

**NICHOLAS A. ROBINSON**

**University Professor for the Environment**

Pace University

*and*

**Gilbert & Sarah Kerlin Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law *Emeritus***

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*Appointment as University Professor*

*Background:* From time to time, the Trustees of Pace University designate individual professors who have contributed significantly to scholarship in their fields and who are distinguished in their service to the University and their Schools and disciplines, as *University Professor*.

*University Citation* (11 March 2009): "The trustees have conferred the position of University Professor for the Environment on Nicholas A. Robinson. He helped to establish the field of environmental law, both in the USA and abroad, and continues to build environmental law in nations around the Earth through his scholarship and capacity building. As a University Professor, he collaborates across Pace University's faculties and environmental programs and lectures widely on behalf of the University. His research into how the law can advance climate change mitigation and adaptation cuts across a number of disciplines. Climate change is quintessentially a global issue, and Prof. Robinson's international and comparative environmental legal studies are a contribution that Pace University makes to our society."

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This résumé summarizes Prof. Nicholas Robinson's work during 40 years in establishing and strengthening environmental law, in particular his specialization in international and comparative environmental law and policy. It sets forth his (I) formal education, (II) academic credentials as a law teacher, (III) professional experience as a lawyer, (IV) public service, including in the international sector, (V) scholarly publications, and (VI) personal data. In recognition of his leadership establishing Pace University's programs in environmental legal education, Pace Law School named him

James D. Hopkins Professor in 1991-2, and thereafter named him the Gilbert & Sarah Kerlin Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law in 1999. In 1992, he was awarded The Elizabeth Haub Prize in Environmental Law by the Université Libre du Bruxelles. In 2002 the Natural Resources Council of America conferred upon him its National Environment Quality Award. In 2012, the World Conservation Congress of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) conferred Honorary Membership on Prof. Robinson "in recognition of outstanding service in the field of conservation of nature and natural resources." In 2012 also he was inducted into the American College of Environmental Lawyers. His contributions to the field of international environmental law are described in Barbara Lausche, Weaving A Web of Environmental Law (Erich Schmidt Verlag, Berlin, 2008). Prof. Robinson also taught international and comparative environmental law as Professor Adjunct, Yale University School of Forestry & Environment, under Deans James Gustav Speth, Sir Peter Crain and Dr. Indy Burke (New Haven, Connecticut).

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## I. Education

A.B. cum laude, Brown University (1967)  
Phi Beta Kappa

J.D. cum laude, Columbia University (1970)  
Articles Editor, Columbia Journal of Transnational Law  
International Affairs Fellow (1969) [founded the Environmental Law Society and secured approval for the launch of the Columbia Journal of Environmental Law, 1969-70)

International Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations  
(1977-78) (Environmental Protection and Foreign Policy)

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar  
for Law Teachers, Stanford University (1981)

## II. Academic

Professor of Law since 1978 (with a leave of absence 1983-84 to head legal division of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation) at Pace University School of Law

Established Pace's Environmental Law Program ([www.law.pace.edu](http://www.law.pace.edu))

and its Center for Environmental Legal Studies, and the *Pace Environmental Law Review*,



2017-2018 - Participated in the drafting of the “Global Pact for the Environment,” presented at The Sorbonne, Paris France; lectured on the principle of resilience at The Sorbonne Faculty of Law, Paris, France; lectured at Columbia University School of Law on the Global Pact Principles.

2016 – Lectures at the 1<sup>st</sup> World Congress on Environmental Law, Rio de Janeiro, <https://www.iucn.org/commissions/world-commission-environmental-law/events-wcel/past-events/1st-iucn-world-environmental-law-congress-april-2016>

2016 – Invited Panel Speaker on “Environmental Law in South Asia,” for the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools., New York, New York, January 8, 2016

2015-16:

“The Role of Congress in Environmental Law,” at the Environmental Law & Property Rights Panel at the 2015 National Lawyers Convention of The Federalist Society, Washington, D.C. Nov. 14, 2015

“Conservation & Non-Renewable Resources and the Post-2015 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” at the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of the Inter-American Bar Association, Washington, D.C. November 13, 2015

ICRC, Palo Alto, California, May 21-22, 2015

Workshop Participant for the update of the IUCN/ICEL Draft Covenant on Environment & Development, Madrid, Spain, March 2-4, 2015

Environmental Law Programme Participant for the IUCN Quadrennial Programme Planning Conference, IUCN, Gland, Switzerland, January 19-23, 2015

Lecture on “The Forest Charter of 2017,” on the panel “Magna Carta: Foundation of Freedom and Democracy,” a panel of the American Bar Association’s 2013 International Law Section’s Fall Conference, London, England UK, October 15-19., 2015

“Re-Conceptualizing Sustainability: The Anthropocene Agenda,” the concluding Keynote Address of the Annual Conference of the Resources Management Law Association (RMLA) of New Zealand, “Resources Law in the Anthropocene,” Dunedin, New Zealand, 25-27 September 2014

“Comparative Trends in Environmental Law” at the 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Environmental & Agricultural; Law, Belem, Para, Brazil, 27 August 2014

“Legal Redress for Transboundary Pollution through Environmental Cooperation,” at a Conference on Transfrontier Air Pollution, Centre for International law, National University of Singapore February 27-28, 2014

2012-13:

Lectures at the Rio+20 UN Conference in June, 2012, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Lectures at the Judicial conference of the Korean Environmental Law Association (KELA) in Seoul, Korea, September 2013

2007 -2011:

“Eve’s Green Apple: Rules and Responsibilities for Innovators,” at the conference on Knowledge, Innovation and the Interaction between University and Industry, 26 October 2007, University of Twente, The Netherlands

“A Climate of Disruption: Legal Measures for Adaptation and Mitigation,” Michigan State University College of Law, East Lansing, Michigan, February 15, 2008, Keynote Address: “Negotiating the

Climate Law Regime to Succeed the Kyoto Protocol: The Bali Action Plan.”

Yale University Conference on “Renewing Hope: Pathways of Religious Environmentalism,” March 1, 2008, New Haven, Connecticut, Lecture: “The Earth Charter”

6<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Environmental Law, Attorney General of the City of Rio de Janeiro, in honor of Prof. Nicholas A. Robinson, 30 May 2008, Rio de Janeiro,. Brazil – Lecture, following

Metropolitana (Autonomous Metropolitan University) Mexico – Azcapotzalco, Mexico City, for the Seminar “El Papel Del Derecho en la Mitigación y Adaptación del Cambio Climático, April 8, 2011, Mexico City, Mexico

“The Principle of Resilience on Environmental Law,” at the annual Colloquium, of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law, Wuhan University, Wuhan, China, 2011

Previously:

Syracuse SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry Distinguished Lecturer 1990 (Syracuse, N.Y.); Parsons Fellow at the Faculty of Laws for the University of Sydney 1995 (Australia); Faculty Development Lectures, University of Florida (Gainesville) 1997; Natural Resources Law Institute Distinguished Visitor, Lewis & Clark Law School (Oregon), November 2004

Individual Lectures, by invitation at: University of Alaska (Fairbanks); Albany Law School; Brown University (Environmental Studies Program); University of California (Berkeley): Connecticut Law School; Columbia Law School; St. John's Law School; Hofstra University; Yale University; Lewis & Clark Law School; University of Tulsa (NELPI); University of Houston Law Center; Institute for Ecosystems Studies; New York Botanical Society's American Museum of Natural History

Lectures by invitation abroad at: Faculty of Law, Kuwait University; the Central European University (Budapest); Institut des Hautes Etudes Internationales (Geneva); National Law School of India (Bangalore); The Faculty of Laws of the National University of Singapore; the Law School of Sydney University; the Université Libre du Bruxelles; The University of Dundee (Petroleum & Natural Resources Institute, Scotland; The University College London Law Faculty (two different years); University of Southampton Law Faculty (two different years); St. Petersburg (Leningrad) University Law Faculty (two different years); L'viv University (Ukraine); Banaras Hindu University (Varanasi, India); The Catholic University of Salvadore (Bahia, Brazil); Ottawa University Law Faculty; University of British Columbia; McGill University; Moi University School of Environmental Studies (Eldoret, Kenya), Nairobi University School of Law (Kenya); Shanghai Jiao Tong University Faculty of Law; Wuhan University National Environmental Law Research Institute; Macquarie University Faculty of Law; Charles Darwin University Desert Law Institute

Lectures at significant conferences: 1999, 2004, 2007 International



Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (1983-85)

Member, Legal Advisory Committee to the President's Council on Environmental Quality (1970-72)

Previous private practice of law (Civil litigation in Federal and NYS Courts & Environmental Law); Associate (1972-76) & Counsel (1977-83 and 1985-90), successively at Marshall, Bratter, Greene, Allison & Tucker (Dissolved 1980); Weiner, Newburger & Sive (1980-1983, reorganized 1984 as Sive, Paget & Riesel); and Sive, Paget & Riesel, P.C. (1985-90)

Law Clerk, Hon. Morris E. Lasker, U. S. District Court, S.D.N.Y. (1970-71)

Member of the Bars of the State of New York (senior Status since 2014), the U.S. Supreme Court, and The 2nd and 7th Circuits Courts of Appeals, and the federal District Courts for the SDNY and EDNY

#### *Bar Association Positions*

Elected as Fellow of the College, The American College of Environmental Lawyers, October 19, 2012

Life Fellow, American Bar Foundation (Since 1992)

Member, American Law Institute, 1990, designated as a Life Member, American Laws Institute May 19, 2015.

Member, Board of Directors, Environmental Law Institute (Washington, D.C.), 2005 – present

ABA: Formerly Vice-Chair, Committee on International Environmental Law, Section on Environmental Law & Natural Resources (now the Section on Environment, Energy & Resources, SEER); Member, Section on International Law

Successor Founding Governor, International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL), following Prof. Homer Angelo

New York State Bar Association (NYSBA): Appointed a Member of the Committee on the NYS

Association of Bar of City of NY: Former Chair, Environmental Law Committee; formerly a Member of the Committee on Former Soviet Union and Committee on International Environmental Law

American Society for International Law: Member, International Environmental Law Interest Group

Member International Bar Association (retired 2015)

Listed in Marquis' *Who's Who in Law* and other biographic compendia (*Martindale-Hubble* AV rating)

#### Scientific Society Memberships

American Association for the Advancement of Science;  
NY Academy of Science

#### IV. Selected Awards

2014 -The IUCN World Conservation Congress conferred Honorary Membership on Prof. Nicholas A. Robinson, "in recognition of outstanding service in the field of conservation of nature and natural resources," Jeju, Korea, 6-15 September 2012

2013 – Elected a Fellow of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law, Waikato, New Zealand

2004 - Scenic Hudson "Friend of the Hudson" Award

2004 – Honored by the "Tribute to Nicholas A. Robinson" at the 8<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Environmental Law of the Institute of Law for a Green Planet, Sao Paulo, Brazil (published in A.H. Benjamin, Wildlife Protection: Policy & Legal Instruments (2004).

2003 - Federated Conservationists of Westchester County Award

2003 - Elected Honorary Vice President of the Sierra Club

Natural Resources Council of America *National Environmental Quality Award* (Washington, D.C.)

1999 – Invested as the first Gilbert \* Sarah Kerlin Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law, by Pace University

1992 - Elizabeth Haub Prize in Environmental Law - Conferred by the Free University of Brussels (Belgium) and ICEL

1990-92 - James D. Hopkins Professor of Law - designation by Pace

## University

1984 - Raymond J. Sherwin Award, by The Sierra Club, "For outstanding efforts in the establishment and direction of the International Program of The Sierra Club and for his continuing commitment to the course of international conservation policy."

1981 - NY State Bar Association Award, "in recognition of his efforts in spreading knowledge of Environmental Law and of establishing the Environmental Law Section."

1976 – Sierra Club Special Achievement Award “for the creative vision and perseverance that produced EARTHCARE the 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial

Investigations, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Serial No. 101-14 (March 12, 1990)

Hearing, "U.S. Policy Toward the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development," Subcommittee on Human Rights and International Organizations, Committee on Foreign Affairs, 102d Cong., Print 50-669 (ISBN 0-16-037190-2), p. 71 (July 24, 1991)

### Senate

Hearing, "S.2219 - A Bill to Amend the Export Administration Act," Subcommittee on International Finance and Monetary Policy, Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs (June 7, 1984)

Hearing, "The National Environmental Policy Act," Subcommittee on Superfund, Ocean and Water Protection, Committee on Environment and Public Works (June 1, 1989)

### B. N.Y. State Service

Chairman, Planning Board, Village of Sleepy Hollow (1998-2008)

Member, Environmental Transition Team to Governor George E. Pataki (1994-95)

Chairman, Environmental Advisory Board to Governor Mario M. Cuomo (1985-94)

Chairman, Greenway Heritage Conservancy For The Hudson River Valley, Inc. (1993-95) (organized and inaugurated this public authority of the State of N.Y.; drafted its corporate by-laws)

Chairman, NYS Freshwater Wetlands Appeals Board (Appointed twice by Gov. Hugh Carey; confirmed by NYS Senate) (1976-83) (Organized and inaugurated this quasi-judicial board and drafted its Rules of Procedure, 6

& Water Conservation District board (1976-83)

Draftsman and legislative advocate for adoption of NYS Tidal Wetlands Act (1973 NY Laws ch. 790); and of the Wild Bird Law (§ 11-1728, ECL); defended successfully the Constitutionality of Wild Bird Law as amicus curiae counsel for National Audubon Society in Cresenzi Bird Imports v. NYS, 658 F. Supp. 1441 (SDNY 1987), aff'd 831 F.2d 410 (2d Cir. 1987)

### C. International Service

2005-present, Member, Environmental Advisory Council to the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

2011 – Convener and Moderator of the International Symposium on Environmental Adjudication, for IUCN, the NYS Judicial Institute, ELI, and Pace Law School, April 1, 2011 (White Plains, NY), lectures archived at [www.law.pace.edu](http://www.law.pace.edu)

2004-2008, Initial, founding Chairman of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law

1996– 2004, Chairman, IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (Elected twice by the IUCN World Conservation Congress, October 1996, Montreal; October 2000, Amman); Former Deputy Chair (1989-96), Commission on Environmental Law, IUCN (Gland, Switzerland); participant, review group for IUCN's proposal draft for a treaty on "Bio-Diversity," and IUCN Drafting Group for "Covenant on Environment and Development"

1994-1996, Chairman, Drafting Group for Statutes Review Committee of IUCN (revised IUCN Statutes and Regulations in English, French and Spanish; Revisions adopted in 1996 by World Conservation Congress)

USA Delegate, 1973-92, USA Delegations to USSR under Area XI, Environmental Law & Administration, 1972 Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection

1975-1993, Representative to ECOSOC for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature & Natural Resources (IUCN) (NYC); 1993-2000, Representative to ECOSOC







Global Ethics and the Future of Global Governance Fulfilling the Promise of the Earth Charter (Peter Burdon et al. eds.) (2019)

Nicholas A. Robinson, "Transnational Perspectives on the Paris Climate Agreement Beyond Paris: Redressing American Defaults in Caring for Earth's Biosphere," 34 *Md. J. Int'l L.* 301 (2019).

Nicholas A. Robinson, "The Charter of the Forest: Evolving Human Rights in Nature," in The Impact of Environmental Law: Stories Of The World We Want (Rose-Liza Eisma-Osorio, Elizabeth A. Kirk & Jessica Steinberg Albin eds., 2020)

Nicholas A. Robinson, "The Most Fundamental Right," in the *Environmental Forum* (Environmental Law institute). Jan.-Feb. 2019, at 46.

Nicholas A. Robinson, Shelby D. Green, Historic Preservation: Law and Culture (Carolina Academic Press, 2018).

Nicholas A. Robinson "Biodiversity in International Environmental Law through the UN Sustainable Development Goals", in *Routledge Handbook of Biodiversity And The Law* (Charles R. McManis & Burton Ong eds., 2018).

Nicholas A. Robinson "The Nature of Courts," in Courts and the Environment (Christina Voigt & Zen Makuch eds., 2018).

Kheng-Lian Koh, Nicholas Robinson and Lin Heng Lye, ASEAN Environmental Legal Integration: Sustainable Goals (Cambridge University Press, April 2016).

Nicholas A. Robinson, "The UN SDGs & Environmental Law: Cooperative Remedies for Addressing Natural Disaster Risk," in D. Fisher and J. Peel, ed., chapter 5 in The Role of International Environmental Law in Disaster Risk Reduction (Brill Nijhoff, 2016).

Nicholas A. Robinson, "Re-Conceptualizing Sustainability: The Anthropocene Agenda," RM Journal (Proceedings of the Resources Management Law Association, RMLA) of New Zealand (2016).

Nicholas A. Robinson, "The Forest Charter" in Daniel B. Magraw, et al., Magna Carta and the Rule of Law (ABA, 2014).

Nicholas A. Robinson, "The Resilience Principle," 5 *IUCN Academy of Environmental Law E-Journal* 19-17 (2014)

Nicholas A. Robinson (with Koh Kheng Lian), "South-South Cooperation: Foundations for Sustainable Development," chapter 26 in S. Alam, S. Atapattu, C.G. Gonzalez, ad J. Rassaque, International Environmental Law and the Global South (Cambridge University Press, 2015).



MEAs in Asia and the World,” in Koh, K.L., Lye, L.H., and Lin, J., Crucial Issues in Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol (World Scientific Pub. Co., 2010), at pp. 3-30

Nicholas A. Robinson, “The Sands of Time: Reflections on the Copenhagen Climate Negotiations,” 29 Pace Environmental Law Review at 599 (2010)

Nicholas A. Robinson, editor of symposium, “Survey of Environmental

Methodology or Paper Tiger,” vol. 13, *South African Journal of Law & Policy* (2007).

Nicholas A. Robinson, “Terrorism’s Unintended Casualties: Implications for Environmental Law in the USA & Abroad,” *Environmental Policy & Law* (double issue, Dec/2006 and Jan/2007).

Nicholas A. Robinson (with Rosemary Nicholas), “The 2005 Constitutional Violation of New York’s Forest Preserve: What Remedy?” 26 The

Compare de l'Environnement, Limoges, France) at p. 245 (2003).

Nicholas A. Robinson, "Challenges Confronting the Progressive Development of a Second Generation of Environmental Laws," at 27, and "Energy Law's Potential Contribution to Stabilize Climate," at 73, in Lye Lin-Heng and Maria Socorro Z. Manguiat (Eds.), Towards a 'Second Generation' in Environmental Laws in the Asian and Pacific Region: Selected Trends (Cambridge., UK, IUCN, 2003)

Donna G. Craig, Nicholas A. Robinson, Koh Kheng Lian, Capacity Building for Environmental law in the Asian and Pacific Region – Approaches and Resources (2 volumes) (Asian Development Bank, 2002), with a second edition following

Nicholas A. Robinson, "Befogged Vision: International Environmental Law Governance a Decade After Rio," William & Mary Environmental Law and Policy Review (2002).

Nicholas A. Robinson, "Strengthening Sustainable Development in Regional Intergovernmental Governance: Lessons from the 'ASEAN Way'", in Singapore Journal of International and Comparative Law (2002, No. 4).

Nicholas A. Robinson, "Environmental Law: The Bedrock for Sustainability," in Volume I, Country Reports, for The Global Judges' 1858 TD.0012 Tc-.

Nicholas A. Robinson,

leaf documents compilation (Oceana, Dobbs Ferry, NY, supplements, 1995-2014; continued by W.E. Burhenne since 2014)

Nicholas A. Robinson, "Attaining Systems for Sustainability Through Environmental Law," 12 *Natural Resources and Environment* 86 (ABA



