

COLIN ROBERTSON

Biography

Colin Robertson studied Scots Law at Aberdeen University, graduating in 1975, and is a member of the Law Society of Scotland. Married to Michèle Perrin-Taillat, and with two children, he worked in government legal service for many years, which included two years in 1982 and 1983 in the European Commission Legal Service in Brussels. In 1991, after passing the EU lawyer-linguist competition he joined the EU Court of Justice in Luxembourg as legal translator. In 1993 he transferred to the EU Council lawyer-linguist service (Directorate for the Quality of Legislation) as legal-linguistic reviser checking and revising draft EU legislative texts in English, and remained there until retiring in 2013. He has knowledge of several languages, including English, French, German, Italian, Czech, Slovak and Bulgarian.

Colin has taken an interest in legal language, in particular EU legal language and multilingualism. He has given presentations and published many articles on these topics (list available on request) as well as participating extensively in in-house training. In 2016 he published a book on multilingual law: *Multilingual Law. A Framework for Analysis and Understanding* (2016: Routledge). He is currently engaged in other research and writing projects. These include regular contributions to the Lallans magazine of the Scots language Society where he has explored a range of themes linked to law and nature (in Scots language/dialect).

As a student in the early 1970s Colin was interested in Environmental Law and became a member of many Environmental organisations, in particular UKELA (UK Environmental Law Association) soon after it was created. However, in those days it proved difficult to practice in Environmental Law, or EC law his second interest, and public service opened a door to widespread and extensive work and experience, including EU work which he relishes. Now, in retirement the way is open to reconnect with Environmental Law, and its latest emanation Ecological Law. Being a member of the UKELA

Wild Law group for many years has provided a context in which to develop and expand this interest, one which forms part of the viewpoint of Earth Law and rights of nature.

Colin is an expert with the UN Harmony with Nature Programme, and more recently a member of ELGA (Ecological Law and Governance Association). He is a member of many rights of nature networks and among others assists with the planning of the Geneva Forum on Rights of Nature held by Objectif Sciences International in the Peace Palace in Geneva each year. He is based in Luxembourg.

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