



Max Planck Institute
LUXEMBOURG
for Procedural Law

ARPITA GOSWAMI SACHDEVA

Max Planck Institute Luxembourg
for Procedural Law

arpita.sachdeva@mpi.lu

Professional Experience

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 03/2020 – present | Research Fellow , Max Planck Institute Luxembourg for Procedural Law, Department of International Law and Dispute Resolution, Luxembourg |
| 01/2019 – 08/2019 | Legal Assistant , International Law Commission, 71 st session, Switzerland. |
| 07/2018 – 09/2018 | Legal Intern , International Tribunal for Law of the Sea, Hamburg, Germany. |
| 09/2013 – 06/2015 | Assistant Editor , China Oceans Law Review, Xiamen University, China. |
| 09/2013 – 06/2015 | Graduate Assistant , South China Sea Institute, Xiamen University, China. |

Education

- Ph.D. in Law**, University of Luxembourg (*presently enrolled*).
- Master in International Law**, The Graduate Institute, Geneva, Switzerland (2017-2019).
- M.A. in International Relations** (*spl. Asia-Pacific Relations*), Xiamen University, China (2013-2015).
- B.A. LL.B. (Hons.)**, RML National Law University, India (2007-2012).

Publications

- "Prescriptive or Permissive? A Survey of International Law," IntLawGrrls (Blog), Jan 11-12, 2016.
- "An Argument for Construction of TWAIL-based Identity in East and South East Asia," IntLawGrrls (web publication), December 12, 2014.
- "The Bay of Bengal Award and its Implications," Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. XLIX No. 29, 2014.
- "The Old Woe of Contemporaneity and Cartographic Evidence in a New Bottle," Emerging Voices in International Law Symposium, Opinio Juris, July 25, 2014.

Conference Presentations

- "Strategic Debt Swaps and Violations of International Legal Principles: The Case of Hambantota Port", paper presentation at DebtCon3, hosted by Georgetown Law, Washington D.C., April 11-12, 2019.

Other Professional Activities

Legal consulting and expertise

Public International Law Advisory Group, Paris, France (May 2016 - Dec. 2017)

- *Bilateral Loans and Debt Restructuring* – Prepared client memo advising on the international legal obligations and consequences flowing out of a bilateral debt restructuring and credit default swap deals.

- *Recognition of Quasi State Entities* – Prepared consultation materials on recognition of unrecognized states, non-states, and other quasi-State entities, their rights and duties under International Law, and avenues of participation in IO's.
- *Maritime Boundaries of Archipelagic States* – Undertook the study and preparation of consultation materials on drawing the maritime boundaries of archipelagic States, especially in Caribbean context.

South China Sea Institute, Xiamen University, China (October 2013 – June 2015)

- *Case concerning detainment of Chinese fishermen in Philippines*: In fall of 2013, Philippines had detained a Chinese fishing vessel, along with the crew, accusing them of (i) trespassing into archipelagic waters, (ii) damaging protected coral reefs, and (iii) poaching of rare species. Assisted in preparing the broad International Law of the Sea arguments in defense of the fisherman.
- *South China Sea Arbitration Case*: Philippines instituted a PCA arbitration against China concerning rights and entitlements in South China Sea. The Chinese Government had opposed participating in the arbitral proceedings, and tasked SCSI to assist: *On jurisdiction*: Researched on the scope of exceptions in UNCLOS Article 298 to compulsory dispute settlement procedures. *On merits*: Assisted in identifying, translating and evaluating evidentiary value of ancient Chinese and Vietnamese scripts recording China's activities in South China Sea.

Office of the Secretary General, Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi, India (July 2010- Jan 2011)

- Conducted extensive interdisciplinary research on delimitation of islands in international boundary rivers in the context of Haribhanga river as a part of the research team for *the Bay of Bengal Maritime Arbitration Case* (PCA 2014).

Internships

International Tribunal for Law of the Sea (ITLOS), Hamburg, Germany (July – Sept. 2018)

- Research & Drafting – Supported the research undertaken by the legal officers on the following topics – (i) Question of procedural and substantive law raised in an ongoing case; (ii) State practice on legislations concerning change in Maritime Boundaries due to sea-level rise; (iii) compiled and updated data on ship arrests concerning oil pollution and illegal fishing.
- Administrative Support – Prepared PowerPoint presentations for the officers; organized and planned the research undertaken for oral hearings at the Tribunal; prepared 'Weekly Press Review' for the members of ITLOS.
- Personal Research Project – Prepared a research paper on "Litigating Unlawful Territorial Situations," which explored the scope of Articles 288(1) and 293(1) of UNCLOS, with respect to the sovereignty disputes brought to UNCLOS tribunals and limitations on induction of external norms in the applicable law.

International Development Law Organization (IDLO), Geneva, Switzerland (June 2018)

- Attended the 38th Regular Session of the UN Human Rights Council in order to give secretarial support.
- Prepared reports and general comments and observations on the issues discussed in the UNHRC sessions.
- Delivered an oral statement (on behalf of the Permanent Observer) addressed to the Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers at the UNHRC session.

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, Kathmandu, Nepal (March 2012)

- Researched and presented a paper on “Maritime Security in SAARC Region”, proposing a collective legal regime under the aegis of SAARC as a response to the then rising Somali piracy in Indian Ocean.

Legal & Treaties Department, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt of India, New Delhi, India (June 2010)

- Submitted research papers on – (i) Tax as Expropriation in International Investment Law; (ii) Fair and Equitable Treatment in International Investment Law.
-

Editorships

- *China Oceans Law Review* - Reviewed and edited over 3000 pages of legal text on International Law, Law of the Sea, Oceans Policy, etc., as part of a project involving translating back volumes from Chinese to English.
- *Suvannabhumi: Journal for South-East Asian Studies* – Peer reviewer for Vol 11, No. 2 (July 2019).
- *Indian Journal of International Law* – Peer Reviewer for Vol 56, No 1 (2016).
- *Asian Social Science* – Peer Reviewer for Vol 11, No. 18 (2015).

Professional Affiliations

Admitted to the Bar Association India, New Delhi (2013).