



Laurence Boisson de Chazournes | Class of 1991

Laurence Boisson de Chazournes is a scholar in the field of international law, specialising in international organisations, international dispute settlement and international environmental law. She is an arbitrator and has acted as Counsel and Advocate before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and other international judicial fora. She teaches international law at the University of Geneva and has been a visiting professor at prestigious universities such as the National University of Singapore and the Collège de France. In line with her strong interest and involvement in water management and protection, she was a member of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace from 2015 to 2017.



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One of Laurence Boisson de Chazournes's notable early achievements was her involvement in 1994 and 1995 in addressing the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, in the context of a request by the World Health Organization and the United Nations for an advisory opinion from the ICJ. In the picture, she is standing next to Philippe Sands, a famous litigator and world-renowned writer.



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Laurence Boisson de Chazournes has been involved in a large number of negotiations concerning international watercourses, including the Senegal River, Aral Sea Basin and Nile River. Here, she is climbing the Cerrito Silala as a member of the Chilean legal team in the dispute over the status and use of the waters of the Silala before the ICJ.



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As part of her career as a practitioner before the ICJ, Laurence Boisson de Chazournes was also recruited by Australia in 2010 to contribute to a case pertaining to Japanese whaling. Her contribution as Advocate and Counsel helped put the spotlight on, and question the legality of the Japanese whaling programmes in the Southern Ocean.

