



Patricia Wouters

Patricia Wouters. Professor Wouters, a national of Canada, is the founding Director of the International Water Law Academy at the China Institute of Boundary and Ocean Studies (CIBOS) of Wuhan University. Prof Wouters, a former practicing litigation lawyer in Canada, has 30 years' experience in the field of public international law, specialising in transboundary water cooperation. She was founding director of the Dundee UNESCO Centre for Water Law, Policy, and Science, which grew out of the International Water Law Research Institute, established by Prof Wouters in 1997 at the University of Dundee, Scotland. At the core of these initiatives is peer-reviewed and innovative world-class research.

Prof Wouters has published extensively, primarily on the rules of international law that govern transboundary freshwater, presenting her research around the globe. She has served on a number of international advisory boards (public and private sector) and provided expert inputs to many international and national organisations, including the United Nations, World Bank, Global Water Partnership (serving on the TEC), and World Economic Forum. She has consulted directly on transboundary water issues across Asia (including Central Asia), Africa, and North America, and throughout this international work has actively recruited graduate students from these regions.

Currently she focuses on building communities of scholars around the globe. Prof Wouters continues to supervise graduate students and to actively support emerging scholars in water law, a discipline she considers to be integral to enhancing opportunities for effective transboundary water cooperation. Prof Wouters joined the IWMI Board effective 1 April 2023.