



Media Release

The Australian Institute of International Affairs and the International Law Association (Australian Branch) proudly announce that this year's Peter Nygh Hague Conference Internship has been awarded to Derek Bayley.

The Internship supports a graduate or post graduate student of an Australian law school to undertake an internship with The Hague Conference on Private International Law (The Hague Conference) in the Netherlands by providing funds to cover the cost of travel to the Netherlands and a contribution towards living expenses.

With his strong interest in private international law, his impressive language skills in German, Arabic and French and his clear intellectual ability, Derek Bayley was an outstanding candidate for the 2015 award. Derek's interest in private international law was first piqued while undertaking an internship at the Dubai International Finance Centre Courts. He went on to come first in conflict of laws at the ANU College of Law winning the *James Davis Prize for Conflict of Laws* in 2014 and completed an honours thesis in the field of private international law. Derek graduated from ANU in 2014 with First Class Honours in law.

Derek has practical legal experience having worked for almost four years as a paralegal at Goodman Law, a boutique construction law firm in Canberra. He also successfully completed internships with DLA Piper in Dubai and Linklaters in London.

Derek also completed an Arts degree with majors in Arabic and German language and cultural studies. He undertook language exchanges to Germany, Qatar and the UAE. Besides his academic excellence, Derek also contributed to his university community as Director of the ANU Law Revue, Mentor at the ANU College of Law and Director of Education Services of the ANU Law Students' Society.

Derek Bayley's strong appreciation for international affairs and his experience working in Dubai, London and Australia equip him well to meet the challenges of working at The Hague Conference. He will work on the upcoming Special Commission updating the Intercountry Adoption Convention which aims to protect children and families from illegal or irregular international adoptions.

For those interested in applying for the 2016 Nygh Internship, applications close on 30th September 2015. Please visit the AIIA's website at www.internationalaffairs.org.au or email Alicia Lyons at Alicia.Lyons@allens.com.au.



Background Information

The Peter Nygh Hague Conference Internship is an award in memory of the late Hon Dr Peter Nygh AM, a leading international lawyer and former judge of the Family Court of Australia. Dr Nygh was also an Australian delegate to, and a rapporteur of, The Hague Conference. In 2002, he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in part 'for service to international law, particularly through honorary assistance to The Hague Conference'.

Dr Nygh's family donated funds to establish the Peter Nygh Hague Conference Internship. An additional \$50,000 was donated by the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department, and Allens generously supports the administration of the award. Further donations are being sought to support this initiative. All donations are tax deductible.

The Australian Institute of International Affairs (www.internationalaffairs.org.au) was established in 1933 as an independent non-political body to promote an interest in, and understanding of, international affairs. The AIIA operates nationwide with 1,300 members across seven State and Territory branches. The AIIA provides a forum for discussion, and educates and disseminates ideas via its journal *Australian Journal of International Affairs* and book series including *Australia in World Affairs*. The Governor-General of Australia, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC is the AIIA's Honorary Visitor and Patron.

The International Law Association has over 50 branches worldwide and a growing membership of academics and practising professionals with an interest in international law. Membership is available to all persons interested in international law. The Hon Dr Peter Nygh AM was a past president of ILA (AB) and was also active in the international organisation of the ILA. While president of the ILA (AB) he promoted co-operation between the ILA (AB) and the AIIA.

