



International Law for Humankind: the Legacy of Judge Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade

27 October 2022, from 8.00 to 9.45am, Conference Room 6, UN Headquarters

Welcome and introductory remarks

Ambassador Ronaldo Costa Filho, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the UN

Moderation

George Rodrigo Bandeira Galindo, Legal Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil and incoming member of the International Law Commission

Panel

Joan Donoghue, President of the International Court of Justice

Abdulqawi Yusuf, Judge and former President of the International Court of Justice

Hilary Charlesworth, Judge of the International Court of Justice

Philippe Gautier, Registrar of the International Court of Justice

Claudio Grossman, member of the International Law Commission

Patrícia Galvão Teles, member of the International Law Commission

Cordula Droege, Chief Legal Officer, International Committee of the Red Cross

Questions and interventions

RSVP

A breakfast will be available

Background Note

Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade, a judge first in the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (1995-2008) and having been its President (1999-2004) and later in the International Court of Justice (2009-2022), played a leading role in the evolution of contemporary international law. Cançado Trindade devoted an enormous amount of research to his two-volume General Course on Public International Law delivered at the Hague Academy of International Law in 2005, entitled *International Law for Humankind: Toward a New Jus Gentium* as well as to his *Treatise (Tratado de Direito Internacional dos Direitos Humanos*, published in Brazil in 3 volumes). Furthermore, his individual Opinions in both tribunals encompass a rich collection of thoughts on the evolution of contemporary international law, fusing the intellectual rigour of the academic and the reformist zeal of the legal practitioner with insightful observations on legal concepts and frequent allusions to literature, philosophy and history.

His opinions in the two international jurisdictions he served, delivered in the exercise of both the contentious and advisory functions, reflect his perception of the role of the judge not only as a person concerned with the need to bring justice, but also as an educator. Such opinions, a source of inspiration for many fellow judges, lawyers, academics, students, State officials, and victims of human rights violations dwell upon the foundations of international law, including general principles of law; the jurisdiction of international tribunals and the position of individuals therein; international legal personality; international responsibility of States; and the convergence between international human rights law, international humanitarian law, and international refugee law. His vision was to revive the universalist conception of the law of nations or, as he termed in his General Course at the Hague Academy of International Law, to promote the *humanization* of international law and the construction of a new *jus gentium* of our times.

Born in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, on 17 September 1947, Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade obtained a Bachelor's degree in law from the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil. He then pursued his PhD in international law at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom (awarded the *Yorke Prize*). He later obtained further honorary titles and prizes from various universities

