



University of Zurich

Institute for Public International and Comparative Constitutional Law

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Daniel Thürer,
LL.M. (Cambridge)

Curriculum vitae

1. Education

- High School St. Gallen, specialisation in humanities (Latin, Ancient Greek); A-levels in 1964.
- University studies in law (and economics) at the Universities of Zurich, St. Gallen, Geneva and Cambridge; graduating *summa cum laude* with a *lic. iur.* (Master's degree in law) from the University of Zurich in 1970, with an LL.M. from the University of Cambridge in 1974, and with a Doctor of Laws *summa cum laude* from the University of Zurich in 1974.
- Research Fellow ("Referent") at the Max Planck Institute of Public International Law and Comparative Public Law in Heidelberg, 1976-1979.
- Visiting Scholar at the Harvard Law School, Cambridge (MA), 1979-1981.

2. Academic Positions

- I have been Professor of Public International, European, Swiss and Comparative Constitutional Law at the University of Zurich since 1983. In 1989, I succeeded Professor Dietrich Schindler jun. (Chair previously held by, *inter alia*, Professors Dietrich Schindler sen. and Max Huber). I have been Director of the University's Institute for Public International and Comparative Constitutional Law. I am also Founding Director of the European Institute, where European law is taught and research on European law carried out, and which organises conferences such as the well-known annual "Churchill Symposium" (jointly organised with the British Embassy in Berne).
- From 1998 to 2000, I was Dean of the Law Faculty.
- I was a visiting professor at the Harvard Law School (1989 and 2002) and at the Stanford School of Law (1996), where I conducted research. I have also taught at a number of other universities: at the University of St. Gallen (1983-1985), at the University of Fribourg (1986-1992), at the University of Geneva (2006/07),



and at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan (Poland), where I taught courses on minority rights in 2007/08.

- In 2000, I was "Distinguished Visiting Professor" at the University of Hongkong; at Panthéon-Assas (Paris II), I lectured on fundamental ideas and principles of the European integration (2008); I was also hosted by the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law of the University of Cambridge within the Herbert Smith Visiting Programme (2008).
- In 2008, I taught a course at the Hague Academy of International Law on "International Humanitarian Law: Theory and Practice".
- In 2010 I taught a course at the "Institut des Droits de l'Homme" in Strassbourg and the "Venice Academy of Human Rights".
- I have participated in, and contributed to, numerous conferences in Switzerland and, even more often, abroad (Germany, Austria, Belgium, Spain, United Kingdom, Israel, India, Sri Lanka etc.). I was keynote speaker at, *inter alia*, the International Conference on Federalism in St.Gallen (2002); in 2003, I held the "Inaugural Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Lecture on International Humanitarian Law" in Bangkok; in 2005, I was opening speaker on the contemporary challenges of international humanitarian law at the Conference on International Humanitarian Law organised by the Collège d'Europe in Bruges (Belgium).
- I have advised other universities and academic institutions in numerous evaluation procedures (most recently within a Peer Commission on the organisation of the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva (2004) and at the Law Faculty of the University of Graz (2005)), and I was member of appointment bodies at the University of Geneva (2007 and 2008), at the European University Institute (2007), at the Max Planck Society (2007), at the University of Salzburg (2008), and at the University of Konstanz (2010).
- I am a member of the Advisory Board of the Max Planck Institute in Heidelberg and a member of the Council of the Walther Schücking Institute of Public International Law. In 2001, I was appointed Member of the Advisory Board of the Concord Research Center, School of Law, College of Management – Academic Studies, Israel.

3. Public Office

- Legal Counsel of the Canton of Aargau (1981-1983): My tasks included the redaction of appellate decisions, of statutes and of by-laws, as well as advising the Cantonal Government on legal matters.
- Judge on the Constitutional Court of the Principality of Liechtenstein (1989-2000); delivering opinions in numerous cases.



- Active in the “Human Dimension” of the OSCE (Missions to the Baltic States and to the Czech and Slovak Republics after their separation; missions to the Ukraine and to Moldova with a view to implementing a new constitutional system in Moldova).
- Instructing judge and Member of the Commission on Strategy of the Federal Defence Ministry (dealing with, *inter alia*, international legal issues such as neutrality, human rights etc.).
- Member of the Board of Commissioners of the UN Claims Commission Kuwait/Iraq (1992).
- Member of the OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, first as alternate member of the Court and subsequently as a Conciliator of the Conciliation Commission (since 1996).
- President of the Foundation “Liberales Institut” (Liberal Institute).
- Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague since 2004.
- International Committee of the Red Cross: Member of the Assembly, the ICRC’s supreme governing body, since 1991; President of the ICRC Legal Commission (1996-1999). Representing the ICRC as Vice-President at the Anti-Mines Conference in Thailand (2003); keynote speaker at the Second Commonwealth Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference on International Humanitarian Law in Wellington, New Zealand (2007); keynote speaker at the Annual Conference of the Indian Society of International law (2004); ICRC Rapporteur on Developments in International Humanitarian Law at the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Geneva (2007). Representing the ICRC on missions to the Baltic States, Russia, Zimbabwe, Zambia, East Timor, India, Australia (two missions), Germany, Sri Lanka, Burma, Cambodia, the Philippines, and at the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court in Rome (1998).
- Presiding over moot courts held in Russia and Belarus in 1998 and 2000.
- Member of the Commission of Experts on the Complete Revision of the Swiss Federal Constitution.
- Member of the Independent International Commission of Experts – Switzerland in the Second World War (2000-2001).
- Swiss Member of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) of the Council of Europe since 2004; drafting numerous documents in this capacity; missions to Denmark, Morocco, Georgia and Serbia.
- Founding President of the Swiss Section of the International Commission of Jurists (1991), subsequently Member of the International Commission (1994) and, since 2004, Member of the international Executive Committee (participating in conferences in Bangalore and Berlin).



- Rapporteur at the Forum of Federations Conference in New Delhi (2007).
- Member of the Commission of Experts on the Legal Status of the OSCE (2006/07).
- Initiator and vice-president of the CONVIVENZA Foundation for the International Protection of Minorities.
- President of the German Society of International Law.
- Member of the "Institut de Droit International".

I have advised public authorities (parliament, government, administrative bodies, etc.) on numerous occasions. The most recent instances include a legal opinion on Kosovo for the Foreign Policy Committee of the National Assembly (2008) and for a member of the Federal Council (2008) and a legal opinion for the Federal Department of Justice and Police on the advisability of Switzerland adopting a dualist approach to international law (2008). I am also member of a group of experts on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons (2008). For several years I am a member of the Selecting Committee for the Diplomatic Corps of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Furthermore, I have advised foreign authorities such as the Polish Parliament in 1983 and the Bundestag in Germany in 2006 on constitutional questions.

4. Publications, Editorial Boards

I published widely in the fields of international law, European law and (comparative) public law. Some of my latest books are:

- Daniel Thürer, *Völkerrecht als Fortschritt und Chance – Grundidee Gerechtigkeit*, Band 2, Zürich/Baden-Baden 2008
- Thomas Buergenthal und Daniel Thürer, *Menschenrechte – Ideale, Instrumente, Institutionen*, Zürich/Baden-Baden 2009
- Daniel Thürer and Zdzislaw Kedzia (eds.), *Managing Diversity – Protection of Minorities in International Law*, Zürich 2009
- Daniel Thürer, *Kosmopolitisches Staatsrecht – Grundidee Gerechtigkeit*, Band 1, Zürich 2005
- *Verfassungsrecht der Schweiz – Droit constitutionnel suisse* (together with Jean-François Aubert and Jörg Paul Müller), Zürich 2001
- *Perspektive Schweiz – Übergreifendes Verfassungsdenken als Herausforderung*, Zürich 1998

Book projects will deal with basic considerations about International Humanitarian Law, the law of European Integration and Constitutional Law.



I am a member of the Board of Editors of the Encyclopaedia of Public International Law.

I am co-editor of three law journals (Revue du droit Suisse; Revue suisse de droit international et de droit européen; Archiv des Völkerrechts).



5. Conferences

I have organised numerous conferences, such as:

- At our Institute for Public International and Comparative Constitutional Law in Zurich: on neutrality (with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Federal President); on the role of diplomats (with the Minister of Foreign Affairs); on minorities in international law ("Managing Diversity", with international experts); on trans-border relations of sub-national entities (with members of the federal parliament and administration and representatives of sub-national units); on the "war" on terrorism and the limits of the rule of law; on the role of "International law since 1945: A Personal Journey" (with Dame Rosalyn Higgins, President of the International Court of Justice); on human trafficking (with representation of the OSCE); on the right to life and the prohibition of torture under the European Convention (with Prof. Luzius Wildhaber, former President of the European Court of Human Rights).
- At the European Institute: seminars on the European Convention on Human Rights, and on other issues of European law.

6. Memberships

- Zurich Lawyers Association (President 1989-91).
- Swiss Society of International Law (Committee Member).
- Swiss Association of Jurists.
- International Law Association, Swiss Section.
- Swiss Institute of International Studies (Committee and Council Member).
- Swiss Society for Foreign Affairs (Member of the Advisory Committee).
- International Commission of Jurists, Swiss Section (President 1991-95).
- « Swiss Peace » (Committee Member).
- Harvard Club of Switzerland.
- Harvard Law School Foundation Switzerland (Member of the Board of Trustees).
- Swiss Helsinki Association (Committee Member).
- Association of German Public Law Professors (Member of the Board 1998-2000).
- German Society of International Law (Member of the Board 2004-2009).
- Switzerland-Liechtenstein Society (Committee Member since 1992).



7. Honors

- Dr. rer. publ. h.c. of the University of St. Gallen (2001).
- Consultant and Honorary Professor of the Gujarat National Law University, India (since 2005).
- I am a Member of the "Institut de droit international".

8. Languages

German, French, English.

Zurich, March 2010.