



**Tomas Heidar**  
**Vice-President, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea**

Tomas Heidar (Iceland) has been Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) since October 2014 and currently serves as Vice-President of the Tribunal (2020-2023). Earlier he was President of the ITLOS Chamber for Fisheries Disputes (2017-2020). He is a Member of the ITLOS Special Chamber in the *Dispute concerning delimitation of the maritime boundary between Mauritius and Maldives in the Indian Ocean*.

From 1996-2014, Tomas Heidar served as Legal Adviser of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Iceland, attaining the rank of Ambassador. As such he was responsible for all matters of public international law and represented Iceland regularly at meetings on ocean affairs and the law of the sea at the United Nations and in other international *fora*.

Vice-President Heidar is also Director of the Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland and Co-director and lecturer of the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy. He lectures at the University of Iceland and many other universities and institutions around the world, including the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, University College London, Queen Mary University of London, the IFLOS Summer Academy and the Yeosu Academy of the Law of the Sea. He has taught law of the sea at the United Nations Regional Course in International Law in Ethiopia.

Vice-President Heidar is Conciliator and Arbitrator under Annexes V and VII to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Vice-President Heidar has published numerous books and articles on ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including the following:

- *Legal and Scientific Aspects of Continental Shelf Limits* (co-ed., Martinus Nijhoff, 2004)
- “Legal Aspects of Continental Shelf Limits”, in *Legal and Scientific Aspects of Continental Shelf Limits* (Martinus Nijhoff, 2004)
- *Þorskastríðin þrjú – saga landhelgismálsins 1948-1976 (The Three Cod Wars – the History of the Fisheries Zone Dispute 1948-1976)* (in Icelandic) (ed., Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland, 2006)
- *Law, Science and Ocean Management* (co-ed., Martinus Nijhoff, 2007)
- *Changes in the Arctic Environment and the Law of the Sea* (co-ed., Martinus Nijhoff, 2010),
- “Delimitation of the Continental Shelf and Determination of the Outer Limits of the Continental Shelf beyond 200 Nautical Miles in Areas of Overlapping Claims: The Nordic Model”, in *Peaceful Order in the World’s Oceans, Essays in Honor of Satya N. Nandan* (Brill Nijhoff, 2014)
- “The Legal Framework for High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean”, in *International Maritime Economy: Law and Policy* (Brill Nijhoff, 2017)
- “Foreword: The Rule of Law of the Sea”, in *Natural Resources and the Law of the Sea: Exploration, Allocation, Exploitation of Natural Resources in Areas under National Jurisdiction and Beyond* (International Law Institute, 2017)
- “Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity Beyond Areas of National Jurisdiction: A Third Implementing Agreement under the Law of the Sea Convention?”, in *Liber Amicorum Guðmundur Eiríksson* (University for Peace and O.P. Jindal Global University, 2017)
- *Maritime Challenges in Asia* (ed., Korea Maritime Institute, 2020)
- *New Knowledge and Changing Circumstances in the Law of the Sea* (ed., Brill Nijhoff, 2020)
- “Introduction: How Does the Law of the Sea Adapt to New Knowledge and Changing Circumstances?”, in *New Knowledge and Changing Circumstances in the Law of the Sea* (Brill Nijhoff, 2020)
- “The Contribution of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea to the Protection of the Marine Environment”, in *The Korean Journal of International and Comparative Law*, 2021
- “Common Heritage of Mankind” (with Fernanda Millicay), in *Elgar Encyclopedia of Human Rights* (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2022)

For a full *curriculum vitae*, see:

<https://www.itlos.org/the-tribunal/members/judge-tomas-heidar/>