

The Hague Academy: A Centenary of Scholarship

2023 marked the centenary of the Hague Academy of International Law, one of the centres of international legal research and teaching. This anniversary seemed an opportune time to reflect on the role of the Hague Academy in the discourse on public international law, the impact of its publications and the hopes and expectations of EJIL readers for the Academy's next 100 years.

In this and the next issues of the EJIL, we publish a series of reflections on the Academy's *Centenary of Scholarship*. These reflections offer diverse perspectives: diverse in their methodological outlook as much as in their choice of angle. Some highlight Academy courses that shaped the discourse; others identify forgotten courses that merit rediscovery. We hear about recurring themes and topics, but are also pointed to biases and lacunae in the Academy's treatment of international law. While selective in scope, contributions offer a meaningful engagement with the Academy's outputs and for the most part steer clear of hagiography.

The result is a mosaic, comprised of pieces of different sizes and styles: not an overall assessment of the Hague Academy's role and record, but perhaps richer, opening up multiple avenues for engaging with it. Above all, it is an invitation to EJIL readers to pursue the openings provided by contributors.

This first issue starts off with four contributions that view key fields of international law through the lens of the Hague Academy lectures. Yusra Suedi highlights how Hague Academy courses have approached the notion of 'community interest'. Zaki S. Shubber traces the development of water law in courses given at the Academy, while Alik Semertzi illustrates the emergence of ecological sensitivities through a close reading of lectures given between the 1920s and 2020s. Finally, Outi Penttilä engages with Wilfred C. Jenks' lectures on liability for ultra-hazardous activity to illustrate Jenks' imprint on contemporary international environmental law.

GCL and CJT

