Ambassador Helmut Tuerk is a native of Linz, Austria. He obtained a Doctorate in Law from the University of Vienna in 1963 and thereafter a Postgraduate Diploma from the College of Bruges, Belgium. In 1965 he joined the Austrian Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs, serving as Legal Advisor, Deputy Secretary-General, Ambassador to the United States of America as well as to the Holy See. He further held the position of Director-General of the Office of the Austrian Federal President. From 2005 to 2015 he was a Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in Hamburg, Germany, also serving a term as Vice-President. Subsequently he was elected President of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority in Kingston, Jamaica, for the term 2015/2016, where he also held the position of Chairman of the Review Committee until 2017. He is the author of numerous publications in the field of international law, in particular the law of the sea. In recognition of his contributions to the development of international law and his academic writings he was appointed a Professor by the Austrian Federal President.
The Development of International Law in Asia-Korea (DILA-KOREA) is a new academic entity which is responsible for The Foundation for the Development of International Law in Asia (DILA) along with the Asian Yearbook of International Law (AsianYbIL) and Asia Pacific Ocean Law Institutions Alliance (APOLIA).

In keeping with DILA’s commitment to encouraging scholarship in international law as well as in disseminating such scholarship, its Governing Board decided to make the Yearbook open access from 2010 (volume 16) onwards and will be available through Brill’s open access format.

Professor Seokwoo LEE of Inha University Law School, Korea and Professor Hee Eun LEE of Handong International Law School, Korea, are the Co-Editors-in-Chief of the Yearbook commencing with the 2015 edition (volume 21).

Asia Pacific Ocean Law Institutions Alliance (APOLIA)
http://www.brill.com/products/series/maritime-cooperation-east-asia

In 2012, Professor ZOU Keyuan of Lancashire Law School, UK and Professor Seokwoo LEE of Inha University Law School, Korea, began to discuss the creation of a new academic organization that would focus its attention on ocean law and policy issues in the Asia-Pacific. The organization was named the Asia Pacific Ocean Law Institutions Alliance (APOLIA) and would be a hybrid organization that would include both institutional and individual participation and associations. After the first official meeting in Incheon, Korea, in 2013, the organizers invited Professors Clive SCHOFIELD and Warwick GULLET of Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS) of the University of Wollongong, Australia to join as co-founders. APOLIA has moved forward to establish a book series with highly respected publisher Brill entitled Maritime Cooperation in East Asia (MCEA) with general editors Professor Seokwoo LEE and Professor ZOU Keyuan.

Another important fruit of APOLIA’s endeavors is an exciting new initiative: The Asia-Pacific Journal of Ocean Law and Policy (APJOLP). The launch of this new, scholarly, peer-reviewed journal recognises the increasing importance of ocean spaces to the Asia-Pacific – the most dynamic region globally. Not only are the maritime spaces of the Asia-Pacific of great and growing significance to the states of the region but they are also increasingly contested and under threat. This is gives rise to escalating oceans governance challenges and the core objective of the journal is to provide a scholarly forum where these issues can be discussed and analysed.

The journal will be published with Brill from 2016 and initially at least on a bi-annual basis. Each issue of the journal will include 3-4 scholarly articles together with state practice and current legal developments sections. Professor Seokwoo LEE and Professor Clive SCHOFIELD will serve as Co-Editors-in-Chief, the state practice section of the journal will be edited by Professor Anastasia TELESETSKY of the University of Idaho, USA, and the current legal developments section will be the responsibility of Professor Warwick GULLETT of the University of Wollongong, Australia.