



2022

Outstanding Women
of International, European
and Constitutional Law

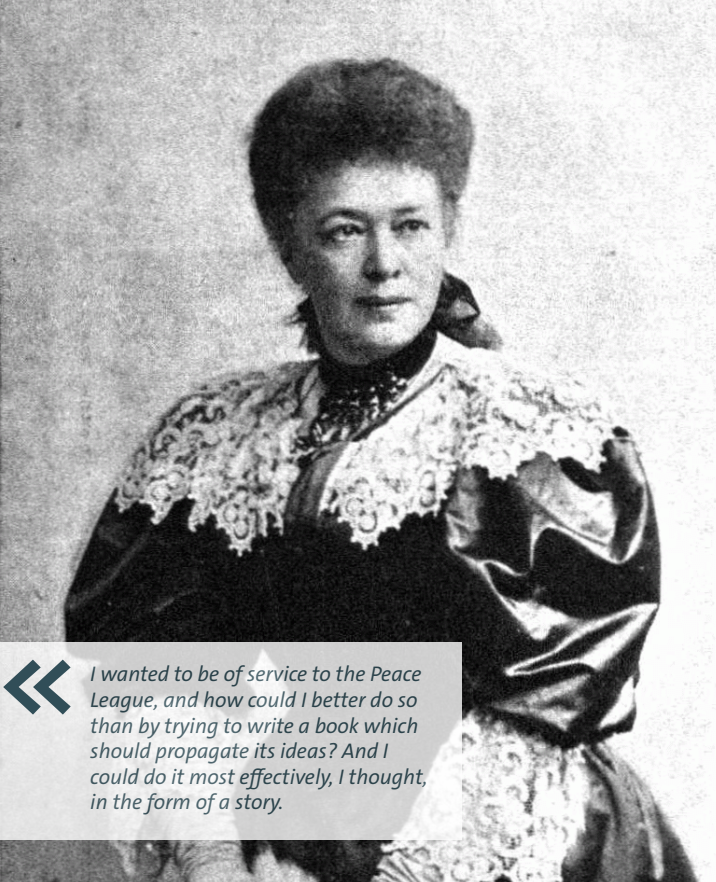


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FAKULTÄT

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Bertha von Suttner

9 June 1843

Bertha von Suttner was an Austrian writer (*Legt Die Waffen nieder!*), a feminist and a vocal pacifist. With her writings, she inspired an international audience with her pacifist ideals. She became a leading figure in the Austrian peace movement, co-founding the Austrian Society for Peace and the German Peace Society.

Suttner was involved in the creation of the Permanent Court of International Justice. She was the first woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize (1905).

« *I wanted to be of service to the Peace League, and how could I better do so than by trying to write a book which should propagate its ideas? And I could do it most effectively, I thought, in the form of a story.*

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1
2022



Elisabeth Selbert

22 September 1896

Elisabeth Selbert, who made up her A-levels in self-study and completed her law degree with honours in 6 semesters, wrote her PhD on the principle of irretrievable breakdown of marriage ahead of her time.

As a member of the Parliamentary Council, she was one of the four mothers of the German Constitution. The inclusion of “men and women have equal rights” in Art. 3 II 1 of the Basic Law is to her credit.

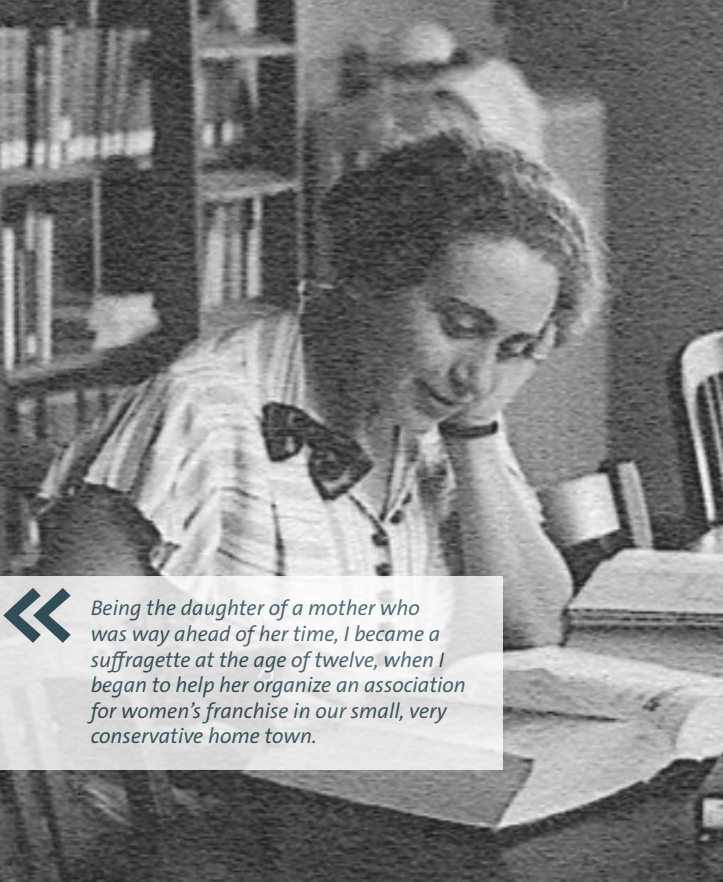


The failure to appoint women to public office and their low level of participation in parliaments is simply a permanent breach of the constitution.

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2022



Magdalene Schoch

15 February 1897

German-born Magdalene Schoch was a female pioneer in the field of higher education. She was among the first women to obtain a doctorate degree and the first ever woman in Germany to habilitate at a faculty of law.

Due to the rise of the NSDAP in Germany and her unfettered solidarity with the oppressed, she left her promising career behind and continued fighting for her political ideals in the US.



Being the daughter of a mother who was way ahead of her time, I became a suffragette at the age of twelve, when I began to help her organize an association for women's franchise in our small, very conservative home town.

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3 2022



« Europe's destiny and the future of the free world are entirely in our hands.

Simone Veil

13 July 1927

Simone Veil was a Jewish politician and lawyer who survived the Holocaust. In 1974, she became the Minister of Health in France and was elected the first female President of the European Parliament in 1979.

As a politician, she fought for cohesion in the European Union, women's rights and preserving the memory of Holocaust victims. One of her many accomplishments was legalizing abortion in France.

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Ruth Bader Ginsburg

15 March 1933

Ruth Bader Ginsburg still serves as a feminist icon and role model for young and ambitious women worldwide even after her death in 2020. She faced numerous challenges upon enrolling at Harvard Law School in 1956, being a wife, mother, and Jewish woman.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg fought passionately for women's rights, arguing fundamental cases before US Courts. In 1993, she was appointed to the US Supreme Court, only the second woman in history to do so.



People ask me sometimes, when –
when do you think it will be enough?
When will there be enough women on
the [Supreme] Court? And my answer
is: when there are nine.

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5 2022



Rosalyn Higgins

2 June 1937

Rosalyn Higgins studied law at the University of Cambridge and received her JSD from Yale University in 1962.

She worked for Chatham House and the London School of Economics, where she held the chair for International Law for 14 years. She then became the first female judge at the ICJ in 1995 and was its President from 2006 to 2009. From 1984 to 1995, she was a member of the UN Human Rights Committee.



I will endeavour to show international law as a normative system, harnessed to the achievement of common values – values that speak to us all, whether we are rich or poor, black or white, of any religion or none, or come from countries that are industrialized or developing.

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24W

25W

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6 2022



Dignity is the center, the heart of the human rights regime.

Elizabeth Odio Benito

15 September 1939

Elizabeth Odio Benito is a luminary in the fields of Human Rights and International Criminal Law, in addition to standing up for women's rights and non-discrimination.

She is currently the President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, after holding positions as Vice President of the ICTY and judge at the ICC. She represented her home country of Costa Rica as Minister of Justice, Attorney General and second Vice President.

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7
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Navanethem Pillay

23 September 1941

Having experienced apartheid as a woman of colour in South Africa, Navi Pillay dedicated her life to the promotion of Human Rights.

She practiced law as a defence attorney for anti-apartheid activists and later became UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

As the first female judge at the ICTR, she played a crucial role in defining rape and recognising genocidal rape in International Criminal Law.



I find equal rights for all a very strong argument for me to build self-confidence. And once I've done that and helped myself, then you think you have to help all the others as well.

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8 2022



Patricia Viseur Sellers

1954

Patricia Viseur Sellers is an International Criminal Lawyer. She started her career as a public defender before being appointed Legal Adviser for Gender at the ICTR, ICTY and ICC.

Her expertise is sought after by civil societies, international institutions and governments, which she has advised in regards to IHL, ICL and IHRL, particularly on the strategic investigation and prosecution of sexual violence.



I think one of the issues with intersectionality is, I've heard it waved as a banner but never implemented to its more profound meaning that there is not one woman alive who isn't also from a class, who isn't also from a race, who isn't also from a nation or a culture or has an age [...] and so it's [...] much better to really apply the [intersectionality] theory along with gender.

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9 2022



Although I am a judge, I'm also a mother. I'm also a wife. I'm also somebody's daughter. Do I put my human emotions in these cases? Are we not the human face of justice? I think we are.

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Julia Sebutinde

28 February 1954

Julia Sebutinde served as judge at the Special Court for Sierra Leone from 2005 to 2011, where she participated in establishing forced marriages as an international crime.

Since 2012, she has served as the first female African judge at the International Court of Justice, aiming at strengthening the trust of African Heads of State in the court as a reliable mechanism of peaceful dispute resolution.

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10 2022



Xue Hanqin

15 September 1955

Xue Hanqin is one of four female judges at the International Court of Justice in The Hague. First elected as a member of the ICJ in 2010, she served as Vice President from 2018 to 2021.

Previous positions held by her include Director-General of the Department of Treaty and Law of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Member of the International Law Commission, Chinese Ambassador to the Netherlands as well as to ASEAN and Permanent Representative to the OPCW.



Because you are a woman, this is your standard. Because he is a man, this is his standard. No, the standard remains the same, but the efforts for you means double.

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46W

47W

48W

11 2022



Hauwa Ibrahim

20 January 1968

Hauwa Ibrahim was born in a small village in northern Nigeria. Growing up in a Muslim family allowed her to develop a deep understanding of culture and religion, while going against the norm of marrying young allowed her to attend university and become a Human Rights Lawyer.

Today, she is most known for her pro bono work defending women condemned to death by stoning under Shariah law.



I was the rebel child; I was the black sheep of the family [...] I was rebellious on one hand, but on the other hand, I never left my culture. I never left the values of where I was brought up.

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12 2022

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The project “Outstanding Women of International, European and Constitutional Law” is an initiative of young researchers and students. Their aim is to make distinguished women, and their important contributions to the development of the national and international legal order, visible and more widely known.

An amplified montly version of this calendar will be released in 2022.

Please scan the QR-Code for more details:



uhh.de/rw-womencalendar2022

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01/01

Neujahr
New Year's Day

01/05

Tag der Arbeit
Labour Day

03/10

Tag der Deutschen Einheit
Day of German Unity

15/04

Karfreitag
Good Friday

26/05

Christi Himmelfahrt
Ascension Day

31/10

Reformationstag
Reformation Day

18/04

Ostermontag
Easter Monday

06/06

Pfingstmontag
Pentacost

**25/12 -
26/12**

1. und 2. Weihnachtsfeiertag
1st and 2nd Day of Christmas

FEIERTAGE
HOLIDAYS
2022