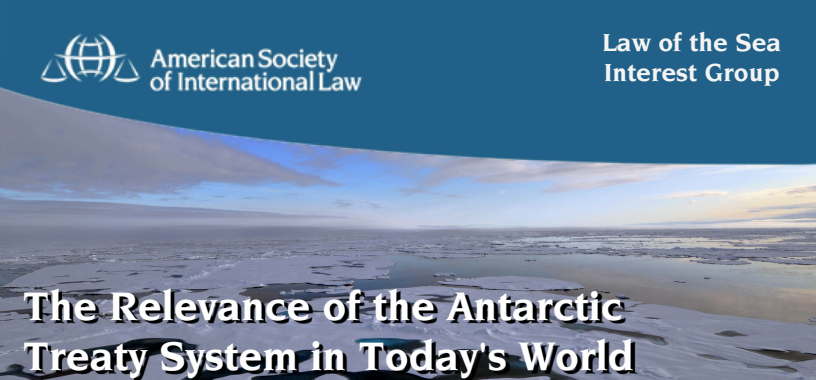




The Relevance of the Antarctic Treaty System in Today's World

The Antarctic Treaty System (ATS) with 58 state parties remains one of the most successful frameworks of contemporary polar governance. Applying to the area 60° South latitude, it preserves Antarctica for peaceful purposes, protecting the freedom of scientific investigation, and through the Protocol on Environmental Protection, designates the continent as a natural reserve devoted to peace and science. The ATS operates as a specialised governance arrangement that works alongside general international law while addressing the distinctive needs of Antarctica. Its continuing relevance lies in its ability to combine science, law and governance, environmental stewardship, cooperative decision-making and marine conservation in a region of global ecological and strategic significance.

In this regard, the third quarterly webinar series of ASIL – LOSIG – RRU – SMU, following the 48th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting in Hiroshima, Japan (11-21 May 2026), will explore the following aspects: (1) the effectiveness of the Antarctic Treaty System (ATS) in preserving Antarctica for peace, science and international cooperation; (2) emerging concerns of transparency, tourism and climate change in Antarctic governance; and (3) enduring relevance and lessons from the ATS to the world.

Speakers:

- **Evan Bloom**, former State Department lawyer and diplomat, lead for U.S. Antarctic policy
- **Claire Christian**, The Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition
- **Alan Hemmings**, University of Canterbury
- **India Hodgson-Johnston**, University of Tasmania
- **Rose Leeger**, University of Colorado Boulder

Moderator: **Liu Nengye**, Singapore Management University, Yong Pung How School of Law

Discussant: **Bimal N. Patel**, Member (India), United Nations International Law Commission

Thursday, June 4, 2026
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. ET

Information and Registration:
asil.org/events