

SIR FRANKLIN BERMAN QC
FOR THE DOCTOR OF LAWS (*honoris causa*)

Sir Franklin Berman has made an immense contribution to the growth and development of international law and international dispute resolution. A graduate of UCT with a BA and BSc Mathematics, Sir Frank joined the British Foreign Office in 1965, where he served in various capacities, including legal adviser to the British military government in Berlin, Counsellor to the UK Mission to the United Nations, and Legal Adviser to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. In these roles he was able to contribute to the settlement of international disputes and to the development of various aspects of international law.

Sir Frank led the UK delegation negotiating the drafting of the Statute of the International Criminal Court which set up an historic mechanism for addressing impunity for international crimes. Since 2000, he has been involved in high profile international arbitrations both as a private arbitrator and, since 2010, as a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), a long-standing intergovernmental organisation that provides legal resolution services to the international community. One of his most recent arbitrations includes the dispute between India and Pakistan under the Indus Waters Treaty which has been the source of war between the two countries before. Sir Frank has also served as an ad hoc judge of the International Court of Justice (ICJ). At the ICJ Sir Frank recently presided over the dispute between Germany and Liechtenstein concerning the property confiscated by in 1945. Sir Frank concurred with the lead judgment of the court but wrote an influential opinion in which he dissented from aspects of that judgment. He is currently involved in adjudicating two appeals at the ICJ. These eminent roles at the ICJ and PCA bear testament to the stature of Sir Frank in international law.

In 1992 Sir Frank was appointed honorary Queen's Counsel, and in 1996 was knighted by the Queen of England. He has received many other prestigious honours, and is widely respected in the UK, international community and South Africa.

Sir Frank has become one of the most accomplished and distinguished alumni of UCT. Through his illustrious career, he has not only proudly flown the UCT flag high on the international stage, he has also, directly, contributed significantly to increasing alumni engagement with and support to UCT. His life-long contribution to international law and this university only deems it fitting that he be a recipient of a UCT honorary doctorate.