the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs in New York, the European Commission in Brussels, and the Institute of International Economic Law at Georgetown University Law Center in Washington DC.

In 2016, Oonagh was recognised by The Irish Times for women’s influence in global public affairs.
