



The Honorable G. William and Ariadna Miller INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND THE LAW

Report on the American Society of International Law Annual Meeting 2016



As I enter my final month of law school, attending the American Society of International Law (ASIL) Annual Conference in Washington, DC was not only a reaffirmation of my commitment to international law, but an inspiration to contribute more substantially to this incredible community. The opportunity to listen and learn from panels and individual discussions was invaluable and unquestionably a highlight of my law school experience.

For three days, I had the great fortune to listen to some of the world's leading experts and practitioners in the fields of national security, human rights, humanitarian law, and international migration. From heated debates on the Iran nuclear deal, to the new Legal Adviser Brian Egan's step-by-step explanation of the US government's rationale for the fight against ISIL, to unanswerable questions about the future of the world's refugees, I was able to witness and learn from the cutting edge of international law. Where seemingly divergent fields are often siloed into discrete papers, presentations, and careers, the ASIL conference – with its array of topics and continuous flow of events – allowed me to explore the breath of public international law within a single venue. This experience was highlighted further by in-depth conversations with experts in international law and policy. All of these panels, events, and discussions were timely and necessary for understanding the current legal and global landscape, and it was humbling to be a part – if only an observer – of that effort.

The ASIL Annual Conference brings together luminaries from around the world to discuss, brainstorm, and redefine the field of public international law. Each panelist and speaker plays, in some way, a critical role in shaping the rule of law and global order in the years to come. Being present for that work was an inspiration for me to one day enter this conversation in the hopes of creating a more just, more livable world.

I am incredibly grateful to Berkeley Law and the Miller Institute for affording me this opportunity. It was an honor to represent the law school at this conference and to have this be one of my last experiences while a student at Berkeley. I hope to return in many different international legal capacities in the years to come.

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