This course explores how the international legal system works from a legal and political perspective, shaping international relations today. At its core international law is an idea about how to use the tools of law and legal systems to facilitate peaceful and mutually beneficial relations in the world. The course introduces some aspects of the method and substance of international law, such as concepts like sovereign immunity, jus cogens, customary international law, general principles of international law, principles of jurisdiction etc. But this is not a law course. We cover legal subjects to understand how politics and law interact in shaping international relations today. Substantively, the course examines international laws related to the oceans, the environment, human rights, trade and war. We read treaties, and use case studies to see how international law is made, why national governments and national courts at times contest international law, and why international law can be difficult to enforce. We explore the legal and political issues surrounding contemporary flashpoints in international relations: China’s claims to the South China Seas, how civil conflict is fueling the poaching of elephants, the United States Supreme Court’s ambivalence regarding international law, the demise of the WTO dispute settlement system, controversy surrounding bilateral investment treaties, and how international law regarding torture is and is not politically relevant.

Course objectives:

- Become proficient in understanding core features of law such as sources of law, jurisdiction, and remedies. Also learn core features of international law, such as treaties, customary international law, ratification, reservations, etc.
- Gain experience reading legal texts and legal rulings, learning that one must look beyond the words to understand what the law means in practice.
- Learn the idea of international “law as a process” that unfolds in law’s making, application, and interpretation. Learn how the content and meaning of international law evolves in conjunction with the larger international context.
- Become comfortable with ambiguity. Legal practice is as much art as it is science. Like all law, international law is contested, evolving, meaningful and constraining. The system does not fit together as a coherent whole, and it rarely resolves like an episode of Law and Order.
Ours is a no-electronics classroom: Laptops, tablets and cell phones may be consulted for discussions about readings, but should otherwise be stowed. This paper syllabus provides a course overview, but please consult the weekly Canvas page before doing the readings.

**Assigned Readings:**
The course uses Canvas extensively. Students should consult the weekly Canvas page for reading questions, guidelines, readings with *, updates and links to current events. In-class discussions will draw on the readings, and you are expected to have done the readings before class. Please bring cases to the class session where they will be discussed.

2. **Case Studies** (purchased on line at [http://casestudies.isd.georgetown.edu/#_ga=1.187333740.519308017.1458305449.](http://casestudies.isd.georgetown.edu/#_ga=1.187333740.519308017.1458305449.) Please buy all at once.
   - Case 176 - The Negotiations Leading to The 1987 Montreal Protocol On Substances That Deplete The Ozone Layer (Goodman)
   - Case 181 - The Ivory Trade (Mingst) – Part B has been missing in the past. I have posted Part B on Canvas.
   - Case 153 - The United States And The Law Of The Sea Treaty (Steven/Digeser)
   - **Added based on your subject choices:** “Establishing an International Criminal Court: The Emergence of a New Global Authority” Pew Case Studies in International Affairs #258

3. **Online Readings**- Readings listed on the syllabus with a* are available on Canvas. They are most easily located by consulting the weekly Canvas page.

**Course Assignments:**
The three types of assignments have an intentional overlap.

1) **Attendance, Participation + Panel briefing book** (30%). This grade includes attendance, class participation and your preparations for cases discussion and simulations. The *Panel briefing book* is a concrete manifestation of your participation as the class proceeds. Students asked me to make each briefing book assignments due in real time. I will not grade these, but rather will wait until the end of the term when you assemble your briefing book. See Canvas page “Assignments in more detail” for a fuller description of the briefing book. **Briefing book due March 11.**

2) **Three Quizzes** (30%): In the past, the course had a cumulative final. I have substituted three quizzes interspersed in the term. Each week’s Canvas page lists the material that might appear on the quiz. The quiz study guide assembles the material located on the weekly course pages. The quiz draws from these questions, which include I.D.s and short answers. The quiz is administered closed book, in section. You have 25 minutes to complete each quiz, thus you must study in advance. **Quiz dates:** Jan 29, February 12, March 4.

3) **Take-Home Final Exam** (40%) I will ask you to write on 3 assigned essay questions. Questions require you to draw on material covered during the entire course, comparing across weeks. **Submitted on Canvas and due at the time of the WCAS scheduled class final**
Managing the work load to get the most and do well in the course
If you stay on top of the material, the first half of the course will fit with the second half, allowing a much deeper understanding of the political questions we examine. If you master the quiz concepts as we go, you will develop the deeper platform you need to understand the interaction between law and politics as the course proceeds. This deeper understanding will help you do well on the final exam.

In other words, the formula for success is easy and straight forward:

1) Look at weekly Canvas page as a guide to the reading and course material. Read the assigned reading and do the briefing and case book assignment in advance of the class session. Bring questions to class & section.

2) Download the ppt outline before class. Take handwritten notes on the printout. Handwritten notes enhance learning (see this article).

3) Write out answers to each of the ‘quiz study guide’ questions during the week in which the material is covered. If in doubt, ask questions.

4) If you are not understanding something, come to office hours. Professor Alter is also a resource for you.

5) Make sure all of the written work is your own.

Late penalties, academic integrity and other administrative things

- I do expect us to follow this schedule, but I always say that it is subject to change, with sufficient notice given in advance.
- Quizzes are closed-book, device free, administered in section. Their timing will only be deferred in exceptional circumstances. You may attend a different section session to take a quiz, but law school info sessions and job interviews are not exceptional, nor are meetings you ‘need’ to attend. A late penalty of one third of a grade per day will apply, beginning immediately after the due time has passed.
- Students must complete all assignments in order to pass the class.
- University rules on academic integrity will be strictly enforced. Students are responsible for reading and understanding Northwestern’s Academic Integrity policies. You are welcome to work in groups, but I expect all quizzes, the briefing book, and the final to be 100% of your own efforts. All suspected violations of academic integrity will be reported to the Weinberg College Dean’s Office. These include: cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, unfair advantage, unauthorized collaboration, and aiding and abetting of academic dishonesty. Students found in violation of academic integrity may receive a zero on the assignment or a failing grade for the course, and may be suspended or permanently expelled from the University. See the WCAS website on academic integrity and Academic Integrity: A Basic Guide for more information.

PART I: ATTRIBUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL SYSTEM

Week 1: The sources of international law (Jan 6-8)
Where does international law come from? We begin with the legal answer to this question. Something to think about: Given that there is no international state, what do you think of this process of law-making? Do you worry that law is not being made by an elected body?
Monday: What is international law?

Assigned readings:

2. *W.H. Auden Poem “What is Law”
3. International Law: The 100 ways it shapes our lives (*PDF is also downloaded on Canvas)
4. Sign up for you panel groups under the "collaboration" page (google doc). Take the “Tell me about yourself” quiz

Optional Extra: Sage Video “International Law and International Politics”

Wednesday: The sources of international law

Assigned readings:

1. *Slomanson Fundamental Perspectives 1.2 sources of int’l law.
2. Slomanson on line- Chapter 1 1) Paquete Habana Decision; 2) Flores, V. Peru Southern Copper  (these are on line links)

Section: Discussion question: Why rely on custom as a source of law? What are the advantages and disadvantages of relying on custom? Does ‘custom’ as a source of law concern you?

Briefing book assignment 1: Country Background (January 12): Submit your briefing page about your country that discusses its population, politics, and economic interests. The CIA World Factbook is a good place to start.

Week 2: The Making of International Law (Jan 13-15)

Monday: Non-Treaty International Law

In class we will use the Filartiga ruling to think again about customary international law. We will also see how customary international law regarding Torture became hard law, and also US domestic law (the Torture Victims Protection Act). Later in the course we will return to this issue to think about how the law on the books and this consensus has been subverted.

Assigned Reading:

1. Continuing with Slomanson Fundamental Perspectives 1.2 sources of int’l law (Monday’s reading)
2. Excerpt of Filartiga (Carter et al, p. 242-249). Filartiga is based on customary IL, as was Paquete Habana. What does this tell us about how IL is made?
3. The New Terrain of International Law - Rape as a War Crime case (p 319-323). What does this case tell us about how international law is made?
4. *Slomanson on Alien Tort Statute, Torture Victims Protection Act & Genocide Accountability Act 637-642. These are statutes passed by the US Congress. What does this tell us about how IL is made?

Wednesday: States making international law (Environment)
Prepare for Simulation. Complete your briefing book assignment before class Jan 13. It is due on Canvas Jan 15, so that you can update it based on what you learned.

### Briefing book assignment 2 (Need for class Jan 13; Submit by Jan 15):
Write a 1 page brief that answer the following: What are your country's interests with respect to CFCs and the Ozone hole. Did your sign and support the Montreal Protocol treaty? Why do you think it has adopted the position it did? Should your country now change its mind and sign or unsign the Montreal Protocol? Does your country comply with the Montreal Protocol? Should your country sign but violate the Montreal Protocol?

### Readings:
1. *On Canvas-Read the guides before you read the case-study*: Montreal Protocol case preparation note + some suggestions on how to prepare an excellent plenary presentation--keeping in mind that the media covers plenary speeches.

2. *Pew Case Study*: Goodman, Allan “The Negotiations Leading to the 1987 Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer” Pew Case Studies in International Affairs, #176 (Purchase on line here (Links to an external site.).)

### For Section:
Compare the different types of country obligations under international law. What do the genocide and torture conventions actually require of those countries that ratify them? Later, when we study the ICC, I will ask you how the legal prohibition against genocide, and the legal responsibility to do something about genocide, has changed over time.

1. Look at **CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment**. Figure out if your panel country signed this convention, what its obligations are under the convention, and if there are any reservations to the convention.

2. Slomanson on the Genocide Convention: p. 568-572; Genocide Convention (Links to an external site.) (esp. Articles I, V, VI). Reservations to Genocide Convention (Links to an external site.)

### Briefing book 3: Torture & Genocide Conventions (Jan 19):
Prepare a brief for a politician (no more than 1 page) on your country’s position regarding the Genocide and Torture conventions. Identify when your country signed, what your country’s obligations are under the treaty, and if there are any reservations, and any recent statements and positions in your country concerning the convention. Use citations to indicate the statements.

### Week 3: MLK & beginning of jurisdiction (Jan 20-23)

Monday: Class cancelled for MLK celebrations, but watch the video on the Canvas Page
The video on canvas overviews jurisdiction. In the video, I explain 4 factors that are reshaping the question of jurisdiction, and thus the question of when and how states become accountable to international law. The reading in the next two weeks will help to reinforce the video. So maybe watch the video, do the reading, then watch the video again.

The 4 different factors shaping jurisdiction are:

1. *Domestic legal issues*: Jurisdiction for crimes committed within and outside of national boarders
The five principles of jurisdiction discussed in Slomanson (*Fundamental* 5.2 (A-F only)) answer the question of when can domestic courts assert jurisdiction over legal violations that occurred beyond their borders. These principles apply to violations of domestic law, and to violations of international law.

2) *Binding legal effect of international law within national legal system*

The issue of monism v. dualism is about the legal effects of international law within a domestic system.

3) *The domestic legal effects of international court rulings.*

I think the title says it all. We will be reading about the domestic effects of the ICJ's rulings regarding the Vienna Convention on Consular Affairs.

4) *The Jurisdiction of International Courts over cases*

Why is question of jurisdiction so confusing? And how do the different jurisdictional pieces fit together?

**Wednesday: Beginning understanding of the issue of jurisdiction**

1. * Slomanson Chapter 5 on Jurisdiction p 239-52. Blackmer case (direct link [here](#)) (Legal brief due in class) Lotus case p. 246-249 (Legal brief due in class)

2. The ICJ’s jurisdiction: Slomanson 8.4C p. 402-417 (be ready to discuss Norwegian Loans case p.407-409)

3. In *The New Terrain*: Bahrain-Qatar case study (p. 172-178). These cases (Norwegian Loans & Bahrain-Qatar), along with the rape case study from last week, help us understand how the world is changing because of the creation of international courts.

**The first quiz will be held in section Wednesday January 22.**

This is an early quiz so that we can trouble-shoot if you do not understand something.

**Week 4: Extraterritoriality & Jurisdiction continued (AKA how international law binds states) (Jan 27-29)**

We continue with the relationship between international and domestic law, as it impacts the binding nature of international law. This week we consider domestic enforcement of international law. We then put the system in motion to understand how international law is developing in three simultaneous yet contradictory directions—erosions of the norm of sovereign immunity, international court enforcement, and the recent United States Supreme Court retreat from international law.

**Monday: Extraterritoriality and Jurisdiction**


2. On state responsibility and Sovereign Immunity: Slomanson *Fundamental Perspectives* 2.5 & 2.6. 2.7E [p. 73-84]

4. Sovereign Immunity continued: Sloomanson on line- Chapter 2 1) Ex Parte Pinochet. 2) “Arrest Warrant” Case brief for Pinochet case only. Read Arrest warrant—a brief of the case (with more background) can be found here.

5. Oppenheim’s International Law: Modes of Dispute Settlement p 1115-1130

Wednesday: The system in motion—Growing extraterritoriality

1. Watch video on line, which overviews four cases from The New Terrain of International Law.
4. The New Terrain of International Law Metalclad case p.228-234
5. Pistor Code of Capital p.137-143- be prepared to discuss the Eli Lilly case.

Week 5: Beyond enforcement: Compliance and Exit (Feb 3-6)

In most cases, the question of eliciting respect for international law is less about enforcement, and more about state capacity and will to comply. This week we focus on some hard cases involving building respect for international law. We also start to examine the ‘holes’ in the international legal system- how states escape legal accountability.

Monday: Thinking about the Challenges of Eliciting Compliance (Environment Case)

*Ivory Trade Case preparation note + Simulation notes (which are also lecture notes)

Pew Case Study: Mingst, Karen “The Ivory Trade” Pew Case Studies in International Affairs, #181. See also part B in the coursepack.

*When CITES Works and Doesn’t Work

*Setting the Record Straight: The N v. S view of CITES is a Myth

*Do International Conventions Work? The CITES Debate Rages On

Briefing book 4: Your Country & CITES (February 3): Write a brief that explains your country’s position regarding the Ivory Trade? This brief should explain why your country adopted its position, and whether or not your country generally complies with the CITES convention.

Wednesday: Exit as a way to escape international legal obligations

1. Alter The New Terrain of International Law Chapter 8 On cultures of constitutional obedience p. 290-95
2. US frustration with international law: ICJ’s Nicaragua (excerpt here) & Avena rulings (Chapter 2)
3. Different reactions to the Avena Ruling *President Bush’s order & Medillan v. Texas excerpt v. German reaction- * Klaus Garditz summary of Germany’s approach to the ICJ’s Avena jurisprudence
PART II. SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL LAW

Week 6: The Law of the Sea (Feb 10-12)
The Law of the Sea is the first truly global convention. It is also the first major effort of developing countries to have international law address their concerns and interests. The convention is so successful that we tend to for granted its many achievements. This week we understand why the US has not joined this convention, and the contributions and limits of the UNLOS III convention.

Monday: The challenges in creating the Law of the Sea convention.
*Law of Seas Case preparation note + Appendix on instruments of LOS
Slomanson Fundamental Perspectives 12.4 (on New International Economic Order)

Briefing book 5: Your Country and the LOS (Feb 10): Figure out your country’s position regarding the Law of the Seas. What is at stake for your country? What matters most for you regarding this convention? If your country has a particular leverage for negotiations, identify it. What does your country get from the convention? Does your country want the US to join the convention? Is your country willing to make any concessions to encourage US membership?

Wednesday: The success and limits of the Law of the Sea treaty
Slomanson Fundamental Perspectives 6.3 (Law of Seas)
Slomanson on-line: Seabed Authority [not hyperlinked chapter 6]
Alter New Terrain Case Study: ITLOS “Japan v. Russia seizing of vessels” (178-182)
A stable fissure
*Australian-East Timor Maritime Boundaries: Finding an Equitable Solution + article about the settlement East Timor accepted. For an updated perspective, look here. To see how this looks from the E. Timorian perspective, look here.
Recommended: A more explosive fissure is China’s claims in the South Seas. For a discussion of this issue, look here and here. Note—I may update these links depending on developments.

**South China Seas Case**


**Second quiz will be February 12 in section.**  
**Third quiz will be March 4**

**Week 7: International Law on the Use of Force (Feb 17-19)**

This week we will look at how international law tries to regulate the use of force. Monday we look at law on the books, investigating when using force is legal. Wednesday we study the decision to create the ICC. Was it a good idea?

**Monday: The Substantive law on the Use of Force**

Hathaway and Shapiro *The Internationalists* excerpt (intro + p. 93-98)  
Slomanson *Fundamental Perspectives* 9.1, 9.2 (A-E)

*Prepare these three cases. Turn in the brief for one of them.*  
1. Slomanson on line: British Iraq War legality Armed Act Congo  
2. Slomanson on line: Armed Act Congo  
3. ICJ decision in Military and Paramilitary Activities in and Against Nicaragua (in Slomanson reading p. 487-8)

**Wednesday: International Criminal Law- The Future of International Law**

“Establishing an International Criminal Court: The Emergence of a New Global Authority”  
Pew Case Studies in International Affairs #258  
Slomanson 8.5D


This [NGO page](#) explains the state of the "crime of aggression" which may eventually fall under the ICC's jurisdiction:

This [weblink](#) is an NGO explanation of the crime of aggression.

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**Briefing book 6: Your Country and the ICC (Feb 19):** State your country’s position regarding the ICC. Did your country support the creation of the ICC? Can you find any newspaper articles that explain why your country supported the creation of the ICC? Did your country ratify the Rome Statute? Why did it ratify the Rome Statute? Has your country signed an Article 98 agreement with the US? What is your country’s position regarding the ICC’s jurisdiction for the crime of aggression? Follow the links to find the answers. Are there any “situations” being investigated with respect to your country, or situations that NGOs think should be investigated?
**Week 8: International Criminal Law & Responsibility to Protect (Feb 24-26)**

**Monday: International Criminal responsibility**

1) Cherif Bassiouni’s Introduction to International Criminal responsibility
2) ICTY, Prosecutor v. Radovan Karadzic (case summary here: [https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/icty-prosecutor-v-radovan-karadzic](https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/icty-prosecutor-v-radovan-karadzic))
3) An example of domestic prosecution, which can be more far reaching than ICC prosecution Case: Belgium, Prosecution of Terrorist Crimes in the context of Armed Conflict (case summary here [https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/belgium-prosecution-terrorist-crimes-context-armed-conflict](https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/belgium-prosecution-terrorist-crimes-context-armed-conflict))
4) European Parliament 2018 Summary of the ICC and its challenges

**Wednesday: Responsibility to Protect**


**Briefing book assignment 7: What is your country’s official position on R2P (Due Feb 26)**

Check for Foreign Ministry statements, positions taken in the United Nations. Imagine that you are also advising your Foreign Ministry and the Head of State—Is your country’s status quo position correct, or should it change? State what you really think, from a national interest perspective. You now know what undertaking a legal obligation means. Should your country push itself, or international law further on these issues?

**Week 9: Looking Forward- Future of the Global Trade Regime & Race in International Law (March 2-4)**

**Monday: The Global Trading System Under Threat**


2) WTO in Brief ([Website of the WTO explaining itself](https://www.wto.org))

3) How WTO litigation has worked in the past to resolve disputes and enforce its rules.

   Alter *New Terrain Case Study*: review Foreign Sales Corporation (p. 253-257), and read Softwood Lumber (p. 222-228).

4) Some Expert views on the future of the WTO, now that its dispute settlement system is dysfunctional (follow this link (Links to an external site.))

**Extra: Two critiques of current US trade politics:**

*A critique from the center-left:* Gallagher and Polanski *Reforming US Trade Policy for Shared Prosperity and the Planet* Global Development Policy Center GEGI WORKING PAPER 035 • 10/2019
A critique from the Right (what should be Trump’s base): James Bacchus, Jeremie Waterman and Erin Ennis The WTO and the China Challenge

Wednesday: Race in International Law
Slomanson 10.3 +
--Slomanson on-line excerpt of International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Slomanson on-line)
- Case Concerning Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination ICJ Ruling of October 2008 (Slomanson on line)

Anna Spain Bradley’s Human Rights Racism Harvard International Law Journal 2019

Week 10: Final class: Challenging International Law: Russia, China, Turkey, Israel (March 9)
Of course President Trump also belongs on the list of challengers, yet US advisors have thus far kept Trump’s challenges to international law on the edge of legal. The challenges by China, Russia have already crossed the line, and Turkey and Israel are threatening to walk over the line. One might say that the US is not all that different from these examples. We will be discussing the US and these other examples.

1. Sage Video: International Law and International Relations: The Gap Between Hopes and Realities

2. Four controversial land grabs (which contextualize the statement below). 1) Russia’s annexation of Crimea (Brooking’s analysis here); 2) China’s claims regarding the South China Seas (covered in LOS week); 3) Israel’s announced annexation of Jerusalem & the Jordan Valley (EU’s reaction here); 4) Turkey’s plan to control Syrian territory as a buffer and resettlement zone (Guardian article on Russian assent here).

3. Text of Russia-China Joint Declaration on Promotion and Principles of International Law (from LAWFARE blog)

4. Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder: China’s Massive Belt and Road Initiative (not a violation of IL in any way. This reading helps us think about how China is using law as it expands its influence)

TOPICS FOR WEEKS 8-10 (WE WILL VOTE TO SELECT TOPICS)

International Law on the Use of Force (a week)
This week we will look at how international law tries to regulate the use of force. International law scholars noted that the prohibition on the use of force is one of the most significant changes in international law in the twentieth century, and it ushered in a major decline in inter-state war and battle deaths. Notwithstanding the violence that exists in Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, the Congo (and other civil wars), the issue of the use of force is one where social scientists have demonstrated international law’s impact. Yet international law works in two ways. It limits interstate war, and arguably facilitates failed states and intra-state violence. Monday we would look at law on the books,
investigating when using force is legal. Wednesday we could either look at the ICC, or consider the conflict in Syria as an example of the limits of international law. Focusing on Syria would also raise the question of what has happened to international refugee law.

**The Global Trade Regime (a week)**
The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade became the World Trade Organization in 1994. These two institutions have built a relatively open global trading system. The current system is under great stress, and this week we would understand what the WTO provided, and think about what a world without the WTO looks like. We would also focus on the controversial issue of property rights protection in international trade. The topic gets to the heart of whether we want to use multilateral institutions—which include any interested country—or instead create a more power-based system where the strongest parties can push their advantage.

**Human Rights Issues, and a focus on the prohibition against torture (a week)**
Conservatives like to claim that international human rights are dead. This is, in my view, quite an exaggeration. Human rights obligations are part of nearly every constitution, and most countries have National Institutes of Human Rights which regularly monitor the implementation of international human rights treaties. This week would consider the range of human rights obligations, and how these obligations are ‘enforced.’ We would spend a day looking at the issue of torture, asking whether and how international human rights law is making a difference.

**Race and international law**
Colonial era international law was overtly racist. Just like overt discrimination has been outlawed in the US, overt discrimination is not part of international law. Yet in other ways, international law is quite racist, and despite the switch to multilateralism, much of the colonial order remains intact. We could consider how international law does and does not address issues related to race.

**The Paris Convention on Climate Change's approach to International Law**
We studied the Montreal Protocol—the most successful international environmental treaty in history. We could study the failed efforts that then led to the Paris approach. The Paris approach is a soft law approach to address the global challenge of the environment. This case allows us to consider if soft law may actually work better than a hard law approach, and why this may be.

**Gender and international law**
I have been sneaking gender into this course. We discussed rape as a war crime, and the video discussed the Hadijatou Mani case. There is actually a treaty about the treatment of women: CEDAW. The treaty is both limited and controversial, because patriarchal societies dislike certain CEDAW rules, such as rules that prohibit child marriage and require women to consent to marry. We could look at how international law has tried and struggled to address concerns of interest to women.

**Refugees and international law**
International law is completely failing with respect to the issue of refugees. We would study this topic, and then debate what should be done.

**International Criminal Law**
Most international law aims to regulate the behavior of states. International criminal law is different. It targets individuals; it involves criminal responsibility; and it only targets war crimes
(e.g. terrorism, piracy, drug trafficking, mass corruption are not part of the ICC’s mandate). We would review the history of international criminal prosecution, the creation of the international criminal court, the decision to limit the crimes the court can prosecute, and the problems the ICC is now facing.

**Responsibility to protect (R2P) and humanitarian intervention**
A very difficult issue is the right or obligation to intervene to stop mass atrocities. We would review the problem of humanitarian intervention, assess the state of R2P.