

PRESS RELEASE

Paul Guggenheim Prize 2019 Awarded to Dr Astrid Wiik

After careful assessment and deliberations, the Jury of the Paul Guggenheim Prize has decided to award the Paul Guggenheim Prize 2019 to

Dr Astrid WIİK for her work “*Amicus curiae* before International Courts and Tribunals” (Nomos, 2018).

The Jury highlighted the great relevance of the subject-matter of this extensive study for both the theory and practice of international law. The author analyses in an exhaustive way the characteristics of *amicus curiae* before international tribunals and presents common features and discrepancies regarding the acceptance of *amici curiae* and their participation in the procedures. It covers and systematizes the laws, practices and pertinent cases of the International Court of Justice, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, the European Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights, the panels and the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization, inter-state and investor-state arbitral tribunals, including the Iran-United State Claims Tribunal. The monograph stresses the common characteristics of *amici curiae* in international dispute settlement and suggests a classification of the different forms of their participation. It shows where and how *amici curiae* have been able to contribute to the development of international dispute settlement and highlights what are the overall benefits and risks attached to their use.

The Jury unanimously welcomed the contribution to the current literature in public international law of this comprehensive study, the most extensive published so far on the subject and acknowledged its particular interest for practitioners. “This work will become a text book. Many aspects of the issue have been reviewed and it leads to very good conclusions”, remarked a member of the Jury.

Dr Astrid Wiik is a scholar-practitioner in international law. She works as Policy Officer at the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and as a Lecturer for the LL.M. in International Law at the Heidelberg Center for Latin America in Santiago de Chile. From 2016-2020, she was Assistant Professor/Habilitand at Heidelberg University and, from 2015-2019, Scientific Coordinator of the International Max Planck Research School for Successful Dispute Resolution in International Law (IMPRS-SDR). Previously, she worked as Senior Research Fellow at the Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law and as Assistant Legal Counsel at the Permanent Court of Arbitration. A dual German-Norwegian citizen, she completed her studies at Heidelberg University and the National University of Singapore and her training as an advocate at the Kammergericht (Court of Appeal) Berlin. She was also a Visiting Scholar at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law at the University of Cambridge and a research assistant to Professor Dr. Anja Seibert-Fohr, LL.M. (GWU) and Professor Dr. Dres. h.c. Burkhard Hess.

The Paul Guggenheim Prize, of CHF 15'000, has been created in 1981. Its objective is to reward young specialists in the field of international law who are the authors of a first monograph of outstanding quality on a subject of general interest and likely to make a real contribution to international law. The Prize is awarded every two years.

The next Prize will be launched at the beginning of February 2021.

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