

**Special Edition II:
CANADA**



Qatar Airways and McGill University Agree on Strategic Collaboration

**Ground breaking agreement with leading Canadian academic institution
aims to nurture next generation of leaders in air and space law**

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QATAR AIRWAYS COMMITTED TO NURTURING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS IN AIR AND SPACE LAW



Multiple award-winning airline affirms commitment to education by launching strategic collaboration with McGill University's Institute of Air and Space Law



Qatar Airways is pleased to announce its strategic collaboration with McGill University's Institute of Air and Space Law, the world's premier institution for innovative research and education in the field of air and space law.

On 22-23 March 2019, the inaugural Qatar Airways/McGill Air Law Moot Court Competition and the Qatar Airways/McGill Rising Scholars in Air and Space Law Conference were held in Montreal, Canada. The event was attended by a wide range of government officials and aviation and space industry professionals, as well as scholars and graduate students from more than 20 countries.



Winners and runners-up of the 2019 Qatar Airways/McGill Air Law Moot Court Competition

The 2019 Qatar Airways/McGill Air Law Moot Court Competition was based on a case before the International Court of Justice concerning drone interference with operations at an international airport. Parties had to make submissions and present arguments on whether a revocation of traffic rights is a justified measure in international aviation.

“As one of the world's leading airlines, it is only fitting that Qatar Airways embarks on this strategic collaboration with such a prestigious academic institution as McGill University – once again, demonstrating our commitment to advancing education around the world.”

H.E. Mr. Akbar Al Baker, **Group Chief Executive, Qatar Airways**





Award recipients at the Qatar Airways/McGill Rising Scholars in Air and Space Law Conference

Participants in the Qatar Airways/McGill Rising Scholars in Air and Space Law Conference presented their research on various leading-edge topics, including the legal and regulatory regime for autonomous flying taxis in urban centres. Prizes were awarded for the best overall presentation, the best air law presentation, the best space law presentation, and the most innovative research, as well as a special ‘spirit of the conference’ award.



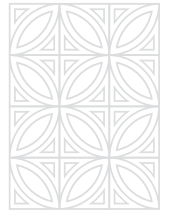
The Conference also highlighted the importance of the 2019 Doha Declaration – a manifesto that calls for a serious review of the existing aviation regulatory framework. The Declaration, which was announced at the conclusion of the CAPA Qatar Aviation Aeropolitical and Regulatory Summit held in February in Doha, comes 75 years after the historic Chicago Convention, which established the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) as well as a set of global rules for airspace, air safety and air travel.

“ We are immensely honored that leaders of the caliber of H.E. Mr. Akbar Al Baker have recognised McGill’s scholarly agenda, and recognised that the research capacity of McGill has put it among the top 20 law schools in the world, and this new collaboration between Qatar Airways and McGill is something of which we at the Institute of Air and Space Law are very proud.”

Professor Dr. Brian F. Havel, **Director of McGill University’s Institute of Air and Space Law**



COLLABORATION QATAR AIRWAYS-MCGILL CONFIRME LE STATUT DE MONTRÉAL COMME CAPITALE DE L'AÉROSPATIALE



Le partenariat récemment entamé entre Qatar Airways et l'Institut de droit aérien et spatial de l'université McGill confirme une fois de plus le statut de Montréal comme une des capitales mondiales de l'industrie aérospatiale et comme la capitale historique de l'aviation civile internationale et de la gouvernance en matière de transport aérien.

À travers le « Concours de plaidoirie Qatar Airways-McGill en droit aérien », cette nouvelle collaboration stratégique vise à cultiver des habiletés pratiques au sein des professionnels du droit en leur offrant des opportunités concrètes de réévaluer et de débattre l'évolution du droit aérien dans ses perspectives publiques, privées, nationales et internationales, et ce, à la lumière des nouvelles technologies qui mettent constamment au défi les cadres existants en matière législative, réglementaire et aéropolitique.

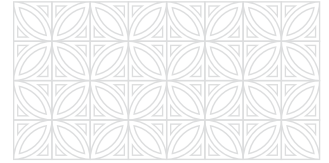
D'autre part, la Conférence « Qatar Airways-McGill Rising Scholars in Air and Space Law » veut appuyer la recherche scientifique de pointe dans le domaine du droit aérien et spatial dans le but d'encourager l'innovation académique et une vue globale du droit, deux des valeurs qui sont aussi omniprésentes dans le curriculum académique de la faculté de droit de l'université McGill, l'institution mère de l'Institut de droit aérien et spatial.

De plus, le fait que l'université McGill attire des professionnels du droit issus autant des juridictions de droit civil et de common law risque de créer un climat propice aux échanges et à l'innovation en anticipation d'une révision en profondeur des cadres réglementaires existants dans les prochaines années, surtout en ce qui a trait à la libéralisation du transport aérien, la gestion de l'espace aérien, et l'interaction entre les politiques de sécurité nationale, la cybersécurité et la protection de la vie privée.

L'engagement de Qatar Airways au sein de l'université McGill est tout à fait en ligne avec la vision globale du transporteur aérien basé à Doha: « au-delà des frontières, il n'y a que des horizons ». Certes, cette collaboration naissante est prometteuse pour l'avenir de la ville de Montréal comme plaque tournante de l'aviation civile internationale. Par contre, à plus long-terme, le but est aussi d'appuyer le Québec comme une juridiction de choix qui offre un environnement propice pour le développement de professionnels du droit aérien et spatial.



IN DEPTH: QATAR AIRWAYS/MCGILL AIR LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION



Ten teams consisting of undergraduate (B.C.L. / LL.B.) and graduate (LL.M. / D.C.L.) students from over 20 countries participated in the Qatar Airways/McGill Law Moot Court Competition, concurrently as applicants and respondents. The competition was based on a case before the International Court of Justice concerning drone interference with operations at an international airport, which was particularly relevant given that airports in various cities, including Gatwick and Dublin, have temporarily suspended flights following drone sightings in recent months.

The moot competition was assessed by panels of judges – comprised of leaders from the international aviation industry and government organisations – on oral arguments rather than written briefs, providing law students with opportunities to engage with complex and current issues in international aviation law and policy. Unique to the Qatar Airways/McGill Law Moot Court Competition is the focus on issues of relevance to the agenda of the Montreal-based ICAO.

Students were challenged to consider the following three issues when delivering their arguments:

- * Whether the Parties had complied with the Montreal Convention of 1971 for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation;
 - * Whether article 8 of the Chicago Convention had been violated by one of the Parties; and
 - * Whether the revocation of landing rights by one Party against the other Party can be justified as a retaliatory measure.
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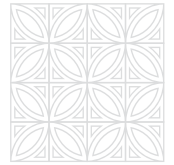
After a stimulating final round with well-presented arguments delivered on both sides, Polly Avern (U.K.) and Nivedita Raju (India) were declared winners of the competition, with Eric Abrams (Canada) and Andrew Rintoul (Canada) as runners-up.

Although the case in question was fictional, the Competition underscored the complex nature of real challenges that can emerge in an ever-changing international civil aviation industry.

Just as students contended with the issue of revocation of landing rights, the State of Qatar continues to advance its case for justice against the illegal airspace blockade imposed by some of its neighbouring countries.



IN DEPTH: QATAR AIRWAYS/MCGILL RISING SCHOLARS IN AIR AND SPACE LAW CONFERENCE



The inaugural Qatar Airways/McGill Rising Scholars in Air and Space Law Conference offered a unique opportunity to all of the affiliated students of the Institute of Air and Space Law – including students in the LLM, DCL, Certificate, Postdoctoral, and Graduate Research Trainee programmes – to showcase their areas of research and scholarship in air law and space law in a collaborative setting.

27 research projects were presented throughout the day, divided in four thematic panels:

- * “New Thinking in Air Law: Private Interests and Innovation”
- * “New Thinking in Space Law: Resolving the Enduring Issues”
- * “New Thinking in Air Law: Global and National Public Interests”
- * “New Thinking in Space Law: The Coming Challenges of Hard and Soft Technology”



The research projects covered a wide range of relevant and cutting edge issues in the field of air and space law, including:

- * Autonomous flying taxis: Another system of urban transportation
- * Global coordination on safety and navigation matters for civil aerospace flights
- * ICAO’s Global Aviation Safety Oversight System
- * Air Navigation Services: The Public/Private Dilemma and Potential Conflicts of Interest
- * The Cape Town Convention: Challenges to Achieve Compliance by Contracting States
- * Liability for the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Outer Space

Students also highlighted the importance of continuing to advocate for a rethinking of the Chicago Convention, as well as the legal and regulatory frameworks that govern international civil aviation, in the pursuit of liberalisation. These sentiments aligned with the Doha Declaration issued in February 2019, which calls on governments to:

- * “Relax restrictive airline ownership and control rules, which underpin the bilateral air services system, constraining rationalisation of market access
- * “Increase efforts to encourage plurilateral liberalisation, for example as promoted by the European Union
- * “Enhance sustainability – in its broadest meaning – in the aviation sector
- * “Actively encourage aeropolitical discussion and further engagement at the highest levels”.





KEY MESSAGES



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Qatar Airways is extremely proud of our new strategic collaboration with the Institute of Air and Space Law at McGill University, which is renowned for developing aviation professionals that hold some of the highest positions in international organisations, governments, airlines, and law firms around the world.

“Participants in the Qatar Airways/McGill Air Law Moot Court Competition and the Qatar Airways/McGill Rising Scholars in Air and Space Law Conference demonstrated academic excellence, as well as a willingness to challenge the status quo and to rethink the law and existing aeropolitical and regulatory frameworks. I am confident that the future of our industry is in good hands.

“As aviation plays a vital role in uniting peoples, cultures and economies, we need to continue to nurture the brightest minds and leaders for a dynamic air and space sector that will face increasingly complex aeropolitical challenges. That is why Qatar Airways is committed to supporting the next generation of aviation industry leaders at McGill’s Institute of Air and Space Law.”

H.E. Mr. Akbar Al Baker | Group Chief Executive, Qatar Airways

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The McGill Institute of Air and Space Law is proud to enter this ground-breaking educational collaboration with Qatar Airways, one of the world’s leading air carriers. Our first priority as an Institute is the professional development of our highly accomplished students, and Qatar Airways’ support enables us to offer exciting new programmes that nurture and showcase our students as future leaders of the global civil aviation community.



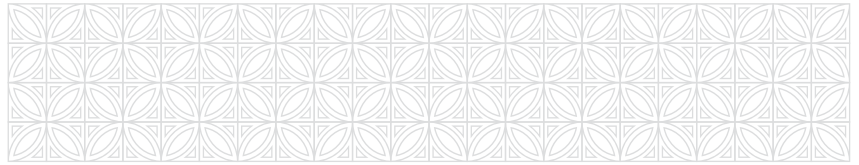
“We also welcome this partnership because, like Qatar Airways, the Institute embraces the liberalising principles of the 2019 Doha Declaration and continues to emphasise the need for governments and the aviation industry to craft a new global regulatory system for aviation that reflects the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

“I am personally gratified that, through this sponsorship, Qatar Airways has endorsed the academic excellence of the Institute’s research and programmes and of its graduate students and alumni, and we look forward to a fruitful strategic collaboration with Qatar Airways as we approach the Institute’s 70th anniversary in 2021.”

Professor Dr. Brian F. Havel | Director of McGill University’s Institute of Air and Space Law



NO BORDERS, ONLY HORIZONS



On 5 June 2017, Qatar Airways ceased being just a commercial airline and overnight became the only humanitarian bridge connecting the State of Qatar to the world.

Qatar's only land bridge and lifeline was shut down without warning leaving **approximately 3.2 million residents** without access to new shipments of food, medicines, and other critical supplies. Qatar Airways quickly mobilised to provide the humanitarian care required of its international residents while continuing to deliver our five-star customer service, for which we are renowned.

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As an airline, we do not believe in boundaries. We believe in bringing people together. The world is better that way.

We believe it is a right of all of us to go where we need to go, to feel the things we want to feel, to see the people we want to see.

That is why we will continue to fly the skies, providing our passengers with everything we can and treating everyone how they deserve to be treated.

We do this because we know that travel goes beyond borders and prejudice...

That travel teaches compassion.

That travel is a necessity.

That travel is a right for all.

There should be no borders in the sky, only horizons.

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