



## Symposium: “A Court for the World? Trust in the ICJ 50 years after South West Africa”

30 November 2016, 14:15h

*Organised in cooperation with the Amsterdam Center for International Law of the University of Amsterdam  
in the context of the ASSER-ICJ Series*

The ICJ's 1966 decision on the merits of the South West Africa cases was widely perceived as a plain disaster. It cast the Court into a deep crisis and alienated newly independent states further from the Court. It all but destroyed the wavering trust that they had placed in the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. A judgment of such magnitude warrants renewed attention on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary. In particular, it invites inquiries into the Court's representativeness and its appeal in the world. The present symposium reminds of the South West Africa cases and asks about the Court's past and present capacity to induce trust. More specifically, it explores questions of the Court's representativeness and of its responsiveness to the aspirations of different parts of the world.

Judge Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf of the International Court of Justice, will offer an evening talk, titled “Trust in International Courts and Tribunals by African States after South West Africa”.

### Speakers:

- H.E. Ms María Teresa Infante, *Ambassador of Chile*
- Prof. Dr John Dugard, *Leiden University/University of Pretoria*
- Dr Victor Kattan, *National University of Singapore*
- Dr Sara Kendall, *Kent Law School*
- Prof. Dr Janne Nijman, *T.M.C. Asser Instituut*
- Dr Cecily Rose, *Leiden University*
- Dr Ingo Venzke, *Amsterdam Center for International Law/University of Amsterdam*

This event falls under the Asser Institute's new research strand of “Dispute Settlement and Adjudication” coordinated by Dr Geoff Gordon, Senior Researcher at T.M.C. Asser Instituut

**Time:** 14.15 - 19.30 hours, followed by a reception

**Registration:** This event is free, but registration is mandatory as a limited number of seats are available. Please register at: [www.asser.nl/CourtfortheWorld](http://www.asser.nl/CourtfortheWorld)

**Venue:** T.M.C. Asser Instituut, R.J. Schimmelpennincklaan 20-22, The Hague