



Universiteit Utrecht

Fourth J.H.W. Verzijl Memorial Symposium

THE LEGAL REGIME OF AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION:
CURRENT PRINCIPLES AND FRAMEWORKS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Raadzaal
School of Law
Utrecht University
Achter Sint Pieter 200
Utrecht
21 November 2008



INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW
NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA
Utrecht University

The Institute of Public International Law and the Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea (NILOS) of Utrecht University are co-hosting the Fourth J.H.W. Verzijl Memorial Symposium on 21 November 2008. The first Verzijl Symposium was held in October 1988 and was entitled "International Arbitration: Past and Prospects" and commemorated the centenary of the birth of Professor Verzijl, who was professor of public international law at Utrecht University. The second Verzijl Symposium was held in 1993 and was concerned with "International Economic Law during Armed Conflict". The third Verzijl Symposium (2004) had as theme "Stability and Change in the Law of the Sea: Selected Issues".

The international law of the sea is one of the branches of international law for which professor Verzijl had a particular interest. Among other things, he headed the Netherlands delegation to the first United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea at Geneva in 1958. NILOS is a testimony of the continued interest in the international law of the sea at Utrecht University.

The parts of the oceans that are beyond the limits of coastal State maritime zones - the high seas and the Area - are attracting a growing interest for various economic activities and as a result are under increasing environmental threat or pressure. There is broad agreement in the international community that there is a need for enhancing the legal and governance framework for these areas. However, the current debate in international fora indicates that States differ widely about the content of this framework. For instance, what implications do the principles contained in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea have for the governance of these areas, how is access to natural resources best regulated, how are benefits derived from these areas to be distributed and which specific institutional frameworks should be employed in the management of areas beyond national jurisdiction.

The Verzijl Symposium is intended to contribute to a better understanding of the legal aspects of the current international debate concerning the governance of areas beyond national jurisdiction. To this end four specific topics have been selected:

1. principles and objectives of the legal regime;
2. institutional arrangements for the legal regime;
3. entitlements to marine living resources; and
4. compliance with international regulations.

At the Symposium a report on each of those topics will be presented, each of which will be discussed during one of the four sessions (topics and speakers are included in the program of the Symposium included below). Each of the reports will be analyzed by a commentator before opening the floor to the other Symposium participants. In order to allow for an in-depth discussion, the papers will be distributed beforehand. The reports, comments by the invited speakers and the main interventions during the sessions will be published in the conference proceedings.

Symposium Secretariat:

Ms J. Bouwhuis MA

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REGISTRATION FORM

Fourth J.H.W. Verzijl Memorial Symposium

21 November 2008, Utrecht

The application form can be submitted by fax or regular mail to:

Symposium Secretariat
Ms J. Bouwhuis MA
Institute of Public International Law
Achter Sint Pieter 200
3512 HT Utrecht
The Netherlands
Fax 00 31 (0)30 2537073
e-mail j.bouwhuis@law.uu.nl

An electronic version of this form is also available at

www.law.uu.nl/nilos

Name:

Title:

Position:

Affiliation:.....

Address:

Postal code and town:

Country:

Telephone:

E-mail address:

Date: **Signature:**.....

Due to the format of the Symposium, the number of participants will be limited. Upon acceptance of your participation in the Symposium you will receive a message of confirmation and an invoice for payment of the Symposium fee of € 175.

The Symposium fee must be paid *no later than 15 October 2008* or after that date as soon as possible after receipt of the invoice

PROGRAM

08.30-09.15 Registration

09.20-09.30 Opening by the Director of NILOS, professor A.H.A. Soons

09.30-11.00 Session 1 - Principles and objectives of the legal regime governing areas beyond national jurisdiction

Chair: Dr. A.G. Oude Elferink (NILOS)

Rapporteur: Professor T. Treves (University of Milan; Judge International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea)

Commentator: Mr. Daniel Owen (Fenners Chambers)

11.00-11.15 Coffee break

11.15-12.45 Session 2 - Institutional arrangements for the legal regime governing areas beyond national jurisdiction

Chair: Dr. A.G. Oude Elferink (NILOS)

Rapporteur: Professor T. Scovazzi (University of Milan)

Commentator: Dr. N. Matz-Lück (Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law)

12.45-14.00 Lunch

14.15-15.45 Session 3 - Entitlements to marine living resources

Chair: Dr. E.J. Molenaar (NILOS)

Rapporteur: Dr. R. Barnes (University of Hull)

Commentator: Mr. A. Serdy (University of Southampton)

15.45-16.00 Tea break

16.00-17.30 Session 4 - Compliance with international regulations: addressing enforcement gaps in the legal regime for areas beyond national jurisdiction

Chair: Dr. E.J. Molenaar (NILOS)

Rapporteur: Professor R. Rayfuse (University of New South Wales)

Commentator: Ambassador D. Balton (US State Department; to be confirmed)

17.30-17.35 Closing remarks

17.35-20.00 Reception and Buffet

GENERAL INFORMATION

Language

The language of the Symposium will be English. No translation facilities will be provided.

Symposium papers and publication

The four papers will be distributed in advance to the participants in the Symposium. The reports, comments by the invited speakers and the main interventions during the sessions will be published in the conference proceedings.

Participation

Those wishing to participate should complete the attached form and preferably return it to the Secretariat **before 15 September 2008**. Due to the format of the Symposium the number of participants will be limited.

Symposium fee

Due to a number of grants it has been possible to restrict the Symposium fee to € 175,-. The fee includes the Symposium papers, luncheon, refreshments, buffet-reception and the conference proceedings.

Confirmation of participation and payment of Symposium fee

After receipt of the application you will receive notice of your participation in the Symposium. An invoice for payment of the Symposium fee will be sent to the participants by the Symposium administration.

Hotel accommodation

Utrecht University has an arrangement for discounts with a number of hotels in Utrecht. Further information in this respect and concerning various hotels in Utrecht will be placed on the NILOS website (www.law.uu.nl/nilos) shortly.