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**ILPS**

INTERNATIONAL LAW AND POLICY SOCIETY

NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY ODISHA

# E - NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL LAW AND POLICY SOCIETY

MONTHLY EDITION

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# FOREWORD FROM FOUNDING EDITOR



Dear reader,

Welcome to the monthly roundup of the International Law and Policy Society's Newsletter-by the students, for the students. This project has been months in the making, and we're excited to finally unveil it to you. This Newsletter's significance lies in its power to be a platform for effective news reporting in the shape of articles, interviews and much more. More importantly, it aims to establish itself as an outlet that encourages the student community to start questioning and wondering about the legal and social implications of the developments that are happening at the International level.

Furthermore, this issue features a collection of the most thoughtful and engrossing student-produced writings. Moreover, via our newsletter ILPS tries to carve out a space for students to explore topics outside of the classroom, enabling them to learn about the practical and day to day intricacies of the letter and spirit of the law, get inspired and raise awareness. We are grateful to have been given the opportunity to produce this publication and would like to thank everyone who played a role in making this vision come to life: the contributors, the small team of members of the International Law and Policy Society who helped bring it alltogether, the ever-supportive faculties and administration and you, the reader.

We're looking forward to seeing this newsletter grow and be carried forward with an even greater amount of enthusiasm in the time to come. I hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter.

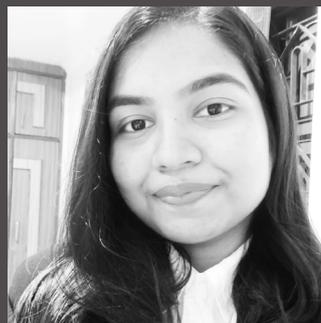
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# MONTHLY UPDATES

## ILO downgrades labour market recovery forecast for 2022

A report from the International Labour Organization which assesses on how labour market recovery has unfolded, suggested that the global employment level is anticipated to remain above the pre-pandemic levels until at least 2023 and is estimated at 2017 million in the current year. The Geneva-based United Nations agency has lowered its prediction for labour market recovery in 2022, estimating a global deficit in hours worked equivalent to 52 million full-time jobs. In May 2021, the prior full-year forecast predicted a 26 million full-time equivalent job deficit. According to the ILO World Employment and Social Outlook Trends 2022 report, while this current prediction is an improvement over the scenario in 2021, it is still over 2% below the number of worldwide hours worked pre-pandemic. As the epidemic continues to have a considerable influence on global labour markets, the research warns of a delayed and uncertain recovery. The Report further warned that the actual impact on employment is significantly greater than what is represented in the figures, the reason being the numerous people who have left the labour force. The lower forecast for 2022 reflects, in part, the impact that recent Covid-19 strains, such as Delta and Omicron, are having on the industry, as well as significant uncertainty about the pandemic's future course.

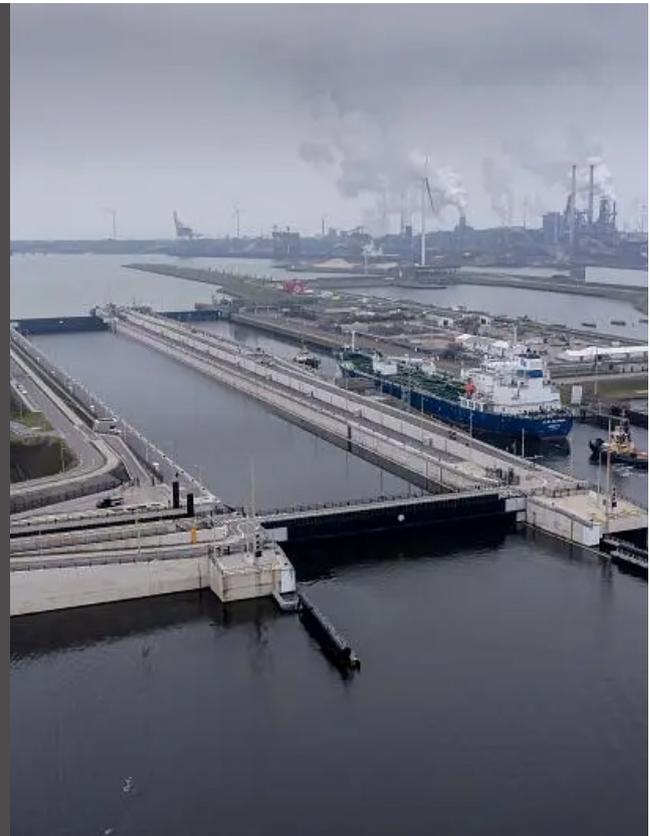


## India, Israel launch commemorative logo

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the commencement of diplomatic relations between India and Israel, the two countries have introduced a commemorative logo. The logo was revealed electronically in the presence of Israel's Ambassador to India, Naor Gilon, and India's envoy to Israel, Sanjeev Singla, at an online ceremony. The design combines the Star of David and the Ashoka Chakra, two symbols found on both countries' national flags, to form the number 30, symbolising the 30th anniversary of bilateral relations. This unique design represents the deep bonds of friendship, love, and admiration that exist between the citizens of the two countries. It also reflects the two countries' expanding strategic alliance. India and Israel are two ancient people, proud of their cultural heritage, and two vibrant democracies, eager to grasp the future, the Indian Ambassador for Israel remarked. Ambassador Naor Gilon said the event is a significant opportunity to reflect on the two countries' shared triumphs as well as a good opportunity to look ahead and shape the next 30 years of their relationship. He expressed confidence that the tight cooperation between the two countries in various fields will only develop and bloom in the coming years. On January 29, 1992, Israel and India established diplomatic ties. The 30th anniversary of Israel-India relations will be commemorated throughout the year with a variety of cultural events.

## World's-largest canal lock unveiled in Netherlands

The Netherlands is known for its canals, including 165 in the capital city of Amsterdam. Given to the fact that several of the city's historic canals are on the UNESCO World Heritage List, the Netherlands recently constructed the world's largest canal lock in IJmuiden. The IJmuiden lock is intended to replace the earlier Noordersluis lock, which was erected in 1929 and has a history of several malfunctions. The new sluice was virtually opened by King William-Alexander of the Netherlands. The canal was given the name "Zeesleuis," which means "sea lock," after a public vote held by the Dutch government that garnered over 5,000 responses. IJmuiden is a Dutch port city that connects the North Sea Canal with the port of Amsterdam. The construction of the 500-meter-long (1,640-foot) and 700-meter-wide structure began in 2016 and was supposed to be finished by 2019, but it took longer due to a €300-million budget increase. Construction of waiting pontoons for easier transit through the new lock is part of the interdisciplinary project. The project's scope also includes 26 years of maintenance of the new lock and waiting pontoons. The new canal lock, according to Jaap Zeilmaker of the Dutch waterways agency Rijkswaterstaat, is like a wider front entrance for Amsterdam. The Zeesleuis lock will benefit the economy by making transit simpler while also protecting the area from flooding.



## India, Philippines ink \$ 375 million deal for BrahMos missiles

India has signed a \$375 million contract with the Philippines for the "BrahMos" shore-based anti-ship missile system, marking the country's first large defence system export transaction. The supersonic missile with a range of 290 kilometres was developed in collaboration with Russia and is manufactured in India. The defence ministry stated in a statement announcing the signing of the deal that it is a key step forward in the goal of fostering responsible defence exports. According to sources, there is a possibility of increasing the supply of Brahmos systems to the Philippines, and the deal includes training for the missiles' firing and maintenance crews. The missile system will be delivered to the Philippines in the time frame promised. "India's quest to become a major defence exporter to reach the \$5 billion target and to realise Prime Minister's dream, has got a major push today with the BrahMos contract. Defence export can lead to creation of wealth, employment and long-term international friendship," Sudhir K Mishra, former CEO of BrahMos said. Philippines Defense Minister Delfin Lorenzana was present at the signing ceremony and conference to finalise the contract, which will elevate India's defence ties with Southeast Asia to a new level. Senior diplomats from both sides were present, including those involved in the BrahMos project.

## Cyprus detects new 'Deltacron' Covid variant, says report

Cyprus has discovered a novel variety known as "Deltacron," which shares the same genetic basis as the Delta variant but contains 10 Omicron mutations. In Cyprus, the variation has already harmed 25 persons. According to Dr Leondios Kostrikis, the head of the laboratory of biotechnology and molecular virology at the University of Cyprus, of the 25 samples taken in Cyprus, 11 were hospitalised due to the virus, while 14 were from the general population, the Cyprus Mail reported. It is "quite possible" that the new strain has not been found elsewhere, and the sequences of the cases have been sent to GISAID, an open access database that tracks developments in the coronavirus, the Cyprus Mail informed. The health minister was quoted saying that the new variant is not something to be worried about. According to studies, the presence of Delta and Omicron enhances the likelihood of a new variety arising as a consequence of them swapping genes. In line with this, France recently discovered a 46-mutation variety known as IHU. According to a yet-to-be peer-reviewed study backed by the French government, the new variety from the lineage known as B.1.640.2 is thought to have infected 12 persons in the nation.



## China's Change 5 lunar probe finds first on-site evidence of water on moon's surface

China's Change 5 lunar lander has found the first-ever on-site evidence of water on the surface of the moon, lending new evidence to the dryness of the satellite. The lunar soil at the landing site has fewer than 120 parts-per-million (ppm) water, according to a research published on Saturday in the peer-reviewed journal Science Advances, while a light, vesicular rock contains 180 ppm, that's much drier than that on Earth. Although distant observation had established the presence of water, the lander has now identified indications of water in rocks and dirt. The lunar lander's spectral reflectance of the regolith and rock was measured, and for the first time, water was found on the location. The study discovered that the moon has become drier over time, most likely due to the degassing of its mantle reservoir. Change 5 landed on one of the moon's youngest mare basalts, which is positioned at a mid-high latitude. It took samples weighing 1,731 grammes and measured water on the spot. According to the report, the findings are in line with a preliminary examination of the Change 5 samples. The discoveries add to the mystery surrounding China's Change 6 and Change 7 missions. The study of lunar water reserves is becoming more prominent since the construction of human lunar bases is planned in the coming decades, according to the study.

## Poet Maya Angelou becomes the first black woman to appear on US coin

In a new version of the coin revealed by the US Mint on Monday, poet and activist Maya Angelou becomes the first Black woman to feature on the currency. Angelou, author of “I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings,” will be the first person to be honoured by the American Women Quarters Program, which was enacted into law in January 2021. According to a news release, the US Mint has begun shipping the first coins bearing Angelou’s picture on the American quarter, a 25-cent piece. “It is my honour to present our nation’s first circulating coins dedicated to celebrating American women and their contributions to American history,” noted Mint Deputy Director Ventris Gibson. Between 2022 and 2025, the US Mint will produce five distinct quarters showcasing five different female American trailblazers, according to the programme. For the past 90 years, the quarter has featured George Washington, the first president of the United States, on one side and an eagle on the other. In 1999, the United States introduced a series of quarters celebrating the 50 states, each with a design depicting a state on the reverse. It was decided to expand the programme to encompass US territory and national parks. The new quarters have Washington on one side and Angelou on the other. They were minted in Philadelphia and Denver.



## Chile rewrites its constitution, confronting climate change head-on

The South American country of Chile has formed a Constitution Convention to write a new constitution to tackle a “climate and ecological emergency.” Mining companies in Chile, the world’s second-largest lithium producer, are keen to increase production, as are politicians who see mining as crucial to national prosperity. They face mounting opposition Chileans who argue that the country’s very economic model, based on extraction of natural resources, has exacted too high an environmental cost and failed to spread the benefits to all citizens, including its Indigenous people. Lithium mining causes soil moisture to decline and causes daytime temperatures to increase which in turn makes the area drier. The new constitution will focus on lithium mining and its regulation. In addition, it will foresee how lithium mining benefits indigenous communities. The architects of the new constitution will also assess whether Chile’s political system needs a revamp. Their work will not only shape how this country of 19 million is governed. It will also determine the future of a soft, lustrous metal, lithium, lurking in the salt waters beneath this vast desert beside the Andes Mountains. Many fear that the new constitution will impose hefty royalties and restrictions on mining and improve focus on local decision-making.

## Pakistan gets its 1st woman judge in Supreme Court

When Justice Ayesha Malik took her seat on the Pakistan Supreme Court bench on Monday, 24 January, she registered a rare victory for women's representation in the country. Joining 16 other male colleagues, Justice Malik became Pakistan's first ever female judge at its top court. Until now, Pakistan remained the only South Asian country to have never had a woman take her place as a Supreme Court judge. Her swearing-in ceremony was held at the apex court and Chief Justice of Pakistan Gulzar Ahmed administered the oath. The historic development came just two days after the bipartisan Parliamentary Committee on the Appointment of Superior Judiciary approved the 55-year-old justice's nomination as the Supreme Court judge. The nomination was sent by the Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP) headed by Senator Farooq H Naek of Pakistan Peoples Party, while approving her nomination, set aside the seniority principle and approved her name in the national interest. She is likely to become the senior most serving judge by January 2030 making her eligible to become Pakistan's first woman chief justice. Justice Malik will now serve on the bench of the Supreme Court till the end of her tenure in 2031.



## Indonesia is relocating its capital from Jakarta

Indonesia has named its new capital Nusantara, as lawmakers approve the shift from Jakarta to Kalimantan, a jungle-covered area on the east of Borneo island. The new name translates to "archipelago" in the Indonesian language. Concerns over the sustainability of the congested and rapidly sinking political centre of Jakarta prompted the need for a new capital. The relocation of the capital city to Kalimantan is based on several considerations, regional advantages, and welfare. With the vision of the birth of a new economic centre of gravity in the middle of the archipelago. President Joko Widodo first announced the capital would be relocated in 2019, citing concerns over Jakarta's environmental and economic sustainability. Jakarta sits on swampy ground near the sea, making it especially prone to flooding, and is one of the fastest-sinking cities on Earth, according to the World Economic Forum. The former capital has been dropping into the Java Sea at an alarming rate due to over-extraction of groundwater. It is also one of the world's most overpopulated urban regions. Legislators have stressed the importance of careful consideration of the new development's environmental impact. According to data from the National Planning and Development Agency, the total land area for the new capital city will be around 2561km<sup>2</sup> almost all of it converted from forest area

## Barbados becomes the world's newest Republic

Barbados, which became a British colony 400 years ago, has become the world's newest republic. Barbados is said to have been made a 'slave society' by the British. It became an English colony for the first time in 1625. It declared independence in 1966. Barbados, a Caribbean Island country, has removed Queen Elizabeth II as the country's head of state. 72-year-old Dame Sandra Prunella Mason, was sworn in as the first president of Barbados. He was elected as Barbados' first president in October 2021. The creation of the new republic was commemorated with an overnight ceremony in Bridgetown, the country's capital. Several politicians and dignitaries, including Prince Charles, were present for the ceremony, which featured a spectacular display of fireworks, dance, and music.



## Honduras gets its 1st woman president

Ms. Xiomara Castro has become the first female president in Honduras with a sea of waving flags at the national stadium as she took the reins of the country amid an economic and political crisis. Ms. Castro, 62, took the oath at a massive ceremony attended by international dignitaries after an embarrassing week of fighting within her party that challenged her authority. She is the former first lady and her husband, José Manuel Zelaya was ousted by the army in a military coup in 2009. Winning 51% of the vote share and 1.7 million votes, Castro garnered the largest number of votes in the country's history, underscoring the public's appetite for change. A 62-year-old Ms. Castro married businessman and politician Manuel Zelaya at the age of 19. The couple have four children. Before coming to politics she was looking after their businesses. Castro also ran for president in 2013 and 2017 but failed in her mission. Attended the function among others were US Vice President Kamala Harris, Vice President of Taiwan William Lai. A troubled nation with a poor economy, high levels of gang violence and drug trafficking, Honduras is one of the very few countries in the world to have formal ties with Taipei.

## India's envoy at UN Tirumurti assumes Chair of Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee for 2022

T S Tirumurti, India's Permanent Representative to the UN, assumed the Chair of the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee for 2022. India is currently a non-permanent member of the 15-nation Security Council and its two-year term ends December 31, 2022. The Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) was established in 2001 in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. UNSC Resolution 1373 (2001) had established the Counter-Terrorism Committee as a subsidiary body of the Council. On the eve of assuming Chair of the CTC, India had voted in favour of a resolution to renew the mandate of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED). The UN Security Council, through its written silence procedure, renewed the mandate of the Executive Directorate until December 31, 2025. "As the Chair of CTC for 2022, India will make determined efforts to further enhance the role of CTC in strengthening the multilateral response to counter-terrorism, and more importantly, ensuring that global response to the threat of terrorism remains unambiguous, undivided and effective," India had said in its explanation of vote to renew the CTED mandate.



## Antigua and Barbuda joined International Solar Alliance as 102nd member

Antigua and Barbuda has officially joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as a member country on 5 January 2022 by signing the International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement, the India-led global green energy initiative. The Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Gaston Browne signed the framework agreement in the presence of Indian High Commissioner Dr K. J. Srinivasa to catalyze global energy transition through a solar-led approach. With this, the Caribbean nation has become the 102nd country to join the India-led global energy initiative, ISA. The International Solar Alliance is an action-oriented, collaborative and member-driven platform promoting the enhanced deployment of solar energy technology in member nations as a method of increasing energy access, guaranteeing energy security, and accelerating the energy transition. It was set up jointly by India and France on the side-lines of the COP21 Climate Conference in Paris in 2015 and launched at 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC CoP21) on 30 November 2015 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, HE Mr. Narendra Modi and then-French President, HE Mr. Francois Hollande. The Paris Declaration establishing the ISA states that the countries share the collective ambition to undertake innovative and concerted efforts for reducing the cost of finance

## India announced financial assistance of USD 900 million to Sri Lanka to overcome forex crisis

India has announced a USD 900 million loan to Sri Lanka to build up its depleted foreign reserves and for food imports, amidst a shortage of almost all essential commodities in the island nation. The governor of the Central Bank Ajith Nivard Cabraal said that the island nation is negotiating a USD one billion loan from India to import goods from the country. The Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka Gopal Baglay met Cabraal on Thursday expressing India's strong support to Sri Lanka in the wake of RBI extending over USD 900 million facilities. Cabraal on Wednesday said that billion-dollar loan negotiations with India had reached its advanced stage. Commenting on India's gesture, analysts here said the Indian assistance could have contributed to Sri Lanka's doubling of reserves announced at the end of December. The central bank said that the reserve position had doubled to USD 3 billion from being down to USD 1.5 billion by December or sufficient for just a month's imports. Cabraal claimed that the forthcoming Indian loan would be for food imports. Sri Lanka is currently experiencing a shortage of almost all essentials due to a shortage of dollars to pay for the imports.



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## ILPS CHARACTER PAGE WINSTON CHURCHIL

Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill was born on November 30, 1874, in Oxfordshire, England. A legendary statesman, celebrated orator, and author, he later became the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, under whose leadership the country and its people rallied their paths from defeat to victory. He came from a wealthy, affluent family. In 1895, he joined the Royal Cavalry as a result of his early fascination with militarism. Churchill was elected as a Conservative MP for Oldham in 1900, before switching sides to the Liberal Party in 1904 and rising the ranks of the Liberal administration over the ensuing years. By the time of the disastrous Gallipoli expedition, which he orchestrated, he was First Lord of the Admiralty. He resigned from his job and travelled to the Western Front to fight first-hand after being heavily criticized for his blunder. During the war, Churchill switched allegiance from the Liberals to the Conservatives. He served as Chancellor of the Exchequer from 1924 until 1926. Churchill lost his seat in the House of Commons in 1929, and he spent the next 11 years writing and making speeches. Later, he launched a campaign against the Government of India bill (1935), which sought to grant India dominion status. In March 1939 Churchill and his group pressed for a truly national coalition, and, at last, sentiment in the country, recognizing him as the nation's spokesman, began to agitate for his return to the office. On September 3, 1939, the day the United Kingdom declared war on Germany, Chamberlain reassigned Churchill to his previous role as Admiralty Chief. When Chamberlain resigned, it was clear that only Churchill could unify and lead the country, since the Labour Party, with all its anti-Socialist prejudices, understood the depth of Churchill's commitment to defeating Hitler. Excluding the extreme left and right, a coalition government was created. The cabinet, which was chaired by a five-member war cabinet, became a quick-decision-making body, and the government it controlled remained a representation of all factions and parties.

The Prime Minister's focus was on the war's real conduct. If World War II was devoid of the domestic political machinations that plagued World War I, it was due in part to Churchill's constant dominance of Parliament, which he never overlooked or took for granted. Parliament, he believed, was a weapon of public persuasion that he mastered and derived power and comfort from. Churchill, along with the rest of the country, pledged to fight until victory was accomplished. Behind this straightforward goal was a complex plan that he followed throughout the conflict with extraordinary constancy. Within weeks of him taking power, Parliament approved laws putting all "persons, their services, and their property at the disposal of the Crown," thereby giving the government the broadest emergency powers in modern British history.





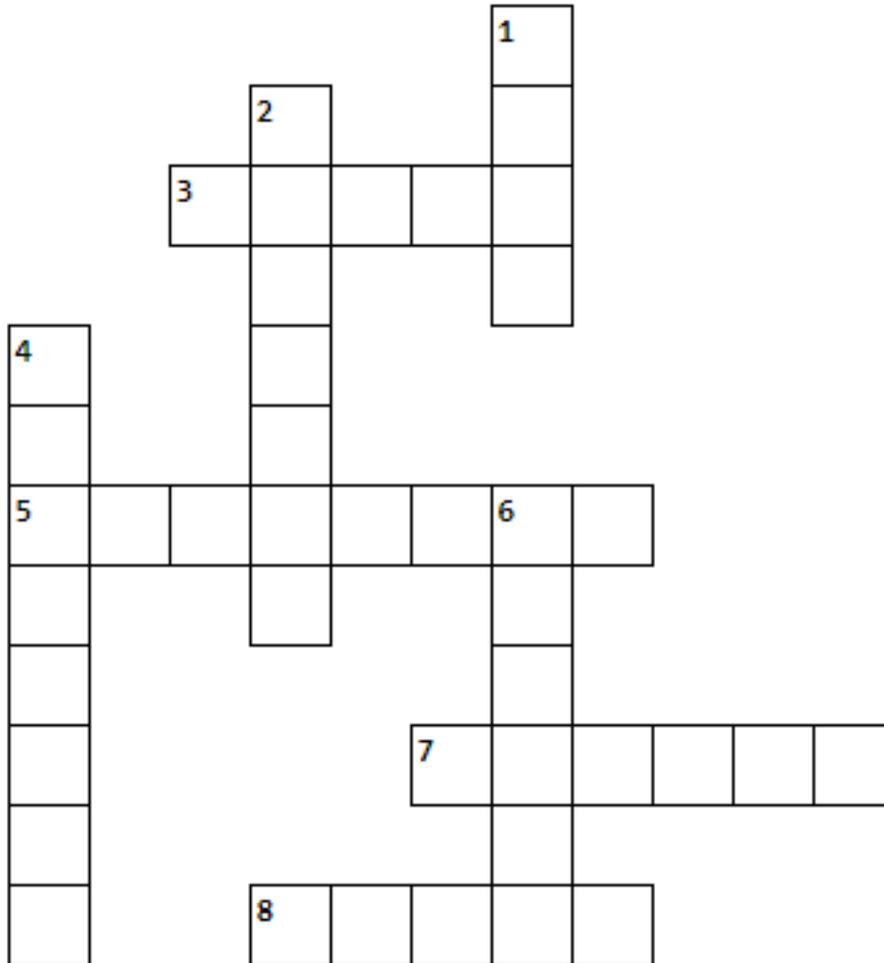
Churchill's response to Hitler's surprise attack on the Soviet Union was immediate and emphatic. He promised to help the Russian people. His objective was to form a "mutualistic relationship" that included both the Soviet Union and the United States. However, it took until May 1942 to reach an agreement on a 20-year mutual aid treaty between the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union. When the grand alliance was formed, of which Churchill was a key architect, protecting it became his top priority for the next three and a half years.

The cabinet saw some "leftward" reconstruction in 1942, as seen by the approval in 1943 of Lord Beveridge's plans for comprehensive social insurance, which Churchill regarded as a natural continuation of the Liberal reforms of 1911. However, Churchill was forced out of government by Labour leader Clement Attlee's surprise General Election win in 1945, and he returned to public speech. Churchill notably claimed in a 1946 address in the United States that "an iron curtain has descended across the Continent," and warned of the persistent danger posed by a dominant Soviet Russia.

The Conservatives won a slim majority of 17 seats in the general election of 1950, and Churchill became Prime Minister for the second time. He handled business from his bedside as he grew older and more ill, and while his tremendous personality and oratory talent remained, the Prime Minister's leadership was less decisive than during the war. Churchill's impact on domestic policy was minimal during his second term, which was remarkable for the Conservative Party's acceptance of Labour's newly created Welfare State. His subsequent attempts at reducing the growing Cold War by personal diplomacy failed to yield substantial results, and he was obliged to quit in 1955 due to ill health, making way for Anthony Eden, his Foreign Secretary and Deputy Prime Minister.

In any age and time, a man of Churchill's force and talents would have left his mark on events and society. A gifted journalist, a biographer and historian of classic proportions, an amateur painter of talent, an orator of rare power, a soldier of courage and distinction, Churchill, by any standards, was a man of rare versatility. But it was as a public figure that he excelled. Churchill died in 1965, and was honoured with a state funeral.

# CROSSWORD



Across

- 3. Ballon d'Or winner in 2021
- 5. Swedish Activist famous for climate change
- 7. Nobel Prize winning Pakistani Activist
- 8. Current President of the United States

Down

- 1. Capital of a country currently being invaded by Russia
- 2. A country famous for hosting a beer festival every October
- 4. Current Secretary General of the United Nations
- 6. Jets built by France and sold to India.

## ABOUT ILPS

In this era of globalisation, the importance of International Law has increased manifold. Globalisation challenges many of the traditional assumptions about International law, its relationship to domestic law, the ways in which it is created and the methods of its enforcement. Among other things, the International Law and Policy Society (ILPS) of National Law University Odisha, Cuttack, India will be engaged in cutting edge research and study of the normative and institutional implications of this challenge and of its theoretical and practical ramifications in a variety of fields encompassing the regulation of trade and investments, protection of human rights, international criminal responsibility of individuals, security and environmental governance, etc. ILPS has been established to provide through research, working papers, publications, seminars, webinars, conferences, projects and engagement, a platform for intellectual dialogue on contemporary issues of international law and foreign policy. The emphasis of this society will be on public international law, international affairs and foreign policies of different countries. The society aims to engage with various stakeholders such as scholars, universities, policymakers, think tanks and intergovernmental organizations. The society has completed its 1st year and now it's entering its 2nd year. In its first year, ILPS has launched its website and called for blogs, it received over 30 blogs and also conducted a 1-day seminar. This year we looking forward to enthusiastic participation from the students for our upcoming webinars, seminars, blogs submission and competitions.

## ILPS TEAM

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