

# The Year in Review

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*Year in Review: 2015*

Article 2

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## Introduction

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**THE YEAR IN REVIEW**  
**AN ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE ABA/SECTION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

**International Legal Developments Year in Review: 2015**

BROOKE J. BOWMAN AND JASON S. PALMER

This publication, *International Legal Developments—Year in Review: 2015*, presents a survey of important political and legal developments in international law that occurred during 2015. The volume consists of articles from the various committees of the American Bar Association Section of International Law, whose members live around the world and whose committees monitor and report on a complete range of topics that have arisen in international law over the past year. While not every development in international law may be included in this volume, the omission of any particular development should not be construed as meaning that it was not significant. The Section of International Law committees produce their articles under extremely strict guidelines that limit the number of words that each committee has to roughly 7,000 words, including footnotes. Within these guidelines, committee members contribute portions of articles that describe the most significant developments in their substantive practice area or geographic region. In some cases, non-section members who have particular knowledge or expertise in an area may also be contributing authors.

Committee chairs and committee editors solicited the contributing authors for each committee article. The committee editors then had the daunting task of keeping their authors' collective contributions within our tightly controlled word limits. They made difficult decisions on what to include, what to cut, and what to hope some other committee included. Committee editors are identified in each article. After the committee editors did their work, the Co-General Editors transmitted the articles to an amazing team of Deputy Editors who performed substantive and technical reviews on the articles. Then we, as overall Co-General Editors for this volume, reviewed the articles again before sending them to the diligent student editors at the Dedman School of Law at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Both Justin Hanna, the Editor in Chief of *The International Lawyer* this year, and Brandt Thomas Roessler, the Managing Editor, performed superlatively in their respective roles. They supervised an outstanding editorial team whose individual names you can read in the masthead for this volume. These

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\* Professor Brooke J. Bowman and Professor Jason S. Palmer teach at Stetson University College of Law in St. Petersburg, Florida. Professor Bowman is Associate Director of the Center for Excellence in Advocacy, and Moot Court Advisor. Professor Palmer is the Coordinator, First Year Research and Writing.

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intrepid students checked the sources cited and reviewed each article line-by-line and word-by-word, leaving no portion of the Bluebook unconquered.

Professor Beverly Caro Duréus, who was invaluable to the publication of this volume, served again this year as the Faculty Executive Editor, and worked closely with the co-General Editors and with the student editors. We also appreciate all of the support received from Patrick Del Duca, the Publications Officer for the ABA Section of International Law, all of the Division Chairs, and the other leaders of the ABA Section of International Law. Because of all the work that goes into producing the *Year In Review*, the final product that you hold in your hands (or that you are viewing electronically) is a useful and reliable overview of international law events during the year 2015. Readers interested in a particular substantive or geographic area should read not only this year's summary, but also those from earlier years.

We work with an incredibly dedicated team of volunteer Deputy Editors from around the world. The Deputy Editors include a great many law professors who specialize in legal writing, international law, and topics related to foreign and international law. The ABA Section of International Law is extremely fortunate to have such a skilled, dedicated, and generous team of Deputy Editors, many of whom have now served for several years.

Here is the list of the Deputy Editors who worked on articles this year, with apologies to anyone omitted from the list. Together with the lists from previous years, we believe that we have the strongest editorial team of any journal in the world. We thank all of our committee editors named in the individual articles and our deputy editors named here for the generous contributions of their time and talent.

Jessica Birt (Charleston Law School, adjunct)  
Charles Calleros (Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law Arizona State University)  
Maureen Collins (The John Marshall Law School—Chicago)  
Sha-Shana Crichton (Howard University School of Law)  
Melody Daily (University of Missouri School of Law)  
Steven Feller (San Francisco Law School)  
J. Scott Garrison (Oakland University)  
Gabrielle Goodwin (Indiana University Maurer School of Law)  
Kimberly Holst (Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law Arizona State University)  
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Diane Kraft (University of Kentucky College of Law)  
Katrina Lee (Michael E. Moritz College of Law, The Ohio State University)  
Katherine Lopez (University of Toronto Faculty of Law)  
Hether Macfarlane (University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law)  
Sammy Mansour (Michigan State University College of Law)  
Debby McGregor (IU Robert H. McKinney School of Law)  
Nancy Millar (Phoenix, Arizona)  
Mary-Beth Moylan (University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law)  
Erin Okuno (Stetson University College of Law)  
Sandy Patrick (Lewis & Clark Law School)  
Joi Pearson (Salt Lake City, Utah)  
Cassandra Roberts (Elon University School of Law)  
Renee Schimkat (University of Miami School of Law)

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Karen Shaw (Loyola University Chicago School of Law)  
Cynthia Stroud (Florida Coastal School of Law)  
John Thornton (Northwestern Pritzker University School of Law)  
Mandana Vidwan (Charlotte School of Law)  
Susan Wawrose (University of Dayton School of Law)  
Ursula Weigold (University of Wisconsin Law School)  
Melissa Woods (Charlotte School of Law)

On behalf of the readers and researchers who will use this volume in future years, we thank the hundreds of authors, committee editors, deputy editors, and law student editors whose collective efforts produced this volume and whose work over the years have created a reliable and useful record of international law developments. It has been an honor for both of us to work with you. The Co-General Editors would also like to acknowledge the amazing work of our previous Co-General Editors and take this opportunity to recognize and publicly thank them—Professor Mark Wojcik (who was the Editor or Co-Editor of the *Year in Review* for seven years!), Professor Kim Chanbonpin, and Professor Cindy Buys.

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