

## **MICHAEL J. MATHESON**

Professor Matheson has been a member of the international law faculty of the George Washington University Law School in Washington, DC for 15 years. He has taught international law at Oxford and Gottingen Universities and the Hague Academy of International Law; he has directed the International Law Program of the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies; and he has served as a Senior Fellow at the U.S. Institute of Peace. He has taught courses on public international law, international criminal law, U.S. foreign relations law, international institutions, and international conflict resolution. He has lectured at many law schools, universities, conferences and professional organizations. He has written three books, many articles and other published pieces on international law subjects. He has been a member of the Board of Editors of the *American Journal of International Law* for 20 years.

Professor Matheson served for four years as a member of the UN International Law Commission. He has argued many cases before international tribunals, including seven cases before the International Court of Justice. He has participated in many international negotiations, particularly on international humanitarian law, arms control, international claims, and environmental protection. He served as Head of Delegation (with the rank of Ambassador) to the UN negotiations on landmines and other conventional weapons. He led efforts to create the International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and Yugoslavia, and the UN Compensation Commission for the Gulf War.

Professor Matheson has also served as consultant and counsel to the U.S. State Department, and has been a member of the Department's Advisory Committee on International Law for 17 years. From 1972-2000, he served as a career attorney in the Office of the Legal Adviser of the State Department. He was Principal Deputy Legal Adviser from 1990-2000 and served for a total of more than two years as Acting Legal Adviser (the head of the bureau). He managed the Department's legal staff of more than 140 attorneys and, among other things, directed legal work on: the dissolution of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia; the Kosovo, Bosnia, Gulf War and Somalia crises; and the ratification of arms control and other treaties. He testified before Congressional committees on a number of occasions. He received many professional honors, including: the Presidential Distinguished Executive Award; the Federal Bar Association's Outstanding Federal Lawyer of the Year Award; and the American Bar Association's Outstanding Government International Lawyer of the Year Award.

Prior to his service in the U.S. State Department, he was: Attorney-Adviser in the Office of the General Counsel of the U.S. Air Force; Associate with the Washington law firm of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering; Desegregation Specialist with the Department of Health, Education & Welfare in Washington and Mississippi; and Congressional Page in the U.S. House of Representatives. He received an AB in Political Science from Stanford University in 1965, where he graduated with *Great Distinction*; and he received an LLB from Stanford Law School in 1968, where he was Recent Developments Editor of the *Stanford Law Review*. He was born in San Francisco in 1944. He is married to Patricia Matheson, and they have one son, Scott Matheson.

**Cases argued before international tribunals (partial list):**

- International Court of Justice:
  - *Oil Platforms* (Iran v. US), 1996 and 2003
  - *Legality of Use of Force* (Yugoslavia v. US), 1999
  - *Lockerbie* (Libya v. US), 1997
  - *Nuclear Weapons* (Advisory Opinion), 1995
- Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal:
  - *Replenishment*, 1999
  - *Foreign Military Sales*, 1987

**Major international negotiations (partial list):**

- UN International Law Commission, 2013-16
- UN negotiations on conventional weapons, 1980 & 1995-96
- Governing Council of the UN Compensation Commission, 1991-92
- US-Soviet negotiations on conventional arms transfers, 1978
- US-Soviet negotiations on peaceful nuclear explosions, 1976
- UN negotiations on maritime oil pollution, 1973
- Conference on endangered species, 1973

**Major publications (partial list):****Books:**

- International Civil Tribunals and Armed Conflict (2012), reviewed in 106 *Am. Journal of Int. Law* 896 (2012)
- Rules and Institutions of International Humanitarian Law Put to the Test of Recent Armed Conflicts (2008)
- Council Unbound: The Growth of UN Decision Making on Conflict and Postconflict Issues after the Cold War (2006), reviewed in 101 *Am. Journal of Int. Law* 685 (2007)

**Articles:**

- "Symposium on the International Criminal Tribunals for the Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda", 110 *Am. Journal of Int. Law* 171 (2016)
- Chapter in Shaping Foreign Policy in Times of Crisis: The Role of International Law and the State Department Legal Adviser (2010)
- "The Amendment of the War Crimes Act", 101 *Am. Journal of Int. Law* 48 (2007)
- Annual reports on the work of the International Law Commission, 101 *Am. Journal of Int. Law* 407 (2007); 100 *Am. Journal of Int. Law* 416 (2006); 99 *Am. Journal of Int. Law* 211 (2005); 98 *Am. Journal of Int. Law* 317 (2004)
- "United Nations Governance of Postconflict Societies", 95 *Am. Journal of Int. Law* 35 (2001)
- "The Opinions of the International Court of Justice on the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons", 91 *Am. Journal of Int. Law* 417 (1997)
- "The Revision of the Mines Protocol", 91 *Am. Journal of Int. Law* 158 (1997)

**Congressional testimony** (partial list):

- “Iraq’s Status Under Chapter VII Decisions of the UN Security Council”, House Foreign Affairs Committee (2009)
- “Renewing the United Nations Mandate for Iraq”, House Foreign Affairs Committee (2008)
- “Possible Extension of the UN Mandate for Iraq: Options”, House Foreign Affairs Committee (2008)
- “Negotiating a Long Term Relationship with Iraq”, Senate Foreign Relations Committee (2008)
- “Status of Forces Agreements and UN Mandates”, House Foreign Affairs Committee (2008)
- “The Proposed Agreement on the Future U.S. Presence in Iraq”, House Foreign Affairs Committee (2008)
- “U.S. Security Commitments to Iraq”, House Foreign Affairs Committee (2008)
- “Ratification of the Amended Protocol on Landmines”, Senate Foreign Relations Committee (1997)
- “The War Crimes Act of 1995”, House Judiciary Committee (1996)
- “The Ratification of the Convention on Conventional Weapons”, Senate Foreign Relations Committee (1995)
- “Iraq Claims Legislation”, Senate Foreign Relations Committee (1994)
- “War Crimes Legislation”, Senate Foreign Relations Committee (1994)
- “The Iraq Claims Act of 1993”, House Foreign Affairs Committee (1993)
- “Iran Claims Legislation”, Senate Foreign Relations Committee (1985)
- “The Iran Claims Act”, House Foreign Affairs Committee (1983)

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