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Livestream: ICJ's Judge Tladi to deliver lecture at UCT

Judge Dire Tladi, who was sworn in as judge of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the Hague in February 2024, will deliver the University of Cape Town's (UCT) 58th TB Davie Memorial Lecture on Tuesday, 1 October 2024 at 18:00.

- [Watch the lecture online.](#)

The lecture will now be held at LT1, Kramer Law Building, Middle Campus. It is titled "The Narrative as the Enemy of Freedom of Thought".

Judge Tladi will speak on "the narrative", or the generally accepted truth – whether in a discussion about climate change, geopolitics or global health, people are often vilified for expressing a view different from that of the narrative. This vilification is also sometimes directed at judges in the international system. On the one hand, these narratives are often said to be based on humanitarian values and the search for a better world. At the same time, not only do narratives imperil freedom of thought and expression, they also undermine critical thinking.

Prior to being sworn in as judge in the ICJ in February 2024, Judge Tladi was professor of international law and SARChI Chair in International Constitutional Law at the University of Pretoria. He was previously chair and member of the United Nations International Law Commission and its special rapporteur on Peremptory Norms of General International Law (*Jus Cogens*). He also served as president of the South African branch of the International Law Association.

Judge Tladi also served as a special adviser to the South African Minister of International Relations. He was the legal adviser to the South African Ministry of International Affairs and the legal counsel to the South African Mission to the United Nations in New York. He has published widely in international law. He is also the author of two works of fiction.

- [Read the preceding media release for further details.](#)

ENDS

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