BIOGRAPHY

Anne Gallagher AO (BA, LLB, M.Int.L, PhD) is a lawyer, practitioner, teacher and scholar with an established international reputation in international affairs, most particularly human rights and the administration of criminal justice. She is a former United Nations Official (1992-2003) and was Special Adviser to Mary Robinson, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and former President of Ireland, from 1998 to 2002. During this time Dr Gallagher represented the High Commissioner at negotiations for the United Nations Convention on Transnational Crime and its protocols on human trafficking and migrant smuggling. She led the development of the highly influential United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking and was founding Chair of the UN Inter-Agency Group on Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling.

Since resigning from the UN in 2003, Dr Gallagher has led the Asia Regional Trafficking in Persons Project, a high profile intergovernmental initiative funded by the Australian Government that aims to strengthen legislative and criminal justice responses to human trafficking and related exploitation in all ten ASEAN Member States. This project, which is the world’s largest and most ambitious criminal justice initiative against trafficking, has been widely acclaimed for its impact on laws, policies and practices within and outside the ASEAN region. The ASEAN Secretary-General has publicly stated that the successes ASEAN has achieved in this area: “are in no small part due to Dr Gallagher’s persevering effort and her compassion towards ASEAN”.

Dr Gallagher has combined her career as a UN official and high-level development professional with a vocation as a teacher and independent, self-funded scholar. She is considered an international expert on human rights and criminal justice and is, according to the US Government, “the leading global authority on the international law on human trafficking”. Her publications in this field include numerous articles in major journals including Human Rights Quarterly and Virginia Journal of International Law; the official legal commentary to the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking; and the sole legal reference text on this subject, The International Law of Human Trafficking, published by Cambridge University Press and awarded the 2011 American Society of International Law Certificate of Merit – Honorable Mention. Dr Gallagher continues to advise the United Nations and is the author of many United Nations and ASEAN documents, handbooks, research reports and training materials on human rights, criminal justice and the rule of law. She is presently leading in a multi-year research project, mandated by the United Nations Crime Commission, focusing on problematic elements of the international legal definition of human trafficking. During the period 2011-2012 she was an invited guest lecturer at Cambridge University; Oxford University; the University of Glasgow; Harvard University; American University; George Washington University; Johns Hopkins University; and Stanford University.

In November 2011 Dr Gallagher was awarded the inaugural Australian Freedom Award for her international work against contemporary forms of slavery. In June 2012 she was appointed Officer of the Order of Australia (AO), that country's second-highest civic honor. This appointment was made for her: "distinguished service to the law and human rights, as a practitioner, teacher and scholar, particularly in areas of human trafficking responses and criminal justice". Also in June 2012, Dr Gallagher was named a “2012 TIP Report Hero” by US Secretary of State Hilary Clinton for her ambitious work in the global fight against modern slavery.