




## **Dr. Maria A. Gwynn, MJur (Oxon)**

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### **CURRENT POSITIONS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Senior Fellow	<p>Institute of International Law, Law Faculty and Centre Ernst Robert Curtius (CERC). University of Bonn, Germany.</p> <p>Lecturer on specialized courses: International Water Law; International Environmental Law; International Institutions on Water and Energy; International Dispute Settlement; International Sports Law and Arbitration.</p> <p>Areas of work: International Law (energy, international water law, shared natural resources, sustainable development, investment, sports law, dispute settlement mechanisms, international arbitration.)</p>
International Arbitrator	Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). Lausanne, Switzerland.
Dispute Settlement Body	Implementation Committee Member, UN Water Convention. Geneva, Switzerland.
Professor of the Strategic Studies Institute of Paraguay (IAEE)	Appointed to the Professorial faculty of the Strategic Studies Institute of Paraguay (IAEE) by Resolution No. 1/21 of the National Defense Council of the Republic of Paraguay.
Other roles	<p>International Hydropower Association Fellow.</p> <p>Member of the Leadership Council of the Global Network of Women in Water Diplomacy.</p> <p>Senior Research Associate at the Global Economic Governance Programme, Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford. (Oxford-Princeton Global Leaders Fellow-Cohort 2016-2018).</p>
International Lawyer	<p>Admission to Bar. Admitted by the Supreme Court of Justice of Paraguay (2005).                      US Multi-State Professional and Responsibility Examination (MPRE) of the National Conference of Bar Examiners of the United States (2016).</p>

### **EDUCATION**

2011-2015	<p><b>Dr. phil (PhD).</b> Magna cum Laude.                      Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany.                      Thesis title: “<i>Bilateral Investment Treaties of South American Countries and their Consequences at the International Level</i>”</p>
2007-2008	<p><b>Magister Juris. (MJur)</b>                      Faculty of Law. University of Oxford, UK.                      Specialization Areas: 1. International Dispute Settlement                                                        2. Contracts                                                        3. Corporate Finance                                                        4. Constitutional Theory</p>
2006	<b>International Practice Diploma</b> in <i>Mergers &amp; Acquisitions</i> . College of Law of England and Wales & International Bar Association.
2005	<b>International Practice Diploma</b> in <i>International Arbitration</i> . College of Law of England and Wales & International Bar Association.
1999-2004	<p><b>Law Degree (LLB).</b> Honours.                      Faculty of Law. National University of Asunción, Paraguay.</p>

2003-2001	Undergraduate Exchange Courses: Law Courses at Bologna University and Parma University, Italy. International Relations course, New York University, USA.
1998	<b>Valedictorian</b> (National and English programme), Class 1998. <b>International Baccalaureate</b> . IB Diploma, Geneva, Switzerland. Colegio San Andres. Bilingual British School. Asunción-Paraguay.
<b>FURTHER POST-DOCTORAL ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING</b>	
2019	Advanced Course on ICSID Arbitration. Given by the Legal Counsel of ICSID. International Investment Centre, Cologne, June 21-29, 2019.
2018:	Climate Change Leadership Programme with former US Vice-President Al Gore. Los Angeles, California, August 2018.
2018:	Project Management. University of Oxford.
2017:	Private International Law Specialization, Directed Studies. The Hague Academy of International Law, Peace Palace, The Hague, The Netherlands, 2017.
2017:	Harvard Negotiation Program. Asuncion-Paraguay, August 2017.
2016:	Athlete Arbitration Training Programme of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), Lausanne, Switzerland.
<b>PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE</b>	
2024	<b>Implementation Committee Member, UN Water Convention.</b> First Latin American member of the body, voted by consensus by 54 member States and the European Union.
2023-2024	<b>Chair of Partnerships and UN representative, Executive Council,</b> International Association for Water Law.
2024	Delegation for the Federal Republic of Germany for the High Level International Conference on International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development.
2019-2023	<b>Governing Council Member of the Binational Entity ITAIPU.</b> <i>Appointed by Presidential Decree of the Republic of Paraguay No. 2395 dated 28 August, 2019.</i>  ITAIPU is a Binational Entity created by a Treaty between Brazil and Paraguay. It is today the world's second largest producer of renewable energy. My main function was to serve in the entities' highest level of its governance structure, its Governing Council, which oversees the CEO and the Board of Directors. My main areas of activities were transboundary water and renewable energy cooperation as well as the settlement of international disputes.
2020-2023	Member of the <b>National Climate Change Commission</b> of Paraguay. Contributions to the following documents, inter alia: Bylaws of the Commission, National Determined Contributions (NDC) of the Republic of Paraguay, Biannual Report of the Republic of Paraguay, suggestions for the draft Decree regulating Law 5875/17 of Climate Change and draft Decree to regulate chapter VI of Financial Resources of Law 5875/2017, Country Programme of the Republic of Paraguay until 2030 to the Green Climate Fund and other documents of competence of the CNCC.
2023:	<b>Mentor for Women in Public Office and International Organizations.</b> Programme organized by the Technical Planification Secretary and CAF. Asunción, Paraguay.  <b>Keynote at UN Water Conference.</b> Member of the Delegation for the Republic of Paraguay and Itaipu at the UN Water Conference, UNHQ New York. Keynote address on transboundary cooperation.
2022:	Member of the Delegation for the Republic of Paraguay and Itaipu at the UNFCCC, <b>COP27</b> , Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.  Member of the Delegation for the Republic of Paraguay and Itaipu at the <b>World Water Forum</b> , Dakar, Senegal.
2021-2022:	Member of the <b>Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) Ad Hoc Division for the Olympic Winter Games</b> Beijing 2022.
2021:	Member of the Delegation for the Republic of Paraguay and Itaipu at the UNFCCC, COP26, Glasgow, UK.

<b>2020-2021:</b>	<b>United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).</b> Contribution as Independent Expert for the “Draft checklist on the development of agreements or other arrangements for transboundary water cooperation”.
<b>2021:</b>	Contribution to input on surveys on energy issues and to the report of the Renewable Readiness Assessment for the Republic of Paraguay upon request of the Vice-Ministry of Energy, Paraguay.
<b>2021:</b>	<b>University of Oxford. Oxford Latin American Centre.</b> Invited as an External Examiner of MPhil viva voce (October 2021).
<b>2016-2018:</b> <b>2017-2018:</b>  <b>2016-2017:</b>	<b>Oxford-Princeton Global Leader Fellow.</b> - Post-doctoral Research Fellow. Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford, UK. - SCR Research Associate, University College, University of Oxford. - Post-doctoral Research Fellow. Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, US.
<b>2018 to date:</b>	<b>Reviewer/Referee</b> of international academic journals: Energy Policy Journal (Elsevier); Journal of Political Power (Taylor and Francis, Routledge).
<b>2017:</b>	Invited Speaker to the 50 <sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the United Nations Commission for International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), Vienna.
<b>2016:</b>	<b>Visiting Researcher</b> at the United Nations Commission for International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), Vienna, Austria, 2016.
<b>2013-2014:</b>	<b>Junior Academic Visitor</b> , Law Faculty, University of Oxford, UK. Areas of work: International Investment Arbitration, International Dispute Settlement.
<b>2012-2013:</b>	<b>Visiting Scholar.</b> Center for International Legal Education, School of Law. University of Pittsburgh, USA. Areas of work: International Law, US history on International Arbitration institutions, Bilateral Investment Treaties.
<b>2003-2010:</b>	<b>Attorney at Law. Member and Associate.</b> General Practice and Corporate Department. Law Firm: Berkemeyer, Attorneys and Counselors. Asuncion, Paraguay.
<b>2007:</b>	<b>Visiting Research Fellow</b> for International Commercial Contracts. UNIDROIT, Rome-Italy.
<b>2005:</b>	<b>Official Translator.</b> (English-Spanish). Certified by the Supreme Court of Justice of Paraguay. Legal and technical translations for various multinational companies.
<b>2002:</b> <b>2001:</b>	Internship at the First Instance, Criminal Court. Asuncion-Paraguay. Internship at the First Instance, Civil and Commercial Court. Asuncion-Paraguay.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books:

- Gwynn, M.A. (2019) “*Adapting Watercourses Agreements to Developments in International Law: The case of the Itaipu Treaty*” Brill Research Perspectives: International Water Law. Vol 4, Issue 1, 2019. Access [here](#).
- Gwynn, M.A. (2016) “*Power in the International Investment Framework*” Palgrave Macmillan. UK. Access [here](#).
- Gwynn, M.A. (2007) “*Contratos Internacionales para el sector Privado*” MERCOSUR Member Countries’ contractual legislation analysis. Editorial El Lector. Asunción-Paraguay.
- Gwynn, M.A. “*Bilateral Investment Treaties of South American Countries and their Consequences at the International Level*” Publication with Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany, 2015. urn:nbn:de:hbz:468-20150120-103025-4

### Peer-Reviewed Articles:

- Gwynn M. A. (2023) “[International Law and Transboundary Dams: Lessons learned from the Binational Entity ITAIPU \(Brazil and Paraguay\)](#)” 5 Frontiers in Climate, section Climate Law and Policy: 1-4.
- Gwynn, M.A. (2020) “[The Uses of Common and Shared Natural Resources: A Tragedy or a Chance for Governance?](#)” 3 Umweltrechtliche Beiträge aus Wissenschaft und Praxis 2020: 97–156
- Gwynn, M.A. (2020) “[How to share a river](#)” Project Syndicate. September, 2020.
- Gwynn, M.A. (2020) “[South America and the Living Principle of Reasonable and Equitable Uses of International Watercourses](#)” Water Science Policy, Geography Department Oxford. December, 2020.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gwynn, M.A.(2020) "<a href="#">El Derecho Internacional de Aguas, la Convención de Naciones Unidas sobre el Derecho sobre los Usos de Cursos de Agua Internacionales para Fines Distintos a la Navegación, y el Tratado de Itaipu</a>" Revista Diplomática, Academia Diplomática y Consular "Carlos Antonio López", Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de la República del Paraguay, Año 9, Número 10 (2020).</li> <li>Gwynn, M.A. "<a href="#">Structural Power and International Regimes</a>" Journal of Political Power. Vol 12, Issue 2. (2019): 200-223.</li> <li>Gwynn, M.A. "<a href="#">Balancing the State's Right to Regulate with Foreign Investment Protection: A Perspective considering Investment Disputes of the South American Region</a>" Groningen Journal of International Law, Vol. 6, Issue 1, (2018): 110-127</li> <li>Gwynn, M.A. "<a href="#">UNCITRAL and the Possibility of Returning to the Multilateral Regulation of Foreign Investments</a>", Proceedings of the Congress of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. Vol.4, (2017).</li> <li>Gwynn, M.A. "<a href="#">South American Countries' Bilateral Investment Treaties: A Structuralist Perspective</a>" Journal of International Dispute Settlement, Vol. 6, (2015): 97-117.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Book Chapters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Settlement of Water-Related Disputes in International Law" In: Russell Buchan Daniel Franchini Nicholas Tsagourias (eds), The Changing Character of International Dispute Settlement: Challenges and Prospects. Cambridge University Press. 2024</li> <li>"La Adaptación de Tratados sobre Usos de Ríos Internacionales -para Producción de Energía Hidroeléctrica- al Derecho Internacional". In (eds) Miguel Carter. <i>Itaipu. Causa Nacional. La Riqueza Energética Perdida del Paraguay. De Caras a la Revisión del 2023</i>. Editorial Intercontinental, Paraguay. (forthcoming)</li> <li>"Susan Strange: Trade as a Secondary Structure". In (eds) Holger Janusch. <i>Handelspolitik und Welthandel in der Internationalen Politischen Ökonomie</i>. Springer VS, 2017. English version <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Oxford Global Economic Governance Working Paper Preprints</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"<a href="#">Legal Developments in the Enforcement of International Environmental Commitments</a>" (GEG Working Paper 2018/138)</li> <li>"<a href="#">Investment Disputes, Sovereignty Costs and the Strategies of States</a>" (GEG Working Paper 2017/132)</li> <li>"<a href="#">China and Brazil's Infrastructure Initiatives and the Role of Regional Counterparts</a>" (GEG Working Paper 2017/135)</li> </ul> <p>All publications have been listed in the national system for assessing the quality of research in UK Higher Education Institutions, the Research Excellence Framework (REF).</p>
<p><b>Other contributions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Independent Expert. "Draft checklist on the development of agreements or other arrangements for transboundary water cooperation" UNECE.</li> <li>Reviewer/ Referee of international academic journals: Energy Policy Journal (Elsevier); Journal of Political Power (Taylor and Francis, Routledge).</li> <li>Public Consultation for the European Union on modalities for investment protection and Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) in the Transatlantic, Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). 2014.</li> <li>World Bank Publications, Doing Business. World Bank Publishing 2007,2009, 2010.</li> <li>International Bar Association (IBA), Anti-Money Laundering Forum (Paraguay Chapter). Last updated: 27/05/2014</li> </ul>
<p><b>MEMBERSHIPS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Association for Water Law (AIDA). (former AIDA's Executive Council, Chair for Partnerships and Representative to UN Water until January 2025).</li> <li>Court of Arbitration for Sports, International Arbitrator.</li> <li>European Latin American Arbitration Association.</li> <li>German International Arbitration Institution (DIS).</li> <li>Centro de Arbitraje y Mediación de Paraguay.</li> <li>Oxford Union.</li> </ul>

- Oxford Women in Law (OWL).
- Oxford Women in Politics (Oxwip).
- Oxford and Cambridge Society of Rheinland.
- Alt-Cusanerin. Cusanus Bischöfliche Förderung, Bonn, Germany.
- Oxford-Princeton Global Leaders Fellowship. University of Oxford and Princeton University.

#### **TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS (since 2017)**

- Keynote Speaker “Transboundary Water Cooperation and the UN Water Convention”, Centre for Strategy and Planification (CEPE), Asunción, Paraguay. 7 March 2025.
- Speaker “Benefits of Transboundary Water Cooperation” Haus für Junges Denken, Center of Ethics, University of Bonn. 11 December 2024.
- Speaker for the Capacity Building Training on the use of the Practical Guide for developing agreements for Water Cooperation to support the technical negotiation for the cooperative Agreement for the Luapula River Authority (LRA). Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. 4 December 2024.
- Keynote speaker at the 10<sup>th</sup> session of Member of the Parties conference of the UN Water Convention, session “Ensuring more effective climate action with a nexus approach” 24 October, Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- Keynote speaker “Hydrodiplomacy and management of shared resources”, organized by the Organization of American States and the UN; and panel at the session on “Water Diplomacy” organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland. 25-26 August 2024.
- Keynote Speaker for the event of Women in Energy, organized by the Uruguayan Association of Women in Energy and the World Energy Council.
- Speaker at the High Level International Conference on International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”. 10-13 June 2024. Dushanbe, Tajikistan.
- Speaker at the World Water Forum. 18-25 May 2024. Bali, Indonesia.
- Keynote Speaker at the World Energy Congress; panellist at two sessions “Activating Diversity: Women in Energy”, and “WEFE Nexus”. 22-25 April 2024, Rotterdam, The Netherlands.
- Speaker at the International Workshop on the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica. 14 March 2024, San José, Costa Rica.
- IV Edition of the Regional Water Dialogues of Latin America and the Caribbean: towards the World Water Forum 2024, organized by ECLAC and IICA. 11-13 March 2024, San José, Costa Rica.
- Speaker at the Second Global Network Forum of the Global Women in Water Diplomacy. March 4-7 2024, Vienna, Austria.
- Participation at the Arbitration Conference 20<sup>th</sup> Petersberger Schiedstage. 23-24 February 2024, St-Petersberg, Germany.
- Speaker at the United Nations in the Eighth meeting of the Task Force on Water Food Energy Ecosystem Nexus 7-8 December 2023, Geneva, Palais des Nations.
- Speaker at the United Nations in the Global workshop on funding and financing transboundary water cooperation and basin development. 5-6 December 2023, Geneva, Palais des Nations.
- International Arbitrators Conference. November 2023, Geneva, Switzerland.
- Speaker for the Rheinland lectures of international law, University of Bonn. October 19, 2023.
- Speaker “Water for Cooperation: Transboundary and International Water Cooperation, Cross Sectoral Cooperation and Water Across the 2030 Agenda” and at several sessions at the UN Water Conference 2023.
- Speaker at UN DESA Global Policy Dialogues to Turbocharge SDG Implementation “Accelerating Clean Water and Energy for All: Exploring SDGs 6 and 7” 20 June 2023.
- Speaker for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on International Water Agreements, March 2023.
- Speaker at Bologna University, Faculty of law on International transboundary hydropower projects, March 2023.
- Speaker at SDG Lab, Davos, January 2023.
- Speaker, High level segment, UNDESA pavilion COP27. November 2022.
- Speaker at the International Conference on Sustainable Tourism and Renewable Energy organized by the International Tourism Organization, Itaipu, July 2022.



- Global Symposium on Solutions on Water and Energy, UNDESA. June 2022.
- UN Leaders Summit, Global Compact, June 2022.
- Speaker, High level segment, World Water Forum, Dakar 24 March 2022.
- Speaker at the World Water Congress, Panel: “Governance Solutions based on International Water Law” Seoul, December 2021.
- Speaker and Member of the Paraguayan Delegation, COP26 Glasgow.
- “La Represa de ITAIPU Binacional y su Impacto en la Defensa y Desarrollo Nacional” Invited Speaker for the Special Conference for the Doctoral Programme, on Development and National Strategic Security of the Strategic Studies Institute, Defense Ministry of the Republic of Paraguay. July 8, 2021.
- “Aportes de Lucha contra la Deforestación. El caso del Proyecto “TTAIPU Preserva” Invited Speaker. Student Union of the National University of Asuncion, June 8, 2021.
- Address with the Opening Speech to the “Renewable Readiness Assessment of the Republic of Paraguay”. Vice-Ministry of Mines and Energy and IRENA. May 10, 2021.
- “The role of ITAIPU Binacional in the Global Renewable Energy Transition”, Invited Speaker. Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) in commemoration of Power Engineering Society (PES Day 2021). April 12, 2021.
- “Science, Governance and Diplomacy of Climate Change in Paraguay”, Invited Speaker. World Water Week, Geneva Water Hub, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SIWI). August 2020.
- “International Water Law and its Role in the Renegotiation of the Itaipu Treaty” Invited Speaker. University of Bonn, May 15, 2020.
- “El Derecho Internacional y el Tratado de Itaipu”. Keynote Speaker. Universidad Nacional de Itapúa, Encarnación, Paraguay.
- “International Arbitration for Sports” Invited Speaker. FFA Lecture Series. University of Bonn. May 9, 2019.
- “A discussion of the most important Energy Treaty in the South American region. The Itaipu treaty and the challenges for its upcoming renegotiation” Institute for Public International Law, University of Bonn. December 5, 2018.
- “Leadership” Chair of Panel. With Nannerl Keohane (Princeton); Ngaire Woods (Dean, Blavatnik School of Government Oxford; Louise Richardson (Vice-Chancellor, University of Oxford).
- Global Leader Fellows Colloquia. Presentations in Princeton (June 2017) and in Oxford (December 2018, May 2016)
- “The International Politics of Renewable Energy: Paraguay and the Itaipu Treaty” Invited Speaker
  - Law Faculty, Keele University. May 4, 2018.
  - Oxford Latin American Centre, University of Oxford. March 2, 2018.
- “Structural Power and International Regimes” Roundtable Discussion Structural Power: The Legacy of Susan Strange, International Studies Association (ISA) conference. With Robert Keohane, Philip Lipsky and Benjamin Cohen. San Francisco, USA. April 7, 2018.
- “Análisis para la Renegociación del Tratado de Itaipu”. Invited Speaker. Talk for Government Officials of the Republic of Paraguay. August 29 and September 3, 2017. Asunción-Paraguay.
- “Reform of Investor-State dispute Settlement” Invited as Independent expert for the “Roundtable discussion on the rationale for reform, a possible roadmap and technical assistance to States” 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress UNCITRAL. Vienna, Austria. July 3-21, 2017.
- “Towards the Renegotiation of the Itaipu Treaty”. Invited Speaker. Duke University, USA. April 24, 2017.
- “Investment disputes, Sovereignty costs and the Strategies of States”
  - Fung-Nichaus Workshop on Globalization and Global Governance. Princeton University, USA. February 3, 2017.
  - Postdoctoral Workshop. Princeton University, March 2017.

#### **PRIZES, GRANTS, ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND AWARDS**

- 2004: Honours Law Degree. Faculty of Law. National University of Asuncion. Paraguay.
- 2007: Research Fellow Scholarship. International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT).

- 2007-2008: Scholarship for the Magister Juris Degree, EU Scholarships for Latin America “ALBAN”, European Union.
- 2012-2014: Full PhD scholarship. Bischöfliche Studienförderung Cusanuswerk. Bonn-Germany.  
Visiting scholarship, Law Faculty, University of Oxford (2013-2014)  
Visiting scholarship, School of Law, University of Pittsburgh (2012-2013)
- 2014: Registered in the Blue Book database of the European Commission.
- 2021: IEEE. Certificate of Appreciation for contribution as speaker of “The role of Itaipu in the Global Energy Transition” at the PES Day 2021.
- 2022: UNDESA. Certificate of Appreciation for valuable knowledge as Guest Speaker during the Global Symposium on Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions.
- 2023: Fellow of the International Hydropower Association.
- 2024: Distinction from the Global Network of Women in Water Diplomacy

## LANGUAGES

- **Spanish.** Native Speaker.
- **English.** Fluent (IELTS Band 8; UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE: Preliminary English Test with merits. First Certificate in English. Certificate in Advanced English; TRINITY COLLEGE LONDON, UK (with merits). International Baccalaureate: English Superior Level (6).
- **German.** Advanced. Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang (DSH 3); C2, C1, B2, B1, A2, A1.; Deutsch plus Wirtschafts-und Sozialwissenschaften. 1.3. Sprachlehrinstitut Deutsch als Fremdsprache, Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany.
- **Italian.** Intermediate. Oxford University Language Centre.
- **Guarani.** Intermediate.

## Webpages:

Institute of International Law, University of Bonn:

<https://www.jura.uni-bonn.de/institut-fuer-voelkerrecht/mitarbeiterteam/dr-maria-a-gwynn-mjur-oxon/>

Blavatnik School of Government, Global Economic Governance, University of Oxford:

<https://www.geg.ox.ac.uk/person/maria-gwynn>

Court of Arbitration for Sports:

<https://www.tas-cas.org/en/arbitration/liste-des-arbitres-liste-generale.html?GenSlct=2&nmIpt=Gwynn>