

Renée Martin-Nagle

SPECIAL COUNSEL

Renée Martin-Nagle divides her energies between the firm's nationally-recognized aviation practice and the environmental law practice.

She joins Eckert Seamans after serving as CEO and President of A Ripple Effect plc, a consultancy focused on international water law and integrated water resources management services. Her work at A Ripple Effect included designing a sustainability program for a major U.S. airline, producing an analysis of sustainability initiatives at smaller U.S. airports for the U.S. Airport Cooperative Research Program, drafting the official synopses of international water conferences in Bonn and Abu Dhabi for OOSKAnews, and developing summaries of water laws in Nigeria, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Somalia, Zambia, and Ghana for the Center for Water Security and Cooperation. She has taught international environmental law and policy at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland. She is currently teaching international environmental policy as an adjunct professor at St. Francis University.

Prior to her environmental career, Renée served for more than 20 years at Airbus Americas, retiring in 2011 as Vice President, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer, Head of Environmental Affairs, Corporate Secretary, and a member of the board of directors. While at Airbus, she designed and implemented policies, programs, and training concerning corporate compliance, lobbying, document management, export-import regulations, business ethics, environmental issues, and social media. She acted as sole Airbus lawyer in numerous, highly complex sales contracts, led a team that developed and implemented an ISO 14001 program in North America, and established formal and informal environmental programs at all U.S. facilities. Among her many aviation sector activities, Renée served as chair of the American Bar Association Forum on Air and Space Law. She was honored with the 2014 Aviation Industry Woman of Excellence Award by the International Aviation Women's Association.

Renée focuses her environmental and sustainability work on freshwater, with a particular emphasis on the governance and hydrogeology of groundwater aquifers, ecosystem protection, and interspecies equity. She has published books and articles on these topics, and reviewers have called her 2020 book, Governance of Offshore Freshwater Resources, "ground-breaking," "important," and "creative." She has given presentations on water-related topics at the IWRA World Water Congress, Stockholm World Water Week, International Association of Hydrogeologists Congress, American Water Resources Association Groundwater Conference, World Bank

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PRACTICE AREAS:

Aviation

Environmental

PFAS Chemicals

Infrastructure and Transportation

STATE ADMISSIONS:

Virginia

Pennsylvania

EDUCATION:

Ph.D. Law, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow UK, 2019

LL.M. Environmental Law (with highest honors), George Washington University Law School, 2010

J.D, University of Pittsburgh School of Law, 1984

B.A, Saint Francis University, 1981

A.A., Mount Aloysius College, 1979

LANGUAGES:

French

Law, Justice and Development Week, Dundee International Law and Transboundary Freshwaters Workshop, International Law Students Association Jessup Moot Court competition, and London Water Research Group Hydro-Hegemony Conference.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Board Member, Treasurer, Chair of Business and Finance Committee: Alliance for Water Stewardship (October 2025-present)
- Elected to the board of directors of The Groundwater Project, a Canadian non-profit whose mission is to raise global awareness of groundwater
- Appointed by the Chinese Ministry of Water Resources as the Co-Chair of the International Scientific Committee (ISC) of the International Water Resources Association's World Water Congress
- Expert Reviewer for the Draft Synthesis Report (SYR) of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6)
- Delegate to the Water and Climate Pavilion of the 26th UN Climate Change Conference
- Affiliate of the International Water Law Academy at Wuhan University
- Environmental Law Institute, Visiting Scholar, 2011-present
- International Water Resources Association, Board Member and Treasurer, 2016-present
- American Bar Association International Environmental Law Committee of the Section of International Law, Co-Chair 2014-2015; Program Co-Chair 2013-2014
- American Bar Association Forum on Air & Space Law, Chair 2009-2011; Governing Committee 2004 to 2013; Executive Committee 2013-present; Co-chair of Sustainability Committee 2020-present
- Omega Institute, Board Member, Secretary and Treasurer, 2009-2014
- Chesapeake Legal Alliance, Board Member and Secretary, 2011-2014
- International Aviation Women's Association, Advisory Board Member, 2007 – 2011
- Aero Club of Washington, Board Member, 2007-2009
- Women in Aviation, International, Board Member and Secretary, 1999-2005
- OFII General Counsel Conference, Co-Chair, 1999, 2000, 2009, 2010

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Johnstown Symphony Orchestra, Board of Trustees
- Mount Aloysius College, Board Member and Vice-Chair, 2017-present
- Municipal Authority of Ebensburg, PA, Board Member, 2018-

present

- Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art, Gala Committee, 2020

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Appointed by the International Water Resources Association and the Chinese Ministry of Water Resources as the co-chair of the international scientific committee of the International Water Resources Association's World Water Congress
- George Washington University Environmental and Energy Law Program: Distinguished Alumna, 2019
- International Aviation Woman's Association: Aviation Industry Woman of Excellence Award, 2014
- Mount Aloysius College: Distinguished Alumna, 2010
- Women in Aerospace: Aerospace Awareness Award, 2007
- Saint Francis University: Distinguished Alumna, 2006
- Women in Aviation: International Volunteer of the Year, 1998

NEWS AND INSIGHTS

PUBLICATIONS

Water

- "Governance of Offshore Freshwater Resources," included in the International Court of Justice's 2020-2022 bibliography, January 2024.
- "Diplomacy Talks — Trends In Food Security During Climate Change," guest column for The Water Diplomat, February 2022.
- "2020 Uptick In PFAS Regs And Suits Heralds More Next Year," co-author, Law360, December 2020.
- **"**Offshore freshened groundwater in continental margins"**,** co-author, Reviews of Geophysics, November 2020.
- "Freshwater in the seabed: An opportunity for creative solutions," Advanced Science News, July 2020.
- "Offshore aquifers: Freshwater's final frontier," Groundwater Solutions Initiative for Policy and Practice (GRIPP), July 2020.
- "Offshore freshwater aquifers: Toward equitable distribution," *WIREsWater*. e1463, July 2020.
- "Unconventional water resources: From the fringes to the mainstream," OOSKAnews, June 2020.
- "Unconventional Water Resources," contributor, UNWater Analytical Brief, 2020.
- "The right to water for food and agriculture," co-author, UN FAO Legislative Study, 2020.
- "Governance of Offshore Freshwater Resources," Brill, 2020.
- "Into Uncharted Waters: Governance Of Atmospheric Water," OOSKAnews, November 2019.
- "Transboundary Aquifers at the 2019 UN General Assembly 6th Committee: The Invisibility Cape is Still On (at least for another five years…)," Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance Policy Brief No. 13 (with Dr. Francesco Sindico),

November 2019.

- Book review of Jacques Ganoulis and Jean Fried, Transboundary hydrogovernance: from conflict to shared management, Water International, 2019.
- "Bridging science and policy: legal perspectives," co-editor, Routledge, 2019.
- "Seabed Aquifers: An Untapped Resource," OOSKAnews, February 2019.
- "Transboundary Aquifers," co-author with Stephanie Hawkins, Research Handbook on Fresh Water Law and International Relations, 2019.
- "Transboundary Offshore Aquifers: A Search for a Governance Regime," 1.2 International Water Law Journal, 2016.
- "Leadership in Transboundary Aquifer Governance," Groundwater Governance: Drawing Connections between Science, Knowledge and Policy-Making, 2016.
- "Offshore aquifers: an untapped resource," The Geographer, Spring 2016.
- "Offshore Aquifers," The Environmental Forum, May-June 2015.
- *"Water Impacts of Climate Change* (ABA International Environmental Law Committee Newsletter, Summer 2015) (co-editor).
- "Offshore fresh water aquifers: Which law will apply?" International Water Law Project Blog, 2014.
- "Offshore aquifers: Global panacea or optimistic prognostication," Water Challenge Blog, 2014.
- Conversations with Water Leaders, interview series for Singapore International Water Week, 2014.
- Conference Summary: Promoting water sustainability in arid regions, International Water Summit, Abu Dhabi, 2013.
- Conference Synopsis: Bonn2011 Conference The Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus, 2011.
- "Fossil Aquifers: A Common Heritage of Mankind," 2 Journal of Energy and Environmental Law 39, 2011.
- "Unsuccessful Attempt to List Atlantic Bluefin Tuna in CITES Appendix I," 25 IJMCL 609, 2010.

Aviation

- "Climate Change and Airport Infrastructure" in Research Handbook on Climate Change and Infrastructure Law, Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd. (2025) (co-author)
- "What Airports Need To Know About PFAS Risks," Law360, February 2021.
- "EPA's Proposed Aircraft Emissions Standard Maintains Status Quo," Bloomberg Law, October 2020,
- "Diversity in Aviation: Between Takeoff and Landing," 30 Air & Space Lawyer 3, 2017.
- "Lessons Learned from Airport Sustainability Plans,"ACRP Synthesis Report S02-11, 2015.
- "Environmental Regulation of Aviation," textbook chapter on Aviation Regulations, American Bar Association, 2014.

- “Aviation Emissions: Equitable Measures Under the EU ETS,” 43 ELR 10047, January 2013.
- “Making Air Travel More Sustainable,” The Environmental Forum 42, September/October 2012.
- “Recycling, Reuse and Waste Reduction at Airports,” co-author, U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, April 2013.

Other

- “Entangling science and spirituality,” Tiferet 10, Summer 2016.

MEDIA COVERAGE

- “Women In Science” Permanent Forum of Binational Waters, March 2023.
- “Eckert Seamans Lands Ex-Airbus GC, Environmental Scholar,” Law360, September 2020.
- “From aviation to academia to Big Law: Airbus vet joins Eckert Seamans,” Reuters Legal, September 2020.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Water

- “Groundwater Governance in a Changing Climate: Law, Policy, and Practical Pathways,” webinar panelist and moderator, International Water Resources Association, June 25, 2026.
- “Drowning in Water Scarcity: The Risk Already in Your P&L,” webinar panelist, Accenture’s Accent on Sustainability, June 17, 2026.
- “Addressing Water Challenges for AI and Data Centers”, webinar organizer and moderator, International Water Resources Association, June 3, 2026.
- “Expert Consultation on “Revisioning” Water Law and Governance”, Environmental Law Institute, May 29, 2026.
- “Water, Climate Change, and You”, Accenture, May 27, 2026.
- “Buried Treasure: Governance of Seabed Resources”, OFF-SOURCE International Conference on Offshore Freshened Groundwater, Kalkara, Malta, May 19, 2026.
- “High Level Panel on Water Efficiency”, moderator, 5th Istanbul International Water Forum, May 6, 2026.
- “Future of Water: Towards the XX World Water Congress”, panelist, 5th Istanbul International Water Forum, May 6, 2026.
- “Where Water Flows, Equality Grows: Women Shaping the Present and Future of Water”, moderator, International Water Resources Association, March 10, 2026.
- “Unconventional Water Resources: Rights and Obligations”, XIX World Water Congress, Marrakech, Morocco, December 2025.
- “Offshore Freshened Groundwater: An Untapped Resource”, XIX World Water Congress, Marrakech, Morocco, December 2025.
- “Water and Technology: The Forgotten Footprint”, Accenture, Pittsburgh Tech Week, November 2025.
- “Finding Your North Star”, University of the Caribbean, November 2025.

- "Transboundary Offshore Freshened Groundwater: What Law Applies?" a webinar presentation for the European Geophysics Union General Assembly in Vienna, Austria, April 19, 2024.
- "From the UN Water Conference to an Enabling Policy Environment for Water Stewardship," presented to the Alliance for Water Stewardship Global Water Stewardship Forum, Edinburgh, Scotland, May 16, 2023.
- Program Moderator, "Water-Economy-Ecology Nexus in a changing environment: A roadmap from New York to Beijing to Bali," 2023 United Nations Water Conference, March 23, 2023.
- Program Moderator, "Global Corporates and Innovative Multistakeholder Approaches for SDG6.1," co-sponsored by Accenture and Veolia, March 21, 2023.
- Program Moderator, Emerging Pollutants: Protecting Water Quality for the Health of People and the Environment, co-sponsored by UNESCO and IWRA, January 17-19, 2023.
- "Adaptation and flexibility in the context of groundwater governance and the SDGs – the case of food security," rapporteur for a session at the UN-Water Summit on Groundwater, co-sponsored by UNESCO and IGRAC, December 6, 2022.
- "Don't Waste Time: Managing Sanitation Systems to Protect Groundwater," webinar moderator, International Water Resources Association, November 2022.
- "Governance of OFG: Which law applies?" International Workshop on Offshore Freshened Groundwater, L-Università ta' Malta, June 2022.
- "Global Water Security Issues: Management and Techniques for Reliable Groundwater Access", International Water Resources Association, June 2022.
- "Governance of OFG: Which law applies?" International Workshop on Offshore Freshened Groundwater, L-Università ta' Malta, 28 June 2022.
- "Peering into the Crystal Ball: The Future of Water," webinar moderator, hosted by International Water Resources Association, February 2022.
- "Achieving cooperation in development of transboundary offshore aquifers by using science to define their boundaries and volume", ISARM2021: 2nd International Conference on Transboundary Aquifers: Challenges and the way forward, December 2021.
- "Unconventional Water Resources" and "Offshore Freshened Groundwater: Resources for Climate Change Resiliency," presented at the UN Climate Change Conference in Scotland, October 2021.
- "2021 Online Conference," host of the opening and closing ceremonies, International Water Resources Association, June 2021.
- "The Future of International Water Governance," virtual panel moderator, March 23, 2021.
- Guest lecturer on environmental justice and water at Glasgow-Caledonian University in Scotland, March 2021.
- "Balancing Covid-19, the economy and the environment," Earth Day Town Hall webinar for Lindsay Drew and Brittney Rodas for

PA State Representatives, April 2020.

- "Unconventional Water Resources" for International Water Resources Association webinar Water and Climate Change, March 2020.
- "International water law: Adapting to new technologies," World Bank Law, Justice and Development Week, Washington DC, November 2019.
- "Transboundary offshore freshwater, Which law will apply?" American Water Resources Association conference on the Science, Management and Governance of Transboundary Groundwater, Fort Worth, Texas, July 2018.
- "Governance of offshore freshwater resources," International Union for the Conservation of Nature Academy of Environmental Law Colloquium, Glasgow UK, July 2018.
- "Offshore freshwater: The ultimate connector," University of Glasgow Connections Conference, May 2018.
- "Offshore hydrocarbon development: Lessons for water," World Water Congress, Cancún, Mexico, June 2017.
- "Integrating Environmental Concerns in International Water Law," World Water Congress, Cancún, Mexico, May 2017.
- "Offshore freshwater: Governing a new resource," IODP-ICDP Workshop, Woods Hole Institute MA, May 2017.
- "Offshore Aquifers: Governing a New Resource," University of Strathclyde Environmental Law Colloquium, Glasgow UK, May 2017.
- "Bulk Water Transfers: Problem or Solution," Texas A&M School of Law, March 2017.
- "Transboundary Aquifer Governance," International Law Students Association, New York NY, October 2016.
- "Offshore Aquifers: An Answer to Water Scarcity?" International Association of Hydrogeologists, Montpellier, France, September 2016.
- "Bulk Water Transfers: Problem or Solution?" Stockholm World Water Week, August 2016.
- "Integrated Water Resources Management," panel moderator, World Water Day, Dundee UK, March 2016.
- "Global Water Law," Engineers Without Borders, Glasgow UK, November 2015.
- "Virtual Water," London Water Research Group Hydro Hegemony Conference, London UK, October 2015.
- "International Law and Transboundary Aquifers," International Law and Transboundary Freshwaters Workshop, University of Dundee Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science, July 2015.
- "Bulk Water Transfers," "Transboundary Aquifer Management: Does One Size Fit All?" and "Climate Change and Aquifers: Adaptive Governance," World Water Congress, Edinburgh UK, May 2015.
- "UN Watercourses Convention," ABA Section of International Law, New York NY, April 2014.
- "Global Water Law," University of Pittsburgh, November 2014.
- "Competition for Water Resources," aquaNOW, Oban, Scotland,

October 2014.

- "Sustainable Water Governance," panel moderator, World Bank Law, Justice and Development Week, Washington DC, November 2013.
- "Interspecies Equity: Apportioning Water Fairly," Stockholm World Water Week, September 2013.
- "Sustainable Development in Southeast Asia: A River Runs through It," American University, Washington DC, March 2013.

Aviation

- "Airport Noise: The US Approach," present at the International Air Transport Association's World Legal Symposium in Vancouver, February 2024.
- "Net-Zero Carbon Emissions by 2050: Progress and Challengers," panel moderator for the ABA Forum on Air and Space Law Update Conference, February 2023.
- "Doing a lot with a little: Sustainability at smaller US airports," Embry-Riddle University Aviation Law and Insurance Symposium, Orlando FL, January 2015.
- From Emissions to De-Icing: Aviation's Impact on the Environment," keynote speech, Aviation Law and Insurance Symposium, Orlando, FL, January 2014.
- "Aviation and the Environment," Duquesne University Law School, October 2013.

Other

- "The Challenges of Sustainable International Investment in Energy and Climate Change: How to achieve Reconstruction of Ukraine and Lessons Learned for Sustainable Investment" presented at the 2023 American Society of International Law (ASIL) midyear meeting, November 2023.
- "Following your North Star," keynote address to the graduating class of Mount Aloysius College, May 2022.
- "Mentoring," a presentation to the Lockheed Martin Women's Impact Network, February 2022.
- "Getting to Net Zero: Decarbonizing International Aviation and Shipping", ABA Environment, Energy and Resources Section, December 2021.
- "What to expect from the Biden Administration and the 117th Congress relating to environmental regulation and legislation," presenter to The New England Council's 2021 Environmental Policy Outlook panel discussion, February 2, 2021.
- "Power in Passion," Lockheed Martin Women's Impact Network, Herndon VA, January 2020.
- "My Story," podcast for Second Story, December 2019.
- "Empowering moments," keynote speech, Women's Empowerment Day, Mount Aloysius College, Cresson PA, October 2019.
- "A constitution for the planet: What would it look like?" Constitution Day, Saint Francis College, Loretto PA, September 2019.

- "Finding Your Passion," Mount Aloysius College Commencement, Cresson PA, December 2018.
- "Be Bold for Change," Airbus Americas, Herndon VA, March 2017.
- "Cross-generational Mentoring," Woman of Excellence Award acceptance speech, International Aviation Women's Association, Seattle WA, October 2014.
- "Flying through Turbulence: My Journey from Coal Country to the Water World," University of Pittsburgh School of Law, October 2013.
- "Finding Home in a Changing World," Mount Aloysius College, Cresson PA, April 2013.
- "Climate Change and Trade Options," Georgetown Law School, Washington DC, November 2012.