



## **“Can the International Court of Justice save the international order in the face of Security Council paralysis?”**

**Panel discussion hosted by the Permanent Mission of Austria (633 Third Avenue, 18<sup>th</sup> floor)  
together with the Yale Law School Center for Global Legal Challenges**

**Thursday, 24 October 2024, 13:15h – 15:00h**

*Buffet lunch will be served from 12:45h*

During International Law Week 2024, on Thursday 24 October 2024, the Permanent Mission of Austria and the Yale Law School Center for Global Legal Challenges will host another luncheon discussion in the framework of the Austrian rule of law initiative. Entitled “*Can the International Court of Justice save the international order in the face of Security Council paralysis?*”, the panel will examine the growing role of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) when it comes to dispute resolution and strengthening the international order based on the rule of law. The panel will take place from 13:15h to 15:00h at the Permanent Mission of Austria to the UN, 633 Third Avenue, 18<sup>th</sup> floor; a buffet lunch will be served from 12:45h.

Since its establishment, the ICJ has played a fundamental role in the peaceful settlement of disputes between States. Its standing is respected globally, and it is regarded by States as a leading authority on international law. Although just over 70 States have accepted its compulsory jurisdiction, a growing number of States from all regions and legal systems refer cases to the ICJ. In addition to the increasing number of contentious cases, the ICJ has also been called upon to deliver advisory opinions more frequently. Its jurisprudence contributes significantly to the development, and uniform interpretation, of international law. The vast majority of ICJ rulings are implemented by the parties to the dispute, contributing to the peaceful settlement of disputes.

The maintenance of international peace and security, including the peaceful settlement of disputes, is one of the main objectives of the UN and the core responsibility of the Security Council (UNSC). The paralysis of the UNSC in the face of the war in Ukraine and the conflict between Israel and Hamas has deepened skepticism about the body’s capacity to advance collective security and promote the international rule of law. In the face of that paralysis, the ICJ has played an important role in addressing critical legal issues at the heart of both conflicts. Almost every political or military conflict has significant legal components, and it has become clear that States wish to be seen as acting in accordance with international law. Given this, the panel will ask whether the ICJ can help fill the void left by the UNSC’s inaction and help maintain peace and security in line with the purposes and principles of the UN.

The discussion will bring together UN Permanent Representatives and Legal Advisers from capitals as well as representatives from academia and practitioners. Building upon last year’s panel discussion on the topic “The Security Council as Guardian of the UN Charter?”, this discussion aims to further the understanding of the role of both UN bodies, ICJ and UNSC, in the maintenance of international peace and security and upholding the international order based on the rule of law.

**Programme:**

Welcoming Remarks:

**Amb. Alexander Marschik**

Permanent Representative of Austria to the UN

Introduction & Moderation:

**Amb. Gregor Schusterschitz**

Legal Adviser, Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs

*Presentation of topic and panelists of discussion*

Panelists:

**Prof. Oona A. Hathaway**

Director of the Yale Law School Center for Global Legal Challenges

**Mr. Bogdan Aurescu**

Judge at the International Court of Justice

**Amb. François Alabrune**

Ambassador of France to the Netherlands

**Prof. Dapo Akande**

Member of the International Law Commission

**Ms. Shamala Kandiah Thompson**

Executive Director of Security Council Report

Please note that this invitation is for **Permanent Representatives and/or Legal Advisers from capital**.

Please [RSVP](#) until 18 October 2024.

For any logistical questions, please contact: [franziska.chariah@bmeia.gv.at](mailto:franziska.chariah@bmeia.gv.at)

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