

ILM

International Legal Materials

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- *Nasrallah v. Barr* (U.S. Sup. Ct.)
Philip C. Aka
- *GE Energy Power Conversion France SAS, Corp. v. Outokumpu Stainless USA, LLC* (U.S. Sup. Ct.)
Steven Skulnik
- Inter-State Communication Submitted by the State of Palestine against State of Israel (U.N. Comm'n on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination)
Gay McDougall
- *Djamel Ameziane v. U.S.A.*, Report No. 29/20, Case 12.865 Merits, (Inter-Am. Comm'n H.R.)
Christina M. Cerna
- *Guillaume Kigbafori Soro and others v. Rep. of Côte d'Ivoire* (Afr. Ct. H.P.R.)
Marie Joseph Ayissi
- *R v. Reeves Taylor* (U.K. Sup. Ct.)
Marguerite C. Walter

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL MATERIALS®

Foreword

From its inception, the collection, publication, and dissemination of important international legal materials has been among the primary functions of the American Society of International Law. These materials were originally published as a section of the *American Journal of International Law*, and for the past 50 years they have been produced as a freestanding publication. Throughout this period, *International Legal Materials* has filled a critical need by giving scholars and practitioners access to primary source materials that were often difficult to find.

Today, with the advent of the Internet, many of these materials are widely available. However, the explosion of online information related to international law has made it impossible for busy international lawyers to sift through the vast array of documents and identify those that are truly significant. Fortunately, our editorial staff, working with an Editorial Advisory Committee, is able to devote the time and expertise to selecting the most significant materials and highlighting them in *International Legal Materials* and our blog, *International Law in Brief*. In addition, the Society's *ASIL Insights* series provides analyses of particularly significant developments.

Beginning in 2007, we have introduced all documents published in *International Legal Materials* with a prefatory note by experts from among our membership. These notes provide summaries of the documents and offer insight into their significance. In this volume, we feature notes by Philip C. Aka, Steven Skulnik, Gay McDougall, Christina M. Cerna, Joseph Ayissi, and Marguerite C. Walter. We are extremely grateful to these authors, and we are confident that you will find their contributions of value.

We invite your comments and suggestions as we continue our efforts to meet the evolving needs of the international legal community.

Sincerely,

Mark David Agrast
Chair
Editorial Advisory Committee
International Legal Materials

STATEMENT OF EDITORIAL POLICY

International Legal Materials (ILM) is a publication of the American Society of International Law that reproduces texts of documents reflecting the broad scope and evolution of international law. The range of covered subjects has expanded from traditional topics such as international organizations, jurisdiction, and international trade to include developments in fields such as intellectual property, environmental law, nuclear non-proliferation, human rights, and international criminal law.

ILM serves as both a bi-monthly information service and a widely recognized archive of international law documents for a diverse, global community of legal scholars, government officials, private practitioners, and institutions with a common interest in international law. To meet the varied demands of such a readership, documents are selected from world-wide sources on the basis of their present and future legal significance.

ILM is prepared for publication in Washington, D.C., with the guidance of an Editorial Advisory Committee and the assistance of a team of Corresponding Editors around the world. In order to reproduce texts of selected documents under tight production schedules, the best available source is used, whether electronic or printed.

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The American Society of International Law (ASIL) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational membership organization founded in 1906 and chartered by Congress in 1950. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., its mission is “to foster the study of international law and to promote the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice.” ASIL holds Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and is a constituent society of the American Council of Learned Societies.

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INTERNATIONAL LEGAL MATERIALS®

Vol. 59

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No. 6

— Contents —

Nasrallah v. Barr (U.S. Sup. Ct.) Introductory Note by Philip C. Aka.....	895
GE Energy Power Conversion France SAS, Corp. v. Outokumpu Stainless USA, LLC (U.S. Sup. Ct.) Introductory Note by Steven Skulnik	911
Inter-State Communication Submitted by the State of Palestine against State of Israel (U.N. Comm'n on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination) Introductory Note by Gay McDougall.....	922
Djamel Ameziane v. U.S.A., Report No. 29/20, Case 12.865 Merits, (Inter-Am. Comm'n H.R.) Introductory Note by Christina M. Cerna	941
Guillaume Kigbafori Soro and others v. Rep. of Côte d'Ivoire (Afr. Ct. H.P.R.) Introductory Note by Marie Joseph Ayissi	1013
R v. Reeves Taylor (U.K. Sup. Ct.) Introductory Note by Marguerite C. Walter.....	1023
BRIEFLY NOTED	1054
UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS	1056