

## World Tour of Regional Tools for the UN Sustainable Development Goals

June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 – Faculty Club – McGill University

On Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, the Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL) hosted an international Legal Roundtable in Montreal, Canada. The event, which occurred at McGill's Faculty Club, greeted global development researchers and experts from all around the world, including Bangladesh, Jordan, Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom, and the United States, to discuss how law and governance can contribute to achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).



The conversations were guided with an emphasis on regions, grouping speakers in terms of their geographical expertise (Africa, Asia, the Americas, the Middle East, and Europe). Each regional analysis began with the area's experts delivering a short overview of the how laws, treaties, accords and trade agreements encourage sustainable development. Chair Professor Marie-Claire Cordonier Segger then opened the conversation space for everyone in the room, allowing for interesting discussions between not only experts, but also between experts and audience members, which comprised of academics, lawyers, students, and the editors-in-chief of the McGill Journal of

Sustainable Development Law.

The conversations varied greatly, however many comments were made on the position of the United States in terms of their shifting participation in sustainable development and their present state of withdrawal and hostility to many trade agreements. The roundtable discussion ended with emphasis being drawn to Indigenous Peoples. Speakers addressed not only the need to recognize Indigenous people's participation on the International level, with attention drawn to the semi-recent passing of UNDRIP, but also the need to recognize the historical treaties that occurred between Indigenous nations. In doing so, the event harkened back to the previous day's panel discussions in Waterloo.

The event concluded with the launch of, "International Organizations and the Law", authored by CISDL Lead Council Dr. Alexandra Harrington, published by Routledge Law. The CISDL team, along with the rest of the event's attendees raised their glasses to congratulate Dr. Harrington on this wonderful achievement. Attendees also took a moment to congratulate Dr. Harrington and Ayman Cherkaoui on being named, respectively, for Fulbright and Obama fellowships.

