

## **Frida María ARMAS-PFIRTER**



### **PERSONAL DETAILS**

Date and place of birth: Rosario (Province of Santa Fe), 30 September 1957  
Nationality: Argentine  
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### **EDUCATION**

- Lawyer, Faculty of Law and Social Sciences, Catholic University of Argentina at Rosario (1983).
- Ph.D. in Law (International Law) by the University of Buenos Aires (1992). Summa cum Laude, awarded the “Faculty Prize” by the Faculty of Law of the University of Buenos Aires (2000).
- Received scholarships to pursue postgraduate studies from the United Nations University (1995), The Hague Academy of International Law (1986, 1988, 1991, 1994), the Organization of American States (1989), the United Nations International Law Commission (Geneva, 1988) and the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (Costa Rica, 1987).

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- General Coordinator of the Argentine National Commission on the Outer Limit of the Continental Shelf (COPLA) from 8<sup>th</sup> September, 1997 to the present. As such, she has led the group of more than sixty professionals in charge of the scientific and legal work for the demarcation of the outer limit of the Argentine continental shelf.
- Since 2001 she has served as an expert for the International Seabed Authority. From 2001 to 2011, as a Member of the Legal and Technical Committee, and since 2012 as a Member of the Finance Committee.
- Conciliator and arbitrator (for Argentina) of the dispute settlement system of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea since 2009.
- Member of the Decade Advisory Board to assist UNESCO-COI in coordinating the UN Ocean Decade, from 2022-2023.
- Member of the Steering Committee for the White Paper on Oceans for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the International Law Association (ILA), since May 2021.
- Member of the International Expert Groups for the kick-off Conference of the UN Decade of Ocean Science – Germany – Since April 2020.
- Professor of Public International Law since 1987, both graduate and postgraduate courses, in Argentina and abroad. Such as:

- Full Professor (Chair) of Public International Law at the University of Buenos Aires, since 2015.
- Full Professor of Public International Law at Austral University, Buenos Aires, since 2002
- Director of the Postgraduate Course of Specialization on “Public Policies on Sustainability of the Oceans”, Austral University, since 2021 to date.
- Training Leader of the Training Course on Ocean Governance, Ocean Sciences and Geoethics of the International Ocean Institute (IOI), Training Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean, since 2018.
- Professor at the Yeosu Academy of the Law of the Sea, in charge of the topic “The Area and its Resources”, Yeosu (Korea), 2019 Session.
- Professor at the “Magister on Judicial Law” (Subject: Law of the Sea), Faculty of Law of Austral University, from 2006 to 2018.
- Professor at the 12<sup>o</sup> Session of the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy, “Promoting the Rule of Law in the World’s Oceans” Rhodes, Greece, July 16-20, 2007. Subject: “The Protection of the Marine Environment in the Area”.
- Professor at the “29<sup>th</sup> Course on International Law – “Natural Resources, Energy, Environment and International Law”, organized by the Inter-American Juridical Committee and the Department of International Law of the Organization of American States (OAS). Subject: “*The exploitation of the natural resources of the continental shelf and the seabed and protection of the environment*”, Rio de Janeiro, 25 to 30 August 2002.
- Visiting Professor in the Postgraduate Degree Course on Environmental Law, Catholic University of Argentina, 2000.
- Professor in the Postgraduate Degree Course on Natural Resources, University of Buenos Aires, in charge of the course “The natural resources of the sea,” 1993-1998.
- Expert at the National (Argentine) Commission for University Evaluation and Accreditation (CONEAU) in the field of International Law, Law of the Sea and Environmental Law, since 2003 to date.
- Member of the Advisory Board of the National System of Ocean Data from the Argentine Ministry of Science and Technology, since April 2011.
- General Coordinator of United Nations Development Programme since 1998 to date: Projects ARG/98/008, ARG/06/18, ARG/10/009 and ARG/17/009.
- Legal Officer of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Argentine Republic, 1992-1997.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF WORKS PUBLISHED

***Author of three books and over 50 book chapters and specialized articles. Some representative examples given below:***

- “The “Common Heritage of Mankind” Principle and the Equitable Sharing of Benefits”, in Ascencio-Herrera and Nordquist, *The United Nations Convention on the Law of the sea, Part XI Regime and the International Seabed Authority: a Twenty-Five Year Journey*, Brill, 2022 (in print).

- “*The continental Shelf and its Outer Limit*” and “*La plataforma continental y su límite exterior*”, Audiovisual Library of International Law, United Nations Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs, 2019 ([https://legal.un.org/avl/ls/Armas-Pfirter\\_LS.html](https://legal.un.org/avl/ls/Armas-Pfirter_LS.html)).
- “Article 82 of UNCLOS: A Clear Outcome of the ‘Package Deal’ Approach of the Convention Negotiation”, in International Ocean Institute (IOI), *The Future of Ocean Governance and Capacity Development – essays in Honor of Elizabeth Mann Borgese*, Brill-Nijhoff, Leiden-Boston, 2018, pp. 134-141.
- “The International Seabed Authority and the protection of biodiversity”, in TOLEDO, Andre de Paiva/Tassin, Virginie (Eds.), *Guide to the Navigation of Marine Biodiversity beyond National Jurisdiction*, Editora D’Plácido, Belo Horizonte, 2018, pp. 221-246.
- “Los Estados Latinoamericanos y el límite exterior de la plataforma continental”, in Gutiérrez Castillo, V.L.-Villalta Vizcarra, A.E., *América Latina ante el Derecho Internacional del Mar – Liber Amicorum Dr. Alfredo Martínez Moreno*, Tirant Lo Blanch, Valencia, 2018, pp. 121-150;
- “La plataforma continental más allá de las 200 millas marinas: desafíos y oportunidades”, in Comité Jurídico Interamericano, *Curso de Derecho Internacional, XLV-2018*, pp. 339-374
- “The Seabed Disputes Chamber: Moving Forward”, in *Legal Order in the World’s Oceans: the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea* John Norton Moore (Ed), Brill Academic Publishers, 2017, pp. 210-227;
- “The Outer Limit of the Continental Shelf in the Recent International Jurisprudence”, in Fernández-Sánchez, P.A. (Ed.), *New Approaches to the Law of the Sea - In Honor of Ambassador José Antonio de Yturriaga-Barberán*, Nova Science Publishers, Inc., New York, 2017, pp. 133-148;
- “Capítulo 33: La Zona internacional de los fondos marinos”, in González Napolitano, Silvina (ed.), *Lecciones de Derecho Internacional Público*, Errepar, Buenos Aires, 1º Ed., 2015, pp. 671-700;
- “The Applicability and the Application of the evidence to the Contrary”, co-author with Paterlini, Marcelo, in *Technical and Legal Aspects of the Regimes of the Continental Shelf and the Area – The Fourth Album*, Chapter 14, Science Press, Beijing, 2015;
- “El límite exterior de la plataforma continental argentina – El límite más extenso y nuestra frontera con la humanidad”, in *Res Diplomática* – Number 1, May 2015, Tercera Epoca, Instituto del Servicio Exterior de la Nación (ISEN), pp. 68-97, 2015;
- “*Estado del arte de las tendencias sobre legislación relativa a la minería de los Fondos Marinos - Su aplicación al Pacífico Sudeste, incluyendo propuestas para promover la adopción de medidas regionales sobre minería oceánica*”, Report Permanent Commission of the South Pacific, Ecuador, 2012, 91 pp., in [http://cpps-int.org/cpps-docs/consultorias/fondos\\_marinos/analisis-juridico-fondos-marinos.pdf](http://cpps-int.org/cpps-docs/consultorias/fondos_marinos/analisis-juridico-fondos-marinos.pdf);
- “Pandora’s Box” and Article 76 of UNCLOS – A decade of State practice in the outer limit of the continental shelf”, in *Technical and Legal Aspects of the Regimes of the Continental Shelf and the Area – Vol. II*, China Ocean Press, Beijing, 2012, 122-128;
- “Legal Basis within the International Seabed Authority Regulatory Framework for Establishing a Network of Areas of Potential Environmental Interest”, in *Memorias de la Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur*, Ecuador, 2010, pp. 46-52;

- “The Continental Shelf Beyond 200 Nautical Miles: Practice to Date and Some Issues of Debate”, in VIDAS, Davor, *Law, Technology and Science for Oceans in Globalisation*, The Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Norway, 2010, pp. 477-498;
- “How can Life in the Deep Sea be protected?” in *The International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law* 24 (2009), 281-307;
- “Marco legal para la protección ambiental en la exploración y explotación de las costras ricas en cobalto”, in COPLA-CARI (Ed.), *Los recursos de lecho y subsuelo del mar – Aspectos jurídicos, científicos y económicos de su exploración y explotación*, Buenos Aires, 2008, pp. 57-66;
- “Legal Framework for the Environmental Protection on Prospecting and Exploration for Cobalt-Rich Crusts”, in *Mining Cobalt-Rich Ferromanganese Crusts and Polymetallic Sulphides Deposits: Technological and Economic Considerations*, International Seabed Authority, Jamaica, 2007, 40-56.

## **PARTICIPATION IN CONGRESSES AND CONFERENCES**

- She has offered over 200 conferences/lectures in Argentina and abroad

## **MEMBER OF THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION AT THE FOLLOWING INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS, AMONG OTHERS:**

- Chair and/or Member of the Argentine Delegation to the Meetings with the Commission and Sub-commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf which analysed the Argentine submission on the outer limit of the continental shelf, United Nations, New York, 2001, 2009, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017.
- Member of the Argentine Delegation to the 5<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the International Seabed Authority (Kingston-Jamaica, 1999-2021).
- Chair and/or Member of the Argentine Delegation to bilateral technical meetings on the outer limit of the continental shelf with: Brazil, Uruguay, Denmark, Cuba, Ecuador, United Kingdom, Chile.
- Member of the Argentine Delegation to the oral hearings before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (2010, 2011, 2012).
- Member of the Argentine Delegation to United Nations meetings related to the Law of the Sea, including: Meeting of States Parties to UNCLOS (2012, 2016); Working Group on biological diversity beyond the areas of national jurisdiction (2010, 2011), United Nations open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans (2004, 2007, 2012).
- Member of the Argentine delegation to the meeting of the Zone of Peace and Cooperation of the South Atlantic (ZPCSA), 7 and 9 May 2007, Buenos Aires.
- Member of the Argentine Delegation to the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas, 13 to 17 June 2005, Montecatini, Italy.
- Member of the Argentine Delegation to the FAO Technical Meeting for a Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing, Rome, September 1994.

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

- “Award for Academic Excellence” granted by the President of the University of Buenos Aires, December 2017.
- “Diploma of Honour” for her work as Coordinator of the Argentine National Commission on the Outer Limits of the Continental Shelf, awarded by the House of Representatives of the Province of Santa Fe, September 2017.
- “Award for her outstanding professional career,” granted by the Professional Council of Economic Sciences of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires on Women’s Day, March 2017.
- “Senator Domingo Faustino Sarmiento” Honourable Mention, granted by the Senate of the Argentine Congress, “for her work aimed at improving the life quality of her peers, their institutions and their communities,” November 2016.
- Award granted by the President of the National Scientific and Technical Research Council of Argentina (CONICET) for her contribution to Oceanographic vessel ARA Puerto Deseado, 21 May 2013.
- Honour Diploma granted by the Commission for Military Justice “San Alfonso María de Ligorio,” for her work in the field of Public International Law, in the Demarcation of the Outer Limits of the Continental Shelf and in Higher Education, Buenos Aires, 27 August 2002.
- Award granted by the Faculty of Law of the University of Buenos Aires for her thesis on “International Law on Fisheries and its Application to the Problem of Fishing in the Maritime Front of the Río de la Plata,” through Resolution No. 15452/2000 of the Board of Directors of the Faculty of Law and Social Sciences.

## **AFFILIATION TO SPECIALIZED INSTITUTIONS**

- Académica Titular de la Academia Nacional de Derecho y Ciencias Sociales de Buenos Aires.
- Advisory Member of the Argentine Council on Foreign Relations (CARI)
- Full Member of the Hispano-Luso-American Institute of International Law (IHLADI)
- Member of the International Law Association (ILA)
- Member of the Argentine Association of Comparative Law (AADC)
- Full Member of the Argentine Association of International Law (AADI)
- Full Member of the Argentine Naval Academy

## **LANGUAGES**

English: full professional proficiency

French: working proficiency

Spanish: native speaker