



**Her Excellency, Ambassador
Dr. Florence Fatima Ajimobi**

Ambassador of the Federal
Republic of Nigeria to the
Republic of Austria

Ambassador (Dr.) Fatima Florence Ajimobi is a distinguished entrepreneur, accomplished business leader, and philanthropist with over forty (40) years of professional experience in business development, corporate management, strategic planning, and organizational leadership.

Prior to her diplomatic appointment, she was the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the Grandex Group of Companies, through which she successfully built and managed a diversified portfolio of enterprises spanning retail, logistics, manufacturing support services, and corporate services across Nigeria. Throughout her career, she demonstrated exceptional leadership in business expansion, market development, human capital management, and operational excellence.

Ambassador Ajimobi holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the London School of Business and Finance, United Kingdom, and a Certificate in the Strategic Program for Negotiation and Leadership from Harvard Business School, United States of America. In recognition of her distinguished contributions to leadership and public service, she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Public Administration by Ajayi Crowder University in 2019.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Ambassador Ajimobi has distinguished herself through philanthropy and community service. She founded the Educate a Rural Child Initiative to promote access to quality education for disadvantaged children and has actively supported initiatives aimed at improving access to basic healthcare, women's empowerment, and community development.

A published author, Ambassador Ajimobi is the author of *My Life Like a Rainbow*, which reflects her personal journey and commitment to leadership, resilience, and service.

Ambassador (Dr.) Fatima Florence Ajimobi currently serves as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the Republic of Austria and Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the International Organizations in Vienna. Her extensive experience in leadership, strategic management, and public service continues to guide her efforts in advancing Nigeria's bilateral relations with Austria and promoting the country's interests within the multilateral system.



Prince Lateef Fagbemi SAN

Attorney-General of the
Federation and Minister of
Justice of the Federal Republic
of Nigeria

Mr. Lateef Olasunkanmi Fagbemi, Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN), is a distinguished legal practitioner with an illustrious career spanning over three decades. He earned his LL.B degree from the University of Jos in 1984. Following his mandatory one-year legal training at the Nigerian Law School in Lagos, he was called to the Nigerian Bar in August 1985. He subsequently obtained a Master's Degree in Law from the then University of Ife, Ile-Ife (now known as Obafemi Awolowo University) in 1987 and subsequently obtained an MSc in Taxation at the University of Oxford.

In 1996, at just 10 years at the Bar, Mr. Fagbemi attained the prestigious rank of Senior Advocate of Nigeria, a remarkable achievement that set him apart as a trailblazer in the legal field. In 2000, he founded his law firm, Lateef Fagbemi & Co., which he exited following his appointment as the Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice by President Bola Tinubu GCFR in August 2023.

As both an advocate and arbitrator, Mr. Fagbemi has made significant contributions to the legal profession. He is a Fellow of several esteemed institutions, including the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK), the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Nigeria), and the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (FNIALS). Additionally, he is a member of the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA) and a member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigerian (CITN).

In recognition of his significant contributions to the practice and development of law in Nigeria, Mr. Fagbemi was awarded Doctor of Laws (honoris causa) by the Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, in October 2024.



Professor Christine Chinkin

Chair of the Executive Council
and Chair of the Management
Committee International Law
Association

Professor Christine Chinkin, FBA is the Chair of the International Law Association. She is Emerita Professor of International Law, Professorial Research Fellow and Founding Director of the Centre of Women, Peace & Security at the London School of Economics (LSE), United Kingdom, as well as a barrister and member of Matrix Chambers. She is also an overseas affiliated faculty member of the University of Michigan Law School.

Professor Chinkin is the author of *Third Parties in International Law* (Oxford University Press, 1993) and *International Law and Women, Peace and Security* (Cambridge University Press, 2021), and co-author of *The Boundaries of International Law: A Feminist Analysis* (Manchester University Press, 2000), *The Making of International Law* (Oxford University Press, 2007) and *International Law and New Wars* (Cambridge University Press, 2017). Her award-winning work on Feminist Approaches to International Law has made a significant contribution to scholarship in the field.

In 2001, Professor Chinkin was awarded the American Society of International Law's Certificate of Merit for "outstanding contribution to scholarship" and, in 2005, the Society's Goler T. Butcher Medal for "outstanding contributions to the development or effective realisation of international human rights law" with Hilary Charlesworth.

She was a member of the Human Rights Advisory Panel in Kosovo from 2010–2016 and Scientific Advisor to the Council of Europe's Committee for the drafting of the Istanbul Convention. She has served as a consultant on international law to the Asian Development Bank, on human trafficking to the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights and the Commonwealth Secretariat on Violence against Women. She has advised non-governmental organisations on women's human rights and has been a member of the UK Government's Prevention of Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict Initiative since its inception in 2012.

In June 2017, she was appointed CMG in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for services to advancing women's human rights worldwide.



Prof. Damilola Olawuyi SAN

President, Nigerian Branch of the International Law Association; Professor and UNESCO Chair on Environmental Law and Sustainable Development, Hamad Bin Khalifa University in Qatar

Professor Damilola S Olawuyi SAN is an international lawyer, professor of law and policy adviser specialising in business and human rights, energy, natural resources, and environmental law. He serves as UNESCO Chairholder on Environmental Law and Sustainable Development at Hamad Bin Khalifa University in Qatar, as well as the Director of the Institute for Oil, Gas, Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development (OGEES Institute) at Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria.

A Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN) and Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, he has advised on major energy and infrastructure projects globally. A senior counsel at McNair International Law Firm, he sits on the United Nations Working Group on Business and Human rights and serves on several committees and boards including the African Development Bank, International Law Association, International Bar Association and the Association of Environmental Law Lecturers in Middle East and North African Universities (ASSELLMU). His award-winning book Environmental Law in Arab States earned recognition from the American Society of International Law (ASIL) in 2023.

Professor Olawuyi holds a doctorate (DPhil) in energy and environmental law from the University of Oxford; a Master of Laws (LLM) from Harvard University; and another LLM from the University of Calgary. He has been admitted as Barrister and Solicitor in Alberta, Canada; Ontario, Canada; and Nigeria.



Babatunde Fagbohunlu, SAN

Senior Partner , Aluko &
Oyebo

Tunde is a Senior Partner and Head of the Litigation & Arbitration Practice. He is a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, admitted in 1988. In December 2008, he was conferred with the rank of Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN) by the Nigerian Legal Practitioners Privileges Committee.

He specialises in commercial litigation and has litigated an extensive range of issues, including those pertaining to oil and gas, maritime, intellectual property, telecommunications, taxation, finance and banking, contracts, receiverships and insolvency, commercial law transactions and general litigation, both at trial and appellate levels.

Tunde has represented various multinational clients, including oil companies, telecommunications companies and banks, in litigation, ad hoc arbitrations and arbitration proceedings. He renders legal advice on a wide range of commercial transactions. He also regularly represents Nigerian, foreign and multinational clients in arbitration and before arbitral institutions, such as the International Court of Arbitration of the ICC. He has also been appointed arbitrator in several arbitration proceedings.

In 2018, The Legal 500 Europe, Middle East & Africa recognised him as one of the leading individuals in Dispute Resolution. In Chambers Global 2014 and 2016, he was described as an “extremely skilled advocate...very hands-on, very clever, and with excellent commercial judgement.” In Chambers Global 2013 legal rankings, he was described as “hard-working and thorough” and respected by peers for his litigation skills.

Tunde’s expertise has also been recognised in publications such as Who’s Who Legal Nigeria 2010 and 2012, where he was described as a “fantastic litigator” and, in 2012, noted for his “craftsmanship” in constructing legal arguments when representing international entities in arbitration proceedings.



Mrs Patience Okala

National Coordinator of Nigeria's
AfCFTA Coordination Office

Patience Okala is the National Coordinator of the Nigeria AfCFTA Coordination Office and doubles as Special Adviser, Legal Affairs on Trade and Investment to Nigeria's Honourable Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, where she supports the Minister on all Trade and Investment matters, including the coordinated alignment of Nigeria's regulatory framework for investment and trade with the AfCFTA Agreement.

As Special Adviser, she supported the Honourable Minister in coordinating Nigeria's AfCFTA Central Coordination Committee, the gazette of Nigeria's provisional Schedule of Tariff Concessions for Trade in Goods under the AfCFTA, signalling Nigeria's readiness to trade under the AfCFTA. She also provided instrumental support leading up to the designation of Nigeria as co-Champion of Digital Trade and the assessment of Nigeria's 5-year AfCFTA Implementation, as well as on matters related to negotiations under the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Over the past few years, she served as Expert Investment Advisor to the AfCFTA Secretariat in Accra, Ghana. She spent over 2 decades of her professional life in the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC), where she rose to the rank of Director, Legal Services and was the Lead Negotiator of Nigeria's inter-ministerial team on negotiation of international investment treaties.

She was the technical lead for the general reform of Nigeria's International Investment Agreements regime and played a key role in the development of a reform-oriented model bilateral investment treaty (BIT) for Nigeria. She has led BIT negotiations between Nigeria and several countries, as well as negotiations on investment-related regional, continental and multilateral Agreements, including the AfCFTA Protocol on Investment, the ICSID Rules Amendment process and UNCITRAL Working Group III on the reform of investor-state dispute settlement.

Mrs Okala was also the technical lead for the development of the first-ever Nigeria Investment Policy document signed off by the Federal Government of Nigeria in 2023.

She is a prominent speaker and thought leader in the field of investment in Africa and has served as resource person, panelist and moderator at several national and international conferences and workshops on investment-related issues.



Mr. Olivier Pognon

Director and Chief Executive
Officer, African Legal
Support Facility (ALSF)

Olivier is a Beninese national, currently Executive Director of the African Legal Support Facility (ALSF), an international organisation hosted by the African development bank in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (www.alsf.int). Olivier joined the ALSF in 2021 after spending 7 years at Airtel Africa Plc (Nairobi, Kenya), a telecommunications company listed on the London Stock Exchange, as the Chief Legal Officer, where he was responsible for the oversight of the group's legal practice.

Prior to Airtel Africa, he worked as senior legal counsel for MTN Group, legal counsel at Agence Française de Développement, and as an associate specializing in corporate law and project finance, respectively at EY Law, CMS Bureau Francis Lefebvre and Mayer Brown in Paris, France.

With 20+ years' experience as an international lawyer, Olivier brings a strong background in strategic leadership, stakeholder management alongside a global outlook, and a collaborative and business approach to building organizations.



Prof. Olabisi Akinkugbe

Purdy Crawford Chair in
Business Law, Associate
Professor at the Schulich School
of Law, Dalhousie University

Professor Olabisi Delebayo Akinkugbe is the Purdy Crawford Chair in Business Law and Associate Professor at the Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University. He is also the Allan Rock Visiting Professor in Law at the Common Law Section of the Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa (2024–2027). Before joining Dalhousie University, Professor Akinkugbe was an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, Canada, from 2015 to 2017.

Professor Akinkugbe's research covers issues in and at the intersection of public international law, international trade and investment law, law and development, international courts, sovereign debt, financial institutions, and regional economic integration in Africa. He has published widely in these areas and is currently completing an edited volume on African International Financial Institutions under contract with Cambridge University Press.

Professor Akinkugbe is active in the governance of international societies and professional associations in his field. He is currently an Executive Vice-President of the Society of International Economic Law and Section Editor, International Decisions and Decision Essays, of the American Journal of International Law. In 2020, he co-founded and serves as co-Editor-in-Chief of the African Journal of International Economic Law. He has also served on the Executive Councils of the Canadian Council of International Law, American Society of International Law and Society of International Economic Law, as well as the steering committee of the Academic Forum on Investor-State Dispute Settlement and the Advisory Board of the African International Economic Law Network.

In 2019, Professor Akinkugbe co-founded Afronomicslaw.org, which focuses on international economic law as it relates to Africa and the Global South.

Prior to joining academia, his practice and in-house experience focused on project finance, construction law, public-private partnerships and arbitration. He was previously an Associate at Aluko & Oyeboode, Lagos, Nigeria.



Mr. Ahmed Essa Al-Sulaiti,

President of the International Law Association, Gulf Cooperation Council. Lawyer and Faculty member at the College of Law, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Doha, Qatar.

Ahmed Essa Al-Sulaiti is a licensed lawyer admitted to practice before the Appellate Court in Qatar and a Lecturer at the College of Law, Hamad Bin Khalifa University.

Prior to entering private practice, Ahmed served as Director of the Office of the State of Qatar to the World Trade Organization (WTO), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) from 2022 to 2025. From 2018 to 2022, he served as a diplomat and legal counsel at Qatar's Permanent Mission to the WTO, WIPO, and UNCTAD in Geneva, representing the State of Qatar in multilateral negotiations and dispute settlement proceedings. He began his career in the oil and gas industry in 2012 before transitioning to government service.

With over 14 years of experience in international law and diplomacy, Ahmed specializes in trade, intellectual property (IP), and national security, with expertise in international negotiations, mediation, arbitration, and strategic dispute resolution. He has also served as a legal advisor on international law matters and as Chief Mediator in the Doha peace process between the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Alliance Fleuve Congo/March 23 Movement (M23).

Ahmed is President of the International Law Association (ILA) – GCC Branch (2024–present), President of the Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances (2025–2027), and has held several leadership positions within the WTO and Berne Union. He currently serves as Member of the WTO Expert Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures and the Indicative List of Panelists.

As a recognized expert in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), Ahmed continues to advise on WTO-related matters and international disputes.

He has published in leading journals and is co-editor of *Trade Restrictions, Sustainable Development and the Law: International and Regional Perspectives*, published by Routledge.

He holds a Juris Doctor (J.D.) in Comparative Law from Hamad Bin Khalifa University, completed in collaboration with Northwestern University.



Prof. Marie-Claire Cordonier Segger

Vice President, ILA Canada Chair in Sustainable Development Law and Policy at the University of Cambridge.

Professor Dr Marie-Claire Cordonier Segger, PhD (Cantab), DPhil (Oxon), MEM (Yale), BCL & LLB (McGill), BA Hons (Carl/UVic), FRSC, FRSA, WIJA, is a world-leading scholar and jurist specialising in sustainable development law and governance.

Within the International Law Association, she chairs the ILA Committee on International Law for the UN Sustainable Development Goals and serves as Vice-President of the International Law Association of Canada. She holds the Chair in Sustainable Development Law and Policy at the University of Cambridge, where she is Law Fellow and Director of Studies at Lucy Cavendish College and Programme Director of the Democratising Education for Global Sustainability and Justice programme. She is also a Fellow of the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law at the University of Cambridge and Senior Director of the Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL).

Prof Cordonier Segger has published over 29 books and more than 160 papers in five languages and edits a series of volumes on international treaty regimes for sustainable development with Cambridge University Press. Her recent works include Sustainable Development Law: Principles, Practices and Prospects, 2nd edition (Oxford University Press, 2025), co-authored with Professor Damilola Olawuyi.

With over three decades of experience in international treaty negotiations, implementation, dispute settlement and capacity building spanning over 80 countries, Prof Cordonier Segger holds deep expertise in international law on climate change and biodiversity loss, natural resources stewardship, and trade, investment and financial instruments to advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

She serves as Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC Climate Law and Governance Initiative, Chair of the CBD Biodiversity Law and Governance Initiative and President of the Sustainable Development Governance and Law Association.

Her contributions have been recognised through Fellowship in the Royal Society of Canada and UK Royal Society of Arts, the HE Judge CG Weeramantry International Justice Award (WIJA), Hungary's Justitia Fundamentum Regnorum Medal, and the Global Sustainability Leadership Award in the UK House of Lords in 2026.



Dr. Eghosa Ekhator

Associate Professor of
International Environmental
Law, University of Derby

Dr Eghosa Ekhator is an Associate Professor of International Environmental Law at the University of Derby and serves as Principal Investigator for the Business and Human Rights Scholarship: Global South project. He is also the Co-Lead, International, Environmental, and Human Rights Law Research Cluster at the University of Derby Law School. His research focuses on international environmental law, business and human rights, climate justice, and Global South perspectives. He joined the University of Derby Law School in September 2019 from the University of Chester where he taught on numerous undergraduate and postgraduate modules. His main research areas are in international environmental law and natural resources governance. He received an LLB in Law from the University of Benin, Nigeria and an LLM and PhD in Law from the University of Hull. He has also been called to the Nigerian Bar as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria.



Femi Oke

International Journalist /Co-
Founder, Moderate the Panel

Femi Oke is an award-winning journalist, podcaster, professional moderator and the co-founder of the diverse events company, Moderate the Panel.

Femi has over 25 years of experience reporting, producing, and anchoring for top international media outlets such as the BBC, Channel 4, ITV, Sky Television, CNN International, Al Jazeera, National Geographic, and NPR. Her extensive exposure on both local and international platforms kick-started her moderating career.

As a moderator, facilitator and emcee, she leads global events, discussions, workshops and retreats for organizations like the United Nations, World Bank, and the European Commission.

Based in Washington, D.C. where she hosted the live interactive news and current affairs show “The Stream” on Al Jazeera English for a decade, Femi now collaborates with partners like Foreign Policy, Doha Debates, and Audible.



ABOUT THE EMBASSY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA IN AUSTRIA

Nigeria and Austria have maintained diplomatic relations since 1962, building on a longstanding relationship that dates back to 1909, when Austria-Hungary established a consulate in Lagos.

The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in Austria plays an important role in strengthening Nigeria's bilateral relations with Austria and advancing Nigeria's interests within the wider multilateral community in Vienna.

Austria's position as a major international diplomatic hub, hosting organisations including the United Nations, OPEC, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), provides an important platform for Nigeria's engagement on international, economic and development issues.

Nigeria and Austria have strengthened their bilateral cooperation through agreements on economic, industrial and technical cooperation, as well as re-admission, while maintaining regular engagement between government officials, institutions and the private sector.

The Embassy continues to support Nigeria's diplomatic, economic and multilateral engagement in Austria and to foster stronger cooperation between Nigeria, Austria and international institutions based in Vienna.



ABOUT THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

The Federal Ministry of Justice is a key government Ministry that facilitates a fair, impartial, and efficient administration of Justice in the country, in line with the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended). The Ministry is led by the Attorney-General of the Federation & Minister of Justice and assisted by the Solicitor-General of the Federation & Permanent Secretary.

The Ministry also provides a broad spectrum of needs-based legal and ancillary services to various government Ministries, agencies, parastatals, citizens and residents alike, with the objective of enhancing access to justice, adherence to the rule of law, and facilitating a responsive legal system that promotes public confidence in the administration of justice,

The Ministry works in collaboration with other justice sector stakeholders, and coordinates interventions across the justice value chain to improve efficiencies in the justice system, consistent with the ideals of democracy.



ABOUT THE ILA

The International Law Association (ILA) currently chaired by Professor Christine Chinkin, FBA, was founded in Brussels in 1873 and has its headquarters in London.

The ILA promotes: “the study, clarification and development of public and private international law, the furtherance of international understanding and respect for international law.”

The Nigerian Branch of the ILA (ILA Nigeria) was formally inaugurated in 2014 by the then Chief Justice of Nigeria, Rt. Hon Justice Aloma Mariam Mukhtar, GCON, and has since then made significant contributions to the development of international law through publications, practice and commentaries.

Our membership ranges from lawyers in private practice, academia, government and the judiciary, to non-lawyer experts from commercial, industrial and financial spheres, and representatives of bodies such as shipping, chambers of commerce and arbitration organisations. ILA has a consultative status with several United Nations specialized agencies. ILA Nigeria regularly hosts innovative lectures, seminars, conferences, and other capacity development programs.



ABOUT ALUKO & OYEBODE

Aluko & Oyebode (ALN Nigeria) is one of Nigeria's leading full-service commercial law firms, with a long-standing reputation for advising local and international clients on complex transactions, disputes and regulatory matters across key sectors of the Nigerian economy. The Firm combines deep knowledge of Nigerian law with an international outlook, advising clients across corporate and commercial law, banking and finance, capital markets, mergers and acquisitions, energy and natural resources, infrastructure, technology, dispute resolution and other areas of business law.

As the Nigerian member of ALN, an integrated alliance of leading African corporate law firms across 14 African jurisdictions, Aluko & Oyebode works closely with leading counsel across the continent to provide coordinated, business-focused legal advice on matters spanning African markets.

The Firm has advised on some of Nigeria's most significant and complex transactions and disputes, representing multinational corporations, financial institutions, private equity investors, governments and other leading organisations.

Its practice frequently sits at the intersection of Nigerian law and international investment and commerce, giving the Firm a broad perspective on the legal and policy issues affecting Nigeria's engagement with the global economy.

Aluko & Oyebode is also committed to contributing to the development of the legal profession and to informed dialogue on issues shaping Nigeria, Africa and the wider international legal and business environment.

The Firm's collaboration on the "Peace, Prosperity, and the Future of International Law" policy dialogue reflects this commitment.