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Born in 1942 in Argentina, Tullio Treves has had an academic career in Italy where he has taught in various universities including the State University of Milan (1980-2012). He has regularly taught and still teaches in various universities and institutions in many parts of the world.

He has held various diplomatic and international positions, including Legal Adviser to the Italian Mission to the United Nations (1984-1992) and Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (1996-2011). Currently he is senior international law consultant with Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt and Mosle LLP, Milan Office, arbitrator and counsel in international cases. He is a member of the Institut de Droit International and of the Curatorium of the Hague Academy of International Law.

He is the author of numerous books and articles in Italian, English, French, and Spanish on various aspects of public and private international law, especially law of the sea and law of international disputes. His writings include: Lo Sfruttamento dei Fondi Marini Internazionali [The Exploitation of the International Seabed] (1982); The Law of the Sea, the European Union and Its Member States (1997); The United Nations Compensation Commission: A Handbook (with M. Frigess di Ratalma) (1999); Le Controversie Internazionali, Nuove Tendenze, Nuovi Tribunali [International Disputes, New Trends, New Tribunals] (1999); Diritto Internazionale, Problemi Fondamental [International Law, Fundamental Problems] (2005); and "New Trends in the Settlement of Disputes and the Law of the Sea Convention," a chapter in the LOSI volume The Law of the Sea: The Common Heritage and Emerging Challenges (Scheiber, ed., 2000).