

INTERNATIONAL LAW INSTITUTE, PEKING UNIVERSITY

The International Law Institute of Peking University was established in 1983 for the purpose of carrying out research programs in all major fields of international law and supporting teaching work in the area of international law in order to meet the needs of the State.

The Institute's founding Director was Professor Wang Tieya, Vice President of the Chinese Society of International Law and Associe, Institut de droit international. The present Director is Professor Bi Jilong, former U.N. Deputy Secretary-General. Professor Cheng Peng is the Deputy Director of the Institute. At present, the Institute has 18 full-time members including Professor Wang Tieya, Professor Zhao Lihai, Professor Shao Jin and other younger members of whom some are still studying or researching in the U.S., Canada, Western Europe and Japan. It is anticipated that the size of the professional staff will be increased to 25 or 30 in the near future.

The Institute is committed to conduct research projects in the following fields:

1. The relations between China and international law

A survey of historical development from modern times to the present, with particular emphasis on the elaboration of the practice of the People's Republic of China relating to international law.

2. The status of international organizations at international law

An analysis of the legal status and role of all important international organizations with the United Nations as the focus.

3. The impact of science and technology on international law

A study of the development of the law of sea, space law, legal status of the Antarctic, and international environmental law.

4. Legal aspects of international economic relations

A study of issues concerning the New International Economic Order, international development, and the nature of international economic organizations.

The results of the research are primarily manifested in manner of the publication of monographs and articles carried in the Chinese Yearbook of International Law and other academic journals, including two monographs by Professor Zhao Lihai entitled On the Revision of the U.N. Charters and The New Development of the Law of Sea; articles by Professor Wang Tieya, "The U.N. and International

Law" (CYIL 1986) and "Concept of Common Heritage of Mankind" (CYIL 1984); articles by Professor Shao Jin, "Legal Problems Concerning Military Use of Exclusive Economic Zones and Continental Shelves" (CYIL 1985); articles by Miss Wei Qun, "On the Choice of Law Clause and other Legal Problems in State Contracts" (CYIL 1986) and article by Mr. Li Zhaojie, "Issues Concerning Sovereignty over Antarctica" (CYIL 1987), etc..

So far, the research project on the Practice of the People's Republic of China Relating to International Law has become a state project for the 7th 5-year National Social Science Research Program under Professor Wang Tieya with Professor Ma Jun of China Foreign Affairs College as a co-participant, and Miss Tian Ruxuan, associate research fellow of the Institute, as a document and material assistant. Other major research projects include the Theoretical Basis of International Law by Professor Zhao Lihai, the Regime for the Ocean Environmental Protection for Exclusive Economic Zones by Professor Shao Jin, Modern China and International Law by Professor Cheng Peng, International Investment and Natural Resources Development by Miss Wei Qun and the Legal Status of the Antarctic by Mr. Li Zhaojie.

The Institute is also engaged in collecting and editing international legal materials. To this date, the second edition of the Selected Materials of International Law has been published, the Selected Collection of the U.N. Documents and the Second Volume of Materials on International Law have been turned over to the press. Besides, the Institute is involved in the compilation and publication of the Collection of Materials on the Law of War which has been published already. The compilation by Miss Tian Ruxuan of the Content of and Index to the Recueil des cours de l'Academie de droit international has been finished for reference use. Finally, a book on the English-French-Chinese Terminology of International Law edited by Professor Wang Tieya has also been published.

The Institute maintains close connection with governmental institutions, such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, the Supreme People's Court, and other governmental departments which are concerned with international law. It is actively involved in the work of these institutions providing consultation and undertaking research on topics assigned. It is expected that such relations will be further developed in the future.

The Institute periodically arranges a series of lectures on issues of international legal concern for the senior under-graduates and post-graduates. Up to the present time, lectures have mostly been offered by legal experts or advisors of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, such as Mr. Shao Tianren, Professor Li Haopei, Mr. Zhang Hongzeng and Mr. He Qizhi. It is planned that in the future experts from other institutions will also be invited to lecture.

In order to promote cooperation and exchange with foreign countries in the research of international law, the Institute has been able to have foreign professors and scholars visit or lecture at the Institute under the auspices of various sides. An incomplete records shows that about 20 professors and scholars came to lecture, and more than 30 conduct study tours from different countries, including the United States, Canada, Britain, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Netherlands, Federal Germany, Yugoslavia, Italy and Japan.

Among the foreign professors and scholars who have lectured at the Institute are Professor Bin Cheng of the University of London, Professor Ronald St. J. Macdonald of Dalhousie University, Professor Nicolas M. Matte of McGill University, Madame Suzanne Bastid of the University of Paris, Professor William Burke of the University of Washington, Professor Gerard J. Mangone of the University of Delaware, Professor Samuel Kim of Monmouth College, Professor Richard Cardner of Columbia University, Professor Henry Steiner of Harvard University, Professor Eric Stein of Michigan University, Professor Lucius Cafilisch of Institut universitaire des hautes etudes internationales, Professor I.H. ph. Diedericks-Verochoor and Professor J.C. Schultz of Utrecht University, and Dr. Roy S. Lee of the Legal Department of the United Nations Secretariat.

In the summer and fall of 1985, the Institute held two seminars on international law. A number of well-known foreign professors of international law were invited to participate in the main lectures for the summer one. Among the lecturers were Professor Oscar Schachter and Louis Henkin of Columbia University, Professor Ronald St. J. Macdonald of Dalhousie University, Professor Jean J.A. Salmon of the Free University of Brussels, Professor Frank Newman of the University of California at Berkeley. The UNDP, American Committee on Legal Education Exchange with China, and other foreign institutions provided financial support for this seminar.

In celebration of the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, the fall seminar was held from September 9 to October 6. Dr. Kuen Chen, former Division Director of the Legal Department of the United Nations Secretariat was the chief lecturer. Other lecturers were Professor Luke T. Lee of Tufts University, Mr. Shao Tianren and Mr. Shi Jiuyong, legal advisors to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Professors Bi Jilong, Zhao Lihai, and Wang Tieya.

Under the generous auspices of the UNDP, the Institute has set up a library room housing books and materials and research facilities including xerox machines, microfilm and microfiche readers, and other equipment donated or granted by the UNDP. Thus, the library room has begun to take shape. Efforts are being made to seek further support from the UNDP.

Due to budgetary problems, however, the Institute is facing great difficulties in acquiring foreign books and materials. To fill this gap, a number of foreign friends have made their contributions. Among them were Professor Bin Cheng, Professor Luke T. Lee, Professor Salmon and Professor Lucius Caflisch. It should be particularly mentioned that Dr. Kuen Chen has generously contributed to the Institute \$2,000 U.S. dollars each year for the period of 3 consecutive years beginning from 1984 as funds for purchasing foreign books and materials. The Institute intends to explore the possibility of gradually expanding its collection of books and materials so as to become a center to provide library services for both faculty and student body of the University and other international lawyers throughout the country. In this respect, the Institute hopes that friends abroad can give help and assistance.

The Institute intends to establish an advisory committee consisting of Chinese and foreign scholars and other persons interested in international law. The purpose of the committee will be to provide consultation and proposals for the Institute and to offer assistance to facilitate the growth of the Institute. The Institute is now consulting in different quarters about this matter.

Address of the Institute: International Law Institute
63 Yan Nan Yuan, Peking University
Beijing, China

Telephone No.: 282471 ext. 3781

Liaison Person: Mr. Xia Ping