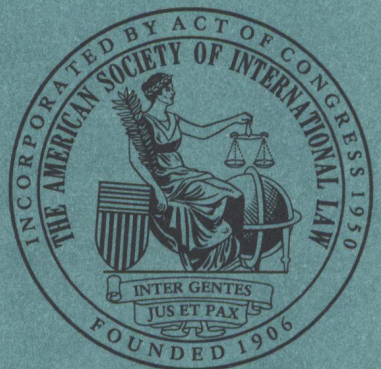


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**CONGRESS
ON PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW**

**TO BE HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS
IN NEW YORK FROM 13 TO 17 MARCH 1995**

The General Assembly of the United Nations decided, by resolution 48/30 of 9 December 1993, that a Congress on public international law be held within the framework of the United Nations Decade of International Law (1990-1999). The Congress will take place at United Nations Headquarters in New York, from **13 to 17 March 1995**, during the year of the celebration of the Organization's fiftieth anniversary.

The Congress will be organized on the general theme: "**Towards the twenty-first century: International Law as a Language for International Relations.**" Participants will exchange views on the codification, progressive development and implementation of public international law, both in theory and in practice, as well as on its teaching and dissemination. The purpose of the Congress is thus to assist the international community, and in particular the legal profession, to meet the challenges and expectations of the present-day world.

On each of the five working days, participants will focus on one of the following topics, which are relevant to the main goals of the United Nations Decade of International Law: (1) The principles of international law; (2) Means of peaceful settlement of disputes between States; (3) Conceptual and practical aspects of the codification and progressive development of international law; (4) New approaches to research, education and training in the field of international law and its wider appreciation; and (5) Towards the twenty-first century: new challenges and expectations.

Each daily session will consist of two plenary meetings to be held in the General Assembly Hall and will be chaired by a representative of one of the five regional groups, namely the African Group, the Asian Group, the Eastern European Group, the Latin American and Caribbean States Group and the Western European and Other States Group. The chairman will give a lecture on the topic for that day, to be followed by four other lectures by the representatives of the four other regional groups. Sufficient time will be available for questions and comments from the floor, in order to **promote a dialogue among the largest possible number of participants**. Lecturers will also include experts belonging to the United Nations system.

Interest in participating in the Congress should be conveyed to its Secretariat, Room 3460, United Nations, New York, as soon as possible and no later than **15 August 1994**, together with all relevant information including the name, nationality and profession of interested persons. The selection of participants will be made by the Secretariat of the Congress, taking into account, *inter alia*, space constraints, the need to ensure the **representation of all major legal systems and all geographical regions** and the need to strike an appropriate **balance between the various segments of the international legal profession**, from scholars to practitioners, government officials and representatives of international organizations and institutions.

The financing of travel and subsistence costs shall rest with participants.

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