



Speaker Biographies | Biographies des conférenciers

Geneviève Dufour



Geneviève Dufour est professeure titulaire à la Faculté de droit de l'Université de Sherbrooke et directrice du programme de maîtrise en droit, cheminement droit international et politique internationale appliqués. Elle est membre du Barreau du Québec depuis 2002. Elle est spécialiste de droit international économique et de droit international public. Ses recherches se concentrent sur les questions relevant du droit du libre-échange ainsi que des interactions entre le commerce international, le droit de l'environnement et les droits de la personne. Elle est présidente de la Société québécoise de droit international, membre du Conseil d'orientation du Réseau francophone de droit international, membre du comité de direction de la Revue québécoise de droit international, membre du conseil d'administration du Conseil canadien de droit international et membre du comité de rédaction de la Revue péruvienne de droit international. Elle est aussi membre du comité directeur et directrice scientifique de la simulation de l'Organisation de l'aviation civile internationale.

Joe Fiorante

Joe Fiorante Q.C. is a graduate of the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. He was called to the BC Bar in 1989 and is also a member of the Yukon, Nunavut and Northwest Territories bar. His practice is concentrated on complex tort cases including international aviation, product liability cases, and transnational torts. He is one of the lead lawyers on *Araya v. Nevsun* and also led the plaintiffs' counsel team on *Garcia v. Tahoe*; two ground-breaking transnational tort cases litigated in British Columbia. He is also counsel for a group of Nepalese security guards who were killed and severely injured in a bomb attack while en route to their shift at the Canadian Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan. Joe is a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and Litigation Counsel of America. He is the former Chair and continues to volunteer with Project Somos, a Vancouver based charity building an innovative, sustainable school for children in Guatemala. He was also one of the architects of the Right The Wrong Campaign, a pro bono social justice project described by the Globe and Mail, as "one of the most effective lobbying efforts in Canada history". The campaign resulted in the federal government agreeing to a comprehensive support program for Canadian victims of the drug thalidomide.

Amanda Ghahremani

Amanda Ghahremani is an international human rights lawyer, a Co-Investigator with the Canadian Partnership for International Justice, and a Research Associate at the Simone de Beauvoir Institute at Concordia University. Her expertise includes international criminal law, corporate accountability, universal jurisdiction, and transitional justice, for which she was nominated as Canadian Lawyer Magazine's Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers three years in a row. Amanda is currently part of the counsel team representing Eritrean plaintiffs in a lawsuit against Nevsun Resources for its alleged use of forced labour and slavery at the Bisha gold mine. She is also leading a project on criminal accountability for Iranian atrocity crimes through universal jurisdiction prosecutions. Her recent work includes co-authoring the legal analysis on genocide for Canada's *National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls* and successfully leading the international campaign to release Iranian-Canadian political prisoner Professor Homa Hoodfar from arbitrary detention in Iran. She was previously the Legal Director of the Canadian Centre for International Justice.

Anne-Marie La Rosa



Avocate de formation, **Anne-Marie** possède une vaste expérience professionnelle avec dix ans de pratique privée en tant qu'avocate au Canada et plus de 25 ans de collaboration avec des organisations internationales dont: le BIT (1994 - 2005 et 2019-), le TPIY (1996) et, le CICR (2005-2018). Au CICR, Anne-Marie a été conseillère juridique et conseillère diplomatique principale, chargée des relations du CICR avec les organes des Nations Unies à Genève, et en particulier le Conseil des droits de l'homme. En 2018, la gouvernance du CICR lui a confié le mandat de conceptualiser et de proposer les axes autour desquels le projet quadriennal du CICR sur l'établissement de normes professionnelles sur les personnes disparues devrait évoluer. En 2019, Anne-Marie La Rosa a de nouveau rejoint le BIT pour agir en tant que manager opérationnel du programme mondial sur l'assurance et la protection contre les accidents du travail. Anne Marie La Rosa enseigne également le droit international pénal, le droit international social, la justice transitionnelle et le droit international humanitaire en Europe et à l'étranger et a récemment été nommée professeure associée à l'Université de Sherbrooke. En 2016, elle a été choisie par le gouvernement français pour faire partie de la mission d'étude de haut niveau sur la recherche et l'enseignement sur le génocide et les crimes de masse. Anne-Marie La Rosa a écrit de nombreux ouvrages et articles, dont un dictionnaire de droit international pénal et une monographie consacrée aux tribunaux pénaux internationaux, tous deux publiés par les Presses Universitaires de France. Elle a contribué aux nouveaux commentaires des Conventions de Genève.

François Larocque

François Larocque est avocat et professeur titulaire à la Faculté de droit de l'Université d'Ottawa, Section de common law (programme français). Il détient la Chaire de recherche Droits et enjeux linguistiques de l'Université d'Ottawa. Il a fait ses études en philosophie et en common law à l'Université d'Ottawa avant de compléter son doctorat à la University of Cambridge (Trinity College) au Royaume-Uni sous la direction conjointe des professeurs James Crawford et Philip Allott. Il a été auxiliaire juridique à la Cour d'appel de l'Ontario et à la Cour suprême du Canada pour la juge Louise Arbour. François Larocque est l'auteur de *Civil Actions for Uncivilized Acts : The Adjudicative Jurisdiction of Common Law Courts in Transnational Human Rights Proceedings* (Irwin Law, 2010). Maître Larocque est intervenu au nom d'Amnistie internationale et Canadian Lawyers for International Human Rights à la Cour d'appel de l'Ontario et à la Cour suprême du Canada dans les affaires *Bouzari*, *Club Resorts*, et *Kazemi*.

Gabrielle Marceau



Gabrielle Marceau, Ph.D., est conseiller sénior à la Division de la Recherche (ERSD) du Secrétariat de l'OMC depuis le 1er mai 2020. En septembre 1994, Mme Marceau a rejoint le Secrétariat du GATT et, pendant plusieurs années, sa principale fonction a été de conseiller les membres des groupes spéciaux, responsables des différends de l'OMC, les membres du Bureau du Directeur général, le Secrétariat et les Membres de l'OMC sur les questions liées à l'OMC. De septembre 2005 à janvier 2010, Mme Marceau a été conseiller juridique au Cabinet de l'ancien directeur général de l'OMC Pascal Lamy, et de septembre 2016 à janvier 2017, elle a été directrice par intérim, responsable de la division des affaires juridiques. Gabrielle Marceau est également professeure agrégée à la Faculté de droit de l'Université de Genève; elle a été professeure invitée à l'Institut des Hautes Études Internationales et du Développement (HEID) à Genève, à la Sorbonne à Paris, à l'Université Monash de Melbourne, au World Trade Institute de Berne et dans de nombreuses autres institutions. La Professeure Marceau est également impliquée dans plusieurs associations et des groupes faisant la promotion du droit international (économique). Elle a publié de nombreux articles sur le droit de l'OMC et le droit économique international. Avant de rejoindre le Secrétariat du GATT, Gabrielle Marceau, membre du Barreau Québec, a exercé en pratique privée au Québec, Canada, principalement en droit du travail, en assurance et en droit civil.

Penelope Simons

Penelope Simons is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law (Common Law Section) at the University of Ottawa. Her research focuses on business and human rights and in particular on: the human rights implications of domestic and transnational extractive sector activity; state responsibility for corporate complicity in human rights violations; the regulation of transnational corporations; gender and resource extraction; as well as the intersections between transnational corporate activity, human rights and international economic law. She is the co-author with Audrey Macklin of the University of Toronto of *The Governance Gap: Extractive Industries, Human Rights, and the Home State Advantage* (Routledge 2014). She also co-authored *Integrating Sustainable Development into International Investment Agreements: A Guide for Developing Countries* (Commonwealth Secretariat, 2013) with Tony VanDuzer and Graham Mayeda. Penelope is a member of the Human Rights Research and Education Centre, the Interdisciplinary Research Group on the Territories of Extractivism (GRITE) and the Center for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability, all at the University of Ottawa, as well as the SSHRC-funded Canadian Partnership for International Justice. In 2018, Penelope was awarded the Walter S. Tarnoplosky Award, recognizing her as “an individual who has made a significant contribution to human rights.”

Gib van Ert

Gib van Ert practices civil litigation and public law in Ottawa and Vancouver. From 2015 to 2018 he was the Executive Legal Officer to two successive chief justices of Canada, the Rt Hon Beverley McLachlin PC and the Rt Hon Richard Wagner PC. The Executive Legal Officer is the chief justice's principal advisor in matters concerning the administration of the Supreme Court of Canada, the Canadian Judicial Council and the National Judicial Institute. Prior to that Gib had a broad civil litigation practice in Vancouver. He is the author of *Using International Law in Canadian Courts* and other works on the reception of international law in Canada. He is an annual contributor to the *Canadian Yearbook of International Law*. He served as law clerk to Justices Charles Gonthier and Morris Fish of the Supreme Court of Canada and Madam Justice Joanne Prowse of the Court of Appeal for British Columbia. Gib has a B.A. (Hons.) from McGill, an M.A. in law from the University of Cambridge, and an LL.M. from the University of Toronto.

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Gillian Triggs



Gillian Triggs is UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Protection. She was appointed on 9 August 2019. Triggs is a highly renowned expert in international law who has held a number of eminent appointments in service to human rights and the refugee cause, including most recently as the President of the Australian Human Rights Commission and the ViceChancellor's Fellow and Emeritus Professor at the University of Melbourne. Triggs oversees UNHCR's protection work for millions of refugees, internally displaced, stateless and other people of concern. An Australian national, she has previously held a number of leadership roles, including as President of the Asian Development Bank Administrative Tribunal, Chair of the UN Independent Expert Panel of Inquiry into Abuse of Office and Harassment in UNAIDS, Dean of the Faculty of Law and Challis Professor of International Law at the University of Sydney and as Director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law in London. Triggs has been closely associated with a number of not-for-profit organizations throughout her career, including most recently as Chair of Justice Connect, an organization that connects 10,000 lawyers to provide pro bono advice to asylum-seekers and others in need of legal support in Australia. She is also the author of many books and papers on public international law.

Sharon H. Venne

Sharon H. Venne (Notokwew Muskwa Maniokan) is a Cree woman. She has worked at the United Nations prior to the establishment of the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples in 1982. The background research to the many clauses on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is included in her book: *Our Elders Understand Our Rights: Evolving international law regarding Indigenous Peoples*. Sharon worked to secure a UN Study on Treaties from the first introduction of the resolution in 1983 until the report was finalised in 1999. She worked to ensure that the report reflected Indigenous laws and norms. She recently published "Manufactured Consent – how state governments manufacture consent and use it against Indigenous Nations at the domestic and international level" in a book edited by Dr. Irene Watson: [Indigenous Peoples as subjects of international law](#).

Professor Irene Watson

Professor Irene Watson belongs to the Tanganekald, Meintangk Bunganditj First Nations peoples of the Coorong and the South-east of South Australia and is the Pro Vice Chancellor: Aboriginal Leadership and Strategy, the David Unaipon Chair, and Professor of Law at the University of South Australia. Over many years, Irene has worked with First Nation Peoples across Australia in advancing Aboriginal rights. As Professor of Law, her research focuses upon Indigenous Peoples in domestic and international law, and has published *Aboriginal Peoples Colonialism and International Law* <https://www.routledge.com/Aboriginal-Peoples-Colonialism-and-International-Law-Raw-Law/Watson/p/book/9781138685963>