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The Richardson Series collects the papers of the Right Honourable Sir Ivor Richardson, Distinguished Fellow of the Victoria University of Wellington Law Faculty. The Faculty gratefully acknowledges the sponsorship of the New Zealand Branch of the International Fiscal Association, whose generosity funds the Richardson Series.

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## LEGAL SCHOLARSHIP NETWORK: LEGAL STUDIES RESEARCH PAPER SERIES VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON LEGAL RESEARCH PAPERS

### ["New Zealand's Overseas Trade"](#)

3 *Journal of World Trade Law* 272, 1969

*[Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series Palmer Paper No. 29](#)*

**[SIR GEOFFREY PALMER QC](#)**, Victoria University of Wellington  
Email: [geoffrey.palmer@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:geoffrey.palmer@vuw.ac.nz)

This paper explains the state of New Zealand's overseas trading arrangements as at the end of the 1960s. It discusses key exports, multilateral and bilateral trade agreements, and the relationship with the GATT regime. It also covers arrangements for marketing, customs and tariffs law, and New Zealand control of overseas exchange. The paper considers the movement toward trade liberalisation and the further steps which must be taken in this regard.

### ["International Law in the Foreign Policy of a Small State"](#)

**SIR GEOFFREY PALMER QC**, Victoria University of Wellington  
Email: [geoffrey.palmer@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:geoffrey.palmer@vuw.ac.nz)

The following article is the edited text of a lecture delivered by the Right Honourable Geoffrey Palmer MP to the Columbia University Law School on 26 September 1985. In the light of such developments as New Zealand's policy of refusing the entry into its ports of ships with nuclear weapons and the bombing of the Greenpeace boat 'Rainbow Warrior' in Auckland harbour, the Deputy Prime Minister is concerned that the principles of international law and the United Nations be upheld. He argues that the world's democracies have a special responsibility to support international law making and to be scrupulous to act within the confines of that law.

### **"International Trade Blocs – New Zealand and Australia: Beyond CER"**

1 *Public Law Review* 203, 1990

*Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series Palmer Paper No. 31*

**SIR GEOFFREY PALMER QC**, Victoria University of Wellington  
Email: [geoffrey.palmer@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:geoffrey.palmer@vuw.ac.nz)

New Zealand and Australia's natural and mutual trust sets their efforts for a closer relationship apart from many other countries. The idea of a common Europe was seen as a solution to bitter conflict which has divided people and nations over several centuries. In North America, the Canadian Federation was created in the aftermath of the American Revolution to make the remaining British colonies strong in the face of American power. Because we have had none of this legacy in our part of the world, perhaps our perspective of development of our relations with Australia is too narrow. We have achieved closer economic relations. But have we fully recognised the potential of our relationship, or does CER represent a high-water mark? We can and we must go further.

This paper traces the history of New Zealand's relationship with Australia, looking back at two earlier models before considering NAFTA (New Zealand Australia Free Trade Agreement) and CER. Australia and New Zealand share the same legal history, tradition, reliance on the common law, and common legal institutions. There is potential in CER for closer juridical relations to be developed between the two countries. What we aim to have at the end of the CER process is not a single Australasia, or the ANZAC peoples living separate existences side by side, but a vibrant, challenging and outward-looking community of two nations.

### **"International Law and the Reform of the International Court of Justice"**

A Anghie and G Sturgess (eds) *'Legal Visions of the 21st Century: Essays in Honour of Judge Christopher Weeramantry'* (Kluwer Law, The Hague, 1998) at 579-600.

*Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series Palmer Paper No. 32*

**SIR GEOFFREY PALMER QC**, Victoria University of Wellington  
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This paper discusses the concept of international law and the position of the International Court of Justice. It considers the functions of the Court and whether a new approach involving compulsory third-party adjudication is necessary. It then turns to the potential for general reform and how various beneficial changes to the Court could be carried out.

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## **About this eJournal**

The Victoria University of Wellington was founded in 1899 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the reign of Queen Victoria of Great Britain and of the then British Empire. Law teaching started in 1900. The Law Faculty was formally constituted in 1907. The first dean was Richard Maclaurin (1870-1920), an eminent scholar of both law and mathematics. Maclaurin went on to lead the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as President in its formative years. Early professors included Sir John Salmond (1862-1924), still one of the Common Law's leading scholars. His texts on jurisprudence and torts have gone through many editions and remain in print.

Alumni include Sir Robin Cooke (1926-2006), one of the leading judges of the British Commonwealth. As Baron Cooke of Thorndon, he sat on over 100 appeals to the Judicial Committee of the House of Lords, one of very few Commonwealth judges ever appointed to do so.

Since 1996 the [Law School](#) has occupied the Old Government Building in central Wellington. Designed by William Clayton and opened in 1876 to house New Zealand's then civil service, the building is a particularly fine example of Italianate neo-Renaissance style. Unusually among large colonial official buildings of the time it is constructed of wood, apart from chimneys and vaults.

The School is close to New Zealand's Parliament, courts, and the headquarters of government departments. Throughout Victoria's history, our law teachers have contributed actively to policy formation and to law reform. As a result, in addition to many scholarly articles and books, the Victoria SSRN pages include a number of official reports.

Victoria graduates approximately 230 LLB and LLB(Hons) students each year, and about 60 LLM students. The faculty has an

increasing number of doctoral students. Ordinarily there are ten to twelve students engaged in PhD research.

Victoria University observes the British system of academic ranks. In North American terms, lecturers and senior lecturers are tenured doctrinal scholars, not legal writing teachers. A senior lecturer corresponds approximately to a North American associate professor in rank.

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