

The Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies and Institute for International Law of the University of Leuven, in cooperation with the Belgian Society for International Law, the Belgian Branch of the International Law Association, the United Nations Association Flanders-Belgium and the United Nations in Brussels kindly invite you to an international conference on

THE VIENNA CONVENTION ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AT THE AGE OF FIFTY: STATE OF AFFAIRS AND CHALLENGES AHEAD

Monday 9 May 2011
Promotion Hall
Naamsestraat 22, Leuven

Theme of the Conference

Measuring by the number of States Parties (187), the high degree of observance and its influence on the international legal order, the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations is probably one of the most successful international instruments ever to be drawn up under the auspices of the United Nations. It provides a complete framework for the establishment, maintenance and termination of diplomatic relations on a basis of consent between independent sovereign States and has firmly established itself as a cornerstone of modern international relations.

As the Convention reaches the age of fifty, the time is ripe to pause at its success in regulating diplomatic practice in past decades, but also to look ahead and examine to what extent the Convention may withstand various challenges ahead, including the advance of non-State actors, evolutions in telecommunications and mass media, the compatibility of diplomatic privileges and immunities with the development of international human rights law and international criminal law, the emergence of the European External Action Service, etc.

In light hereof, the conference brings together several distinguished scholars and practitioners, both national and international, to broach the key underlying issues from a legal as well as a more policy-oriented perspective.

Participation is free, but prior registration through conference@ggs.kuleuven.be is mandatory by Monday 2 May.

Programme

09:30 – 10:00 Registration and Coffee

10:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks

Prof. Dr. **Bart De Moor**, Vice-Rector for International Relations - K.U.Leuven

Prof. Dr. **Jan Wouters**, Professor of International Law and International Organizations, Director Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies and Institute for International Law K.U.Leuven, Jean Monnet Chair

10:15 Landmarks in Modern Diplomacy. From the Congress of Vienna to the Vienna Convention

Keynote Lecture by **Sir Ivor Roberts**, President of Trinity College Oxford, former British ambassador to Ireland, Italy and Yugoslavia and editor of the new edition of Satow's Diplomatic Practice

Panel I : Selected Issues of Diplomatic and International Law

Chair: Ambassador **Jan Van Dessel**, President of the Belgian Interministerial Committee on Headquarters Policy

10:45 Diplomatic Privileges and Immunities: State Practice under the Vienna Convention

Prof. Dr. **Nicolas Angelet**, Professor of Public International Law, Université Libre de Bruxelles and Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Attorney at the Brussels Bar

11:05 Diplomatic relations with Insurrectional Movements and Secessionist Entities

Prof. Dr. **Stefan Talmon**, Professor of Public International Law, University of Oxford, and Barrister, 20 Essex Street, London

11:25 Practice in the Field of Diplomatic Protection and Consular Assistance

Dr. **Annemarieke Vermeer-Künzli**, Assistant Professor of International Law at the University of Amsterdam

11:45 The Vienna Convention and the Protection of Diplomats and Diplomatic Correspondence

Mr. **Carl Peeters**, Counsellor of Embassy

12:05 Panel and Floor Debate

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch Break



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Panel II : The European Union, European Diplomacy and Diplomatic Law

Chair: Mr. **Paul Rietjens**, Director-General for Legal Affairs, Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

14:00 The High Representative, the EEAS and Union Delegations: a Fully-Fledged Diplomatic System for the EU?

Prof. Dr. **Stephan Keukeleire**, Jean Monnet Professor, K.U.Leuven, Total Chair European Foreign Policy, College of Europe

14:20 The EU, EEAS, and Union Delegations and International Diplomatic Law: New Horizons?

Prof. Dr. **Jan Wouters** and **Sanderijn Duquet**, Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies

14:40 The EU and the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations: a Practitioner's View

Mr. **Jacques Vantomme**, Head of Section, Protocol and Diplomatic Questions, European External Action Service

15:00 Panel and Floor Debate

15:20 Coffee and Tea Break

Panel III : The Evolution of Diplomacy

Chair: Ambassador **Dirk Wouters**, Chief of Cabinet of the Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs

15:50 History and the Evolution of Diplomacy

Prof. Dr. **Richard Langhorne**, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Centre for Global Studies, University of Buckingham and Professional Fellow at the Division of Global Affairs, Rutgers University, USA

16:10 Contemporary Diplomatic Practice

Prof. Dr. **Jan Melissen**, Head Diplomatic Studies Programme Clingendael Institute; Professor of Diplomacy at the University of Antwerp

16:30 The Future of Diplomacy

Prof. Dr. **Alan Henrikson**, Fulbright Chair in US-EU Relations at the College of Europe; Director of Diplomatic Studies, Fletcher School of Diplomacy, Tufts University

16:50 Panel and Floor Debate

17:20 Past, Present and Future of Diplomacy: Reflections from a European Perspective

Concluding Keynote by Ambassador **Frans baron van Daele**, Chief of Staff of the President of the European Council

17:50 Reception



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