



Presidency of Germany
Council of Europe
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Présidence de l'Allemagne
Conseil de l'Europe



Committee of Legal Advisers on
Public International Law
Comité des Conseillers Juridiques
sur le Droit International Public



Expert Workshop

Non-Legally Binding Agreements in International Law

Program

On the 26th of March in Strasbourg

09:00-09:15	Welcome and opening remarks	Dr. Christophe Eick, LL.M. Legal Adviser, Federal Foreign Office, Germany
	Video message	Miguel de Serpa Soares, Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and UN Legal Counsel
Panel 1 Treaties versus non-legally binding agreements <i>Chair: CAHDI Chair (Alina Orosan, Romania)</i>		
09:15-09:40	“Memoranda of Understanding” – Mere political commitment or a well-established category of international treaty law? (What distinguishes a legally binding from a non-legally binding agreement?)	Philippe Gautier, Ph.D. Registrar, International Court of Justice
09:40-10:05	Non-legally binding but still legally relevant? – Possible indirect legal effects of non-legally binding agreements	Prof. Dr. Andreas Zimmermann, LL.M. University of Potsdam
10:05-10:15	Perspectives in practice: A legal adviser's experiences with MOUs	JUDr. Petr Válek, LL.M., Ph.D. Director, Department of International Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic
10:15-11:00	<i>Discussion</i>	

Panel 2

Towards uniform State practice concerning non-legally binding agreements
Relevant and desirable?

Chair: CAHDI Vice-Chair (Dr. Helmut Tichy, LL.M., Austria)

11:15-11:40	An American perspective: The OAS experience	Prof. Dr. Duncan Hollis Temple University
11:40-12:05	A European perspective: The experience of the Council of Europe	Dr. Jörg Polakiewicz Director of Legal Advice and Public International Law, Council of Europe
12:05-12:15	Perspectives of States	Kaija Suvanto, LL.M. Director General Legal Services, Ministry for Foreign Affairs Finland
12:15-13:00	Discussion	
13:00-13:15	Concluding remarks and farewell	Dr. Christophe Eick, LL.M. Legal Adviser, Federal Foreign Office, Germany