

# Preface

We take this opportunity to share with our readership the completion of a transition process, which the *Netherlands Yearbook of International Law* (NYIL) has undergone during the past few years. The results of the transition process first became visible with the introduction of a new cover for volume 41 (2010), when Springer-Verlag got involved in the Yearbook, resulting in a cooperative endeavor between T.M.C. Asser Press, Cambridge University Press, and Springer-Verlag.

During the transition period four important substantive decisions were taken by the Editorial Board: the introduction of a specific theme for every volume of the NYIL, the removal of the ‘Documentation’ section, the introduction of a new section in the book entitled ‘Dutch Practice in International Law’, and the introduction of double-blind peer review. Each decision is briefly explained below.

Starting with volume 41 (2010) specific themes were introduced to encourage debate by addressing a topic from different perspectives. Volume 41 (2010) focused on the theme of ‘Necessity Across International Law’; volume 42 (2011) addressed the topic ‘Agora: The Case of Iraq: International Law and Politics’. The present volume focuses on ‘Legal Equality and the International Rule of Law: Essays in honour of P. H. Kooijmans’ and volume 44 (2013) will consider ‘Crisis and International Law: Decoy or Catalyst?’. Future themes will be announced on the T.M.C. Asser Press website ([www.asser.nl/yearbooks](http://www.asser.nl/yearbooks)). The Editorial Board encourages the submission of unsolicited manuscripts on the annual topic. For further information, please, contact Dr. Monika Ambrus, Managing Editor of the NYIL at [nyil@asser.nl](mailto:nyil@asser.nl) or [m.ambrus@asser.nl](mailto:m.ambrus@asser.nl) where manuscripts may also be submitted.

The Documentation section was removed because of the ample electronic availability of state practice related documentation, such as case law, legislation and other decisions of the government of The Netherlands related to international law. Since 2011 documents regarding the state practice of The Netherlands are available in electronic format at [www.asser.nl/nyil/documentation](http://www.asser.nl/nyil/documentation).

The present volume contains the first ‘Dutch Practice in International Law’, which consists of commentaries on salient developments in the practice of international law in The Netherlands. Hence, it emphasizes the link between the NYIL and The Netherlands.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that the NYIL has now formally instituted double-blind peer review. For more details you may visit [www.asser.nl/nyil/authors](http://www.asser.nl/nyil/authors).

We are confident that over the last few years we have laid a solid foundation for a strong NYIL, which can be flexible to future challenges and opportunities.

The Editors-in-Chief

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