Press Release

Professor Dr. Hélène Ruiz Fabri (Université de la Sorbonne, Paris) appointed as new Director of the Max Planck Institute Luxembourg

The French professor will be the Director of the department for dispute resolution under public international law

(Luxembourg, 8.7.2014) Professor Dr. Hélène Ruiz Fabri has been appointed as Director at the Max Planck Institute Luxembourg for International, European and Regulatory Procedural Law. The renowned expert in the field of public international law and international dispute resolution will start her work at the Max Planck Institute on 1 September 2014.

Hélène Ruiz Fabri studied law and political science at the University of Bordeaux and received her doctorate there in 1989. In 1990, she obtained the Agrégation for public law. After holding professorships at the universities of Caen, Cergy-Pontoise and Paris XIII, she became a Professor for public international law at the University Paris I – Panthéon Sorbonne in 1997. From 2006 to 2010, she was President of the European Society of International Law, from 2010 to 2013 dean and initiator of the École de Droit at the Sorbonne and from 2003 to 2014 Director of the Mixed Research Unit on Comparative Law of Sorbonne Law School (CNRS/Paris 1). In addition, she regularly teaches and conducts research at universities in the United States. Professor Ruiz
Fabri's central research interests include dispute resolution under public international law, in particular in the World Trade Organization (WTO), the International Court of Justice, and the European Union, as well as the procedural law of the European Court of Human Rights. In the context of international dispute resolution, she investigates aspects of fragmentation of public international law, the application of general rules of public international law in specific mechanisms of dispute resolution, and the independence and impartiality of international judges and arbitrators. Her further research interests concern international economic law and international environmental law as well as European Union law.

Professor Dr. Burkhard Hess, founding director of the Max Planck Institute Luxembourg, calls the appointment of Professor Ruiz-Fabri a real stroke of good fortune for the Max Planck Institute Luxembourg: With her background in French public international law scholarship, Professor Ruiz Fabri strengthens the international orientation of the Max Planck Institute which is of particular significance for Luxembourg as a center of science. Furthermore, through her manifold activities and functions in the Anglo-American and Spanish-speaking world she has established an impressive scientific network. The department for public international law and the department for European and comparative civil procedure law will conduct common scientific projects, especially in the fields of international dispute settlement and European jurisdiction.

Professor Dr. Burkhard Hess has headed the department for European and comparative civil procedure law since fall 2012. Professor Ruiz Fabri will now establish and head the department for dispute resolution in public international law. She will start her work as a Director at the Institute on 1 September 2014.
The Max Planck Institute Luxembourg for International, European and Regulatory Procedural Law, an institute of the German Max Planck Society, started its work in fall 2012. In the three departments of the Institute, researchers investigate modern tendencies in dispute resolution mechanisms from different perspectives: public international law; European and comparative civil procedure law; and from a regulatory standpoint. The Institute is situated at Kirchberg in Luxembourg.

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