

Profile of Moderators and Speakers



Dr Samuel White

Moderator

Senior Research Fellow, NUS
Centre for International Law

Dr Samuel White is the Senior Research Fellow in Peace and Security at the Centre for International Law. Dr White entered academia as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Adelaide Law School. He is the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society, an Editor of the United States Military Academy’s Articles of War and an Editor of the Adelaide Law Review.


Dr White holds titles as Visiting Fellow at the Australian Defence Force Academy (2023 – 2025) and the Army Visiting Fellow at the Australian War Memorial (2024 – 2027). In 2024, he was made an Associate Fellow of the Royal Historical Society for his work on cross-cultural understandings of warfare. In 2025, he was appointed a Fellow of the National Library of Australia for his research on Australian legal history. He holds positions as an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of New England and at the University of Adelaide.




Dr Huw Llewellyn

Dr Huw Llewellyn is a former lawyer and diplomat of the United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth Office (1988 - 2007); was posted as the Legal Adviser at the UK Permanent Missions in Geneva to the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament (1994 - 1997); acted as the Agent of the UK government in cases before the European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg (1998 - 2004); and was posted as the Legal Counsellor at the UK Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York (2004 - 2007).

<p>Distinguished Visiting Scholar, NUS Centre for International Law</p>	<p>He then joined the UN Secretariat as the Head of the international criminal tribunals team in the UN Office of the Legal Counsel (2007 - 2013); was appointed as the Deputy Director of the Codification Division of the UN Office of Legal Affairs (2013 - 2015); and as Director of the Codification Division of the UN Office of Legal Affairs (2015 - 2024). In the latter position, he was the Secretary of the International Law Commission, the Secretary of the Sixth (Legal) Committee of the UN General Assembly, the Secretary of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations, and the Secretary of the Advisory Committee of the UN Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. He retired from the UN at the end of September 2024.</p> <p>He is a solicitor in England and Wales, holds a Bachelors degree in Law (LLB) from the University of Southampton, UK (1981), and a PhD in international law from the University of Leiden, the Netherlands (2019).</p>
 <p>Prof Kubo Mačák</p>	<p>Kubo Macek is a Professor of International Law at the University of Exeter. His research centers on public international law, with a special focus on international cyber law, international humanitarian law, and the legal regulation of emerging technologies. He is particularly interested in how international law adapts to new strategic and technological realities, such as cyber activities and artificial intelligence.</p> <p>He is the General Editor of the Cyber Law Toolkit, an award-winning online resource for international law and cyber operations, and a co-author of the Handbook on Developing</p>

<p>Professor of International Law, University of Exeter, Law School</p>	<p>a National Position on International Law and Cyber Activities: A Practical Guide for States. His work has been featured in prestigious academic journals, including the International & Comparative Law Quarterly and the International Review of the Red Cross.</p> <p>Kubo Macek holds a DPhil in international law from the University of Oxford. An updated version of his doctoral thesis was published by Oxford University Press as Internationalized Armed Conflicts in International Law. He has also studied at Charles University in Prague and KU Leuven. In 2012, he was awarded the Diploma of the Hague Academy of International Law, and he later served as the Director of Studies in 2024.</p> <p>His professional experience includes working at the UN International Criminal Tribunals and the Slovak Constitutional Court. From 2019 to 2023, he was a Legal Adviser at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), where he contributed to the updated Commentaries on the Geneva Conventions and the ICRC’s work on international humanitarian law and cyber operations.</p>
	<p>Paween Thanarat is a Counsellor in the Department of Treaties and Legal Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand. He has represented Thailand at international forums, including the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on security of and in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs). In this role, he has contributed to discussions and the development of common understandings on how international law, particularly the UN</p>

<p>Paween Thanarat</p> <p>Counsellor, Department of Treaties and Legal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand</p>	<p>Charter, applies to cyberspace. He was a panelist at the launch of Thailand's national position on the application of international law in cyberspace, where he shared insights on the process of developing the national position. He has also given statements at the UN on other legal matters, such as the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.</p>
 <p>Michael Kariaman</p> <p>Director, Digital Diplomacy, Asia and the Pacific, Microsoft</p>	<p>Michael Kariaman is a Director on Microsoft’s Digital Diplomacy Team for which he has responsibility for Asia and the Pacific. In this role Michael works with governments, civil society, and the private sector across the region to advance greater multistakeholder engagement and to support governments to recognize and strengthen a rules-based order online in the face of the rising threat and impacts from nation-state threats and cybercrime online. The work includes a mix of multistakeholder diplomacy, capacity building, confidence building, data and research. Michael was previously a Director on Microsoft’s Human Rights Team. Prior to joining Microsoft, Michael worked in trade finance at the Royal Bank of Scotland in London, and in business and human rights at the United Nations in Bangkok. Michael has a BA in Management with Chinese Studies from the University of Nottingham, an MA in International Relations with a focus on East Asia from the University of Durham, and a Master of Public Administration from Columbia University, specializing in international security policy.</p>



Alan Hu

Deputy Senior State Counsel

Alan is a legal advisor in the International Affairs Division of the Attorney-General's Chambers of Singapore. His portfolio includes advising on issues of international law relating to cyberspace and digital technologies. Since 2019, he has been part of the team advising the Singapore delegation to the United Nations Open-Ended Working Group on the security of and in the use of information and communications technologies, and was also involved in the preparation of Singapore's National Position on international law relating to States' use of ICTs.