

## AGENDA WPTL 4/25/2023

\*OFFICER REPORTS

\*UPCOMING PROGRAMMING (*no action needed*)

**\*\* Friday May 19, 2023 noon-1pm Pacific Time**

***"Worldwide Trends Against Women's Legal Rights" - Professor Elizabeth Zechenter***

(I was hoping to do this in June to avoid running into our May 26 program, both the Professor is travelling. I feel these are different enough topics that they should not be competing for attendees).

**Description:**

Recent events in the United States and worldwide call into question any feeling we may have had that the legal rights of women - who constitute more than half of humanity - are continually improving. Armed conflict, erosion of democracy, and a rise in extremism are degrading the legal and practical rights of women in many places.

What are the facts? What are the laws? What is the way forward?

Please join us as Dr. Elizabeth Zechenter, visiting scholar at Emory University, provides a one-hour survey of this essential topic.

**Speaker Bio:**

Dr. Elizabeth M. Zechenter is an international attorney, social scientist, academic researcher, and frequent public speaker. She is currently a visiting scholar at Emory University. Zechenter holds a Ph. D. in evolutionary archaeology and a J.D. in American law. She has taught international law and human rights law at Georgetown University Law Center and worked as Assistant General Counsel at GSK.

Zechenter's research interests include the rule of law, the theory of human rights, as well as evolutionary theory and the development of social complexity. She is the author of numerous articles and books, including "In the Name of Culture: Cultural Relativism and the Abuse of the Individual" and "The Socio-Economic Transformation of Poland: Privatization and the Future of Environmental Protection."

She is a passionate advocate for human rights, and her work has made a significant contribution to the field.

**Registration link:**

In progress

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**Friday May 25, 2023 noon-1pm Pacific Time:**

***"Building a Just World Order" - Alfred De Zayas***

( [https://genevadiplomacy.ch/dt\\_team/de-zayas-alfred-2/](https://genevadiplomacy.ch/dt_team/de-zayas-alfred-2/) ), human rights lawyer and professor author of Building a Just World Order ( <https://www.claritypress.com/product/building-a-just-world-order/> )

will speak about Chapter 2 of his book, outlining 25 Principles of International Order.

**Speaker Bio:**

Dr. de Zayas was appointed by the UN Human Rights Council as Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, and the 25 principles build on the 23 principles he presented in this report:

<https://www.right-docs.org/doc/a-hrc-37-63/>

**Registration link:**

In progress

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**Thursday, June 29, 2023 noon-1pm Pacific Time:**

**"Methodological Approaches in the Development of Customary International Law and the Use of Force" Professor Olivier Corten of Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) in Belgium**

( [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\\_id=2010234](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per_id=2010234) ), author of *The Law Against War* <https://academic.oup.com/bybil/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/bybil/brac002/6513637?login=false>

) will speak about methodological approaches in development of customary international law in general and as relates to use of force. This CLE will build on our Section's March 9, 2023 CLE **"Self-Defense and "Unwilling or Unable" States"**, covering more issues within use of force doctrine and going into more detail about methodology. It will also provide a primer in rules for development of customary international law.

**Registration link:**

In progress

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July+: wide open - what sounds good to you?

\*YOUNG LAWYER LIAISON PROGRAM (*action needed by May 8*)

\*\*The WSBA Young Lawyer Liaison (YLL) to Sections Program (Program) creates an opportunity for a WSBA section and new or young lawyers to focus on strengthening the connection between a specific section and the new and young lawyer community. In collaboration with the section, YLLs bring their perspective and connections to building educational programming, events, and other section activities tailored to new and young lawyers.

There is a participation timeline (attached). If WPTL wants to participate, the next milestone is to submit a checklist by May 8.

\*SECTION ELECTIONS RE-CAP (*no action needed*)

\*\*We have at least one candidate for each open position

\* Chair-Elect. This is a 3-year commitment [one year as Chair-Elect, one as Chair, one as Immediate Past Chair]. Bridgett Fisher has filed for election.

\* Secretary/Treasurer. 1 year commitment. Vanessa Hunsberger has filed for (re-)election

\* At-Large Position 2. 1 year opportunity. Bridgett Fisher has filed for (re-)election

\* At-Large Position 3. 3 year opportunity. Claudette Rushin has filed for election.

\*\* There may be others who have filed for election; we'll have to see when the ballot comes out.

\*\* If Bridgett wins the election for Chair-Elect and At-Large Position 2, then she'll have to turn one down. It is to be hoped that she'd choose to serve as Chair-Elect, as the then-Chair [current Chair-Elect Laura Eshbach] would simply name someone to fill At-Large Position 2 until the next election cycle.

\*FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

\*\* SECTION HISTORY

Dwight located this:

Washington State Bar News, Feb 1981, "New Section on World Peace Through Law Formed"

<https://wabarnews.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/1981-VOLUME-35-NO.2.pdf>

Thanks Dwight!

\*\* SECTION WEB PAGE

WSBA Section web pages are formatted with a template common to all sections- this makes maintenance more practical across the 29 sections. If you have ideas for making the template better suited to conveying the information visitors need, lets share comments and ideas.