

# United Nations Association

Westminster Branch

*Campaigning for a strong, credible and effective UN*



## Bar Council marks UN70 with diplomatic reception in Inner Temple

17 September UNA Westminster and the Bar Council of England and Wales jointly organised a prestige diplomatic reception to mark the UN's 70th anniversary, held in the historic Great Hall of the Inner Temple, one of the four Inns of Court.

Among the sixty embassies represented, thirty were from amongst the UN's founder members which attended the inaugural meeting of the UN in London in January 1946. Guests were welcomed by the Master Treasurer of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, Lord Justice Moore-Bick QC. He was followed by Chantal-Aimée Doerries QC, incoming President of the Bar Council of England and Wales. She stated that barristers have been involved in the development of the rule of law in the UK and have been, and continue to be very active before many international tribunals including the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Court in the Hague, the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, the Court of Justice in Luxembourg to name only a few. She noted also that ten percent of the Bar receive instructions from outside the UK jurisdiction. Ms Doerries then introduced the noted international barrister Vaughan Lowe QC who titled his address '*The UN at 70 – a legal perspective*'. He pointed to the many successes of the UN in the establishment of international norms, the establishment of working protocols, all underpinned by the necessity to agree a common Rule of Law. The text of his address accompanies this report. Later, he fielded questions from the audience.



The event also set out to create a new network comprising members of the Young Bar Council, the Young Diplomats in London Group and our own UNA Young Professionals, each group represented by forty of their members. Each of the groups will organise one event annually to which members of the others will be invited and

they will jointly arrange a dedicated social event. The photograph shows Leisha Beardmore, Chair, UNA Young Professionals flanked by Bartosz Tymkowski, Chair, Young Diplomats in London and Daniel Sternberg, Chair, Young Bar Committee.