Pror. Mary Ann Glendon
Professor

Most important awards, prizes and academies

US Ambassador to the Holy See, 2008-09; **Dr. Honoris Causa:** University of Chicago, Université Catholique de Louvain, Catholic University, Brigham Young University, Boston College, College of the Holy Cross, Seton Hall University, Assumption College, Notre Dame, St. John's University, University of Navarra. **Prizes:** Order of the Coif Triennial Book Award; Scribes Award for Legal Writing, 2003 Bradley Foundation Prize; National Humanities Medal, 2005; Premio Capalbio, 2008; Premio Internazionale Capri San Michele, 2008. **Member:** International Academy of Comparative Law, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, former President of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences; US National Bioethics Council 2000-04; Vice-Chair U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, 2012-present.

Summary of scientific research

The main theme of my research has been a continuing investigation of how the legal systems of various North Atlantic nations handle a broad range of contemporary problems. Building on the work of my teacher Max Rheinstein who was a student and translator of Max Weber, I employ sociological and legal methods to explore the interaction among law, behavior, and ideas. My earliest works (1970s) traced the relationships between changes in family property law and changes in the family's role as a determinant of economic security and social standing in modern

societies. I later extended those inquiries to comparative labour law, constitutional law, and the legal profession. After a period of writing on comparative law and method, I undertook a cross-national study in the 1980s of abortion and divorce in 20 countries, revealing the uniqueness of the United States' legal approach to those phenomena. I then undertook a more general comparative study of the idea of "rights" and the "language" of rights. Currently, the main areas of research concern international human rights, and the relations between law and political philosophy. That work has numerous intersections with Catholic social thought (mediating groups, subsidiarity).

Main publications

Books: *The Forum and the Tower: How Scholars and Politicians Have Imagined the World from Plato to Eleanor Roosevelt* (2011); *Verso un mondo nuovo* (2009); *Traditions in Turmoil* (2006), winner of the 2008 International Prize Capri San Michele; *A World Made New: Eleanor Roosevelt and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (Random House, 2001); *Comparative Legal Traditions*, 3rd ed. (with Paolo Carozza) (West Publishing Co., 2007); *A Nation Under Lawyers* (Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, 1994); *Rights Talk: The Impoverishment of Political Discourse*, Free Press, 1991; *The Transformation of Family Law: State, Law, and Family in the United States and Western Europe*, University of Chicago Press, 1989. (Successor volume to Glendon, *State, Law and Family*, 1977). Winner of the Order of the Coif Triennial Book Award, 1993; *Abortion and Divorce in Western Law*, Harvard University Press, 1987. Winner of the 1988 Scribes Book Award of the American Society of Writers on Legal Subjects; *The New Family and the New Property*, Butterworths, 1981. **Articles, Book Chapters, etc.:** “Religious Freedom – A Second Class Right?” 61 *Emory Law Review* 971-90 (2012); "Cicero is a Superstar", *First Things*, Jan. 2010, at 17; "Plato as Statesman", *First Things*, Nov. 2007, at 29; "Searching for Bernard Lonergan", *America*, Oct. 1, 2007, at 17; "Democracia y sociedad civil", no. 47, year XII, *Humanitates, Revista de Antropología y Cultura Cristiana* 428 (2007); "John Paul II's Challenges to the Social Sciences", 10 *Journal of Markets and Morality* 263 (2007); "Looking for 'Persons' in the Law", no. 168, *First Things* 19 (2006); "Principled Immigration", *First Things*, June-July 2006, at 23; "Family Law and Family Policies in a Time of Turbulence", XXII/2 *Anthropotes* 297 (2006); "The Naked Public Square Now", no. 147, *First Things* 12 (2004); "Discovering Our Dependence", no. 146, *First Things* 11 (2004); "Latinoamerica y los derechos humanos universales", 77 *Criterio* 239 (2004); "The Rule of Law in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights", 2 *Northwestern University Journal of International Human Rights* 67 (2004); "The Right to Work", *Work and Human Fulfillment*, Sapientia Press, 2003, p. 145; "The Forgotten Crucible: The Latin American Influence on the Universal Human Rights Idea", 15 *Harvard Human Rights Journal* 27 (2003); "The Hour of the Laity", *First Things*, November 2002; "Foundations of Human Rights: The Unfinished Business", 44 *American Journal of Jurisprudence* I (1999); "Rousseau and the Revolt Against Reason", *First Things*, October 1999; "Knowing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights", 73*Notre Dame Law Review* 1153 (1998); "Rights in Twentieth Century Constitutions", *Univ. of Chicago Law Review* 31, 1992, p. 1; "Structural Free Exercise", *Michigan Law Review* 90, 1991, p. 477, (with Raul F. Yanes); "The Sources of Law in a Changing Legal Order", *Creighton Law*

Review 17, 1984, p. 663 (The 1983 TePoel Memorial Lecture); "Individualism and Communitarianism in Contemporary Legal Systems: Tensions and Accommodations", in *Brigham Young Law Review* 1993, p. 385; "French Labor Law Reform 1982-83: The Struggle for Collective Bargaining", *American Journal of Comparative Law* 32, 1984, p. 449.

© 2025 - The Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences