



François ALABRUNE

French candidate for the position of judge at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in 2026
2027-2036 Term

Currently French Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Permanent Representative to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and international legal organizations in the Hague

Advisory experience in international law

- Legal Adviser, Legal Affairs Director at the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (2014-2022)
- Deputy Legal Adviser, Legal Affairs Deputy Director at the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (2001-2004)
- Legal Adviser at the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (1997-2000)
- Legal Consultant at the Legal Affairs Directorate of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (1988-1992)

As part of these duties, preparation of opinions on all international law issues raised in defining and implementing foreign policy, including in the following areas: general international law, international organization and particularly UN law, treaty law, diplomatic and consular relations law, human rights law, international humanitarian law, law of spaces, particularly law of the sea, and environmental law.

Represented France in debates at the 6th Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, particularly on the reports of the International Law Commission, before the Human Rights Committee of the United Nations, in debates within the Committee of Legal Advisers on Public International Law (CAHDI), within the Council of the European Union Public International Law Working Group (COJUR), as well as during multilateral and bilateral consultations.

Experience in litigation work

- International Court of Justice:

Agent of France in the *Immunities and Criminal Proceedings (Equatorial Guinea v. France)* case (2016-2020)

Co-agent in the pending case *Allegations of Genocide under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)* (2022-)

Co-agent in the pending case *Request relating to the Return of Property Confiscated in Criminal Proceedings (Equatorial Guinea v. France)* (2022-)

Co-agent in the pending case *Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (The Gambia v. Myanmar)* (2023-)

- European Court of Human Rights:

Agent of France in many cases between 2001 and 2022, in particular contributions to oral proceedings in the cases *Odièvre v. France* (2003), *VO v. France* (2004), *Lambert and Others v. France* (2015), *Hanan v. Germany* (2016), *Meguimi v. France* (2019), *H.F. and Others v. France* (2022)

- Court of Justice of the European Union:

Agent of France in many cases between 2001 and 2022, in particular contributions to oral proceedings in the cases *National Farmers' Union* (2002), *CaixaBank* (2004), *Gauweiler* (2015), *Council-Front Polisario* (2016), *Quadrature du Net* (2020)

- International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea:

Agent of France in the *Grand Prince* Case (Belize v. France, 2001)

- Arbitration:

Adviser to France in the *Delimitation of maritime areas between Canada and France* case (1992)

Adviser to France in the *New Zealand v. France* arbitration (1990)

Agent of France in investor-state arbitration: *Erbil Serter v. France* case (2014-2015) and *KN Holding LLC and Severgroup LLC v. France* case (2020-2022)

Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) from 2016 to June 2024, and Chair of the Special Working Group for the 125th Anniversary of the PCA

- International Criminal Court:

French lead official for cooperation with the International Criminal Court (ICC), between 2014 and 2022; Co-facilitator of the Assembly of States Parties for cooperation with the ICC since 2022

Experience in international legal negotiations

- Multilateral negotiations:

Participation in negotiating numerous resolutions, decisions and declarations of international organizations, as:

- Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the OPCW and Head of Delegation at the Assembly of States Parties to the ICC Statute since 2022.
- Head of the French delegation to the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine from 2014 to 2022
- Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe from 2009 to 2013.
- Adviser to the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations (Security Council and General Assembly) from 1996 to 2000, Legal Counsellor from 1997
- Adviser at the Permanent Representation of France to the European Union from 1992 to 1996

Participation in negotiating numerous multilateral treaties and agreements, including:

- The Statute of the International Criminal Court (between 1997 and 1998, as Head of Delegation at the Preparatory Committee, then as a member of the Rome Conference Drafting Committee)
- The United Nations Conventions for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (between 1997 and 2000, as Head of Delegation at the 6th Committee and the counter-terrorism working group)
- Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (1993)
- The Paris Peace Agreements on Cambodia (1991)

- Bilateral negotiations:

Head of Delegation for negotiating numerous bilateral agreements between France and other States, including in the maritime sector:

- With Canada (off the coast of Saint-Pierre and Miquelon: Agreement relating to the Exploration and Exploitation of Transboundary Hydrocarbon Fields, signed in 2005, and Agreement relating to Fisheries, as Deputy Head of Delegation in 1989)
- With the Netherlands (Agreement on maritime delimitations in the Caribbean region in 2016)
- With Madagascar (Agreement on the delimitation of maritime areas situated between La Réunion and Madagascar, signed in 2005)

Bilateral diplomatic experience as French Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands since 2022 and French Consul-General in Quebec from 2004 to 2009.

Publications

“Law of the United Nations”, in *International Law for Diplomats*, The Hague, Brill/Nijhoff, forthcoming.

“L’évolution de la complémentarité, du Statut de Rome à aujourd’hui”, in A. Becquart (dir.), *La clé d’un système global de lutte contre l’impunité des crimes internationaux : le principe de complémentarité*, Paris, Pedone, 2024, pp. 37-40.

“Le nombre et le choix des juges”, in J.-M. Thouvenin and J. Joly-Hébert (eds.), *La Cour internationale de Justice à 75 ans*, Paris, Pedone, 2023, pp. 13-22.

“La politique juridique extérieure de la France”, *Préface à l’ouvrage de Guy de Lacharrière*, Bruylant, 2023, pp. I-XLVIII.

“Les conditions d’établissement du domaine maritime français”, in A. Miron and D.-S Robin (eds.), *Atlas des espaces maritimes de la France*, Paris, Pedone, 2022, pp. 45-56.

“The international law Commission and the sixth Committee of the UNGA”, in *Seventy years of the ILC*, Boston: Brill-Nijhoff Leien, 2020, pp 51-57.

“Le rôle du juge pendant l’état d’urgence”, in *Justice et État de droit - Regard sur l’État d’urgence en France et à l’étranger, Entretiens d’Aguesseau*, Pulim, 2019.

“La compétence de la Cour pénale internationale sur le crime d’agression”, in J. Fernandez, X. Pacreau and M. Ubéda-Saillard (eds.), *Statut de Rome de la Cour pénale internationale, commentaire article par article*, Paris, Pedone, 2019, pp. 391-406.

“Les frontières de la France”, *Pouvoirs*, n° 165, 2018, pp. 51-64.

“Le regard de l’agent sur le Tribunal international du droit de la mer. Témoignage à la lumière de l’affaire du “Grand Prince”, in G. Le Floch (ed.), *Les 20 ans du Tribunal International du Droit de la Mer*, Paris, Pedone, 2018, pp. 377-382.

“La politique juridique extérieure de la France”, intervention à l’Académie des Sciences morales et politiques, le 4 juillet 2016, in *La vie internationale et le droit*, Éditions Hermann, 2017, pp. 147-164.

“Assemblée générale des Nations Unies”, in H. Ascensio et al. (eds.), *Dictionnaire des idées reçues en droit international*, Paris, Pedone, 2017, pp. 43-47.

“Fondements juridiques de l’intervention française contre Daech en Irak et en Syrie” *Revue générale de droit international public*, vol. 120, n°1, 2016, pp. 41-50.

“L’entreprise face aux effets extraterritoriaux du droit”, contribution to *Peut-on réformer la France ?*, Le club des juristes, 2015, pp. 93-97.

“L’OSCE, cadre flexible pour la grande Europe”, *Revue des anciens élèves de l’ENA*, 2013.

“L’OSCE, la patience stratégique”, *Revue de la Défense nationale*, 2013.

“Le statut du Québec : aperçu historique” in *Mélanges en l’honneur de Jean-Pierre Puissochet, L’Etat souverain dans le monde d’aujourd’hui*, Paris : Pedone, 2008, pp. 3-13.

“Les méthodes possibles de délimitation maritime”, in *Le processus de délimitation maritime : étude d’un cas fictif*, International Colloquium, Monaco, 27-29 March 2003, Paris, Pedone, 2003, pp. 286-302.

“La pratique des comités de sanctions du Conseil de sécurité depuis 1990”, *Annuaire français de droit international*, vol. 45, 1999, pp. 226-279.

Teaching activities

- Course in public international law, Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po), 2001-2004
- Course in public international law, Paris Dauphine University, 1988-1992

Education

- French National School of Public Administration (ENA), “Michel de Montaigne” Year, 1986-1988
- Graduate of the Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po) (1982-1984)
- Bachelor’s degree in Law, University of Limoges (1982)

Various memberships

- Member of the French Society for International Law since 2001 and member of its board from 2014 to 2022
- Member of the International Law Association since 2014
- Member of the Strategic Steering Committee of the European School of Law Toulouse since 2019
- “International Gender Champion” (Member of the International Gender Champions network since 2022)

Honorary Distinctions

- *Chevalier* in the Legion of Honour
- *Officier* in the National Order of Merit
- Officer in the National Order of Quebec
- Knight Grand Cross of the Order of Orange-Nassau (Netherlands)

Languages

Ability to work in both languages of the International Court of Justice: French (native language) and English (fluent).

Knowledge of German (intermediate) and Dutch (basic).

Born on 12 January 1962 in Halifax (Canada), French nationality