

INVITATION

Community Interests in International Law

Moderator: **Christophe Eick**, Director-General for Legal Affairs, Federal Foreign Office, Germany

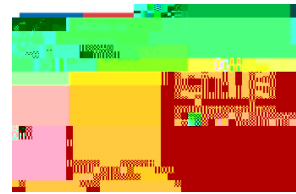
Panelists: **Mariana Durney**; Director-General for Legal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile, Professor at the Catholic University of Chile

Charles Jalloh, Professor at Florida International University, Member of the International Law Commission

Georg Nolte, Professor at Humboldt University Berlin, Member of the International Law Commission

Nilüfer Oral, Professor at Istanbul Bilgi University, Director-designate of the Centre for International Law at the National University of Singapore; Member of the International Law Commission

It is often said that international law is moving from the protection of sovereign interests to the protection of community interests. Sovereign interests have, however, continued to be articulated, and more strongly so in recent times. The Panel will discuss how international law protects community interests and whether such protection calls sovereign interests into question.



The Panel will address this general question by looking at specific fields, particularly international environmental law, international criminal law, and general rules and principles of international law. For example, is it appropriate, in international environmental law or in the law of common spaces, to oppose the community interest of climate protection against a sovereign interest in economic development? Or, is it appropriate, in international criminal law, to oppose the community interest of preventing impunity against a sovereign interest in protection from prosecution? And, is it appropriate, when looking at general rules and principles of international law, to oppose the community interest of broad participation in law-making against the sovereign interest of States to be the primary lawmakers in international law?

This leads to the general question of how far it is necessary to distinguish between the legal and political aspects of community interests, on the one hand, and sovereign interests, on the other. In law, different interests have often already been adjusted by the lawmaking process. In the political sphere, different interests are often not yet balanced out. It is not always clear to what extent an issue has already been politically or legally resolved. This may require clarification by appropriate procedures.

Please RSVP by 25 October to Sonia.Cafarella@diplo.de