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**UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY**

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International Court of Justice President to Speak at UNU

- Event:** Open Seminar — “Towards a Better World: Rule of Law in International Society”
- Agenda:** Open Seminar with H.E. Mrs. Rosalyn Higgins, President of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and Subsequent Panel Discussion
- Date/Time:** 11 April 2007 (Wed.), 13:30–16:00
- Venue:** U Thant International Conference Hall, UN House, Tokyo
- Organizers:** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA), United Nations University, and Japan Foundation for United Nations University
- Co-Organizer:** Nihon Keizai Shimbun
- Collaborators:** Supreme Court of Japan, The Ministry of Justice of Japan, Japan Federation Bar Associations
- Supporters:** Japan Federation of Solicitor Association, Commercial Law Center, International Civil and Commercial Law Centre, Mineichirou Adachi Memorial Foundation

- The International Court of Justice, which sits in The Hague (the Netherlands), is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. The dual role of the Court is to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by UN Member States, and to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized international organs and agencies. The ICJ is composed of 15 judges elected to nine-year terms of office by the UN General Assembly and Security Council.
- In her lecture, President Higgins will discuss “The International Court of Justice and the Rule of Law”.
- Following the lecture there will be a panel discussion and a question and answer session on “The Rule of Law and the Life of Citizens in International Society”.
- The panel discussion will be moderated by Yozo Yokota, Special Adviser to the Rector, UNU. The panellists will be President Higgins; Hisashi Owada, Member of the Court, ICJ; Ina Hisayoshi, columnist and, Deputy Chair of the Editorial Board, Nihon Keizai Shimbun; Michelle Pranchère-Tomassini, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Luxembourg; and Deepika Udagama, Head, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo (Sri Lanka).
- For those unable to attend, this event will be “webcast” live (and archived) online at <http://c3.unu.edu/videoportal/index.cfm?127>
- Details of the event can be found at: http://www.jfunu.jp/contents/H_english/D0_event/eng_01event.htm
- Japanese–English; interpretation will be provided.

Media representatives are cordially invited to attend this open seminar. For more information, or to confirm your attendance, please contact Naoko Yano, UNU Office of Communications (tel: 03-5467-1311; e-mail: media@unu.edu).

About the speaker

Rosalyn Higgins has been a member of the ICJ since July 1995, and has served as President of the Court since February 2006. Her previous experience includes serving as staff specialist in international law, Royal Institute of International Affairs (UK); Visiting Fellow, London School of Economics; Professor of International Law, University of Kent at Canterbury; and Professor of International Law, University of London. She holds an M.A. from University of Cambridge, a J.S.D. from Yale University, and several honorary doctorates. She was named a Dame Commander of the British Empire in 1995.