



THE HAGUE INITIATIVE  
for INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

## SUMMER SCHOOL

# International Law and the Israel-Palestine Conflict

A 2-week program on the role of international law in conflict resolution

Sunday 21 June – Friday 3 July 2020

Location: Jerusalem

### Goal

A critical consideration of the role of international law and the international community in promoting peaceful resolution of the Israel-Palestine conflict.

### Set up

The program comprises lectures, seminars, excursions and workshops. The excursions play an important role throughout the program as they provide the context in which the law is applied.

### The program leaders and tutors

- Dr. Matthijs de Blois – Assistant Professor Emeritus, University of Utrecht
- Prof. Dr. Li-ann Thio – Provost Chair Professor of Law, National University of Singapore
- Andrew Tucker – Director, The Hague Initiative for International Co-operation

**Guide:** Yitzhak Sokoloff (Keshet Educational Journeys)

### Lecturers include:

- Prof. Amichai Cohen (Israel Democracy Institute)
- Dr. Petra Heldt
- Prof. Eugene Kontorovich (George Mason University)
- Dr. Tamar Hostovsky Brandes (ONO University)
- Adv. Pnina Sharvit Baruch (Head of Program on Law and National Security, Institute for National Security Studies)
- Lt. Col. (res) Maurice Hirsch (Former Director of the Military Prosecution in Judea and Samaria)
- Ms. Marlene Mazel (Director Foreign & Counter-terrorism Litigation Department in the Israeli Ministry of Justice)
- Ms. Anne Herzberg (Legal Adviser, NGO Monitor)

- Prof. Robbie Sabel (Hebrew University)
- Adv. Calev Myers
- Prof. Avi Bell (Bar Ilan University, San Diego Law School)
- Dr. Leonard Hammer (Hebrew University, Arizona Law School)
- Prof. Moshe Sharon (Hebrew University)
- Dr. Mordechai Kedar (Bar Ilan University)
- Maj. Gen. (res) Gershon Hacoheh
- Mr. Khaled Abu Toameh
- Adv. Yifa Segal (International Legal Forum)

## **Draft Program - Summer School 2020**

### **Introduction; what is international law?**

#### **Day 1**

Introduction

Lecture: An introduction to the Israel-Palestine conflict

Lecture: The role of International Law in International Affairs – an introduction

### **History, politics, law and religion**

Excursion in Jerusalem: Historical roots of the Jewish people in the Land of Israel

#### **Day 2**

Lecture: 3000 Years of history – an overview of the history of the land

Lecture: The role of the Orthodox churches and the Vatican in the history of the land

Excursion in Jerusalem: Roman conquest and Christian history of the Holy Land

#### **Day 3**

Excursion in Jerusalem: The Temple Mount, Muslim shrines and Islamic roots in the Holy Land

Seminar: leading Jewish, Islamic and Christian scholars discuss the influence of religion on law and policy.

### **Zionism and self-determination of the Jewish people**

#### **Day 4**

Lecture: History of Zionism: the self-determination of the Jewish people up to 1948, including the Mandate for Palestine (1922 – 1948)

Lecture: The international legal significance of the Mandate for Palestine

Lecture: The creation of the State of Israel (1948) in light of the International Law on self-determination, sovereignty and the creation of states

Excursion: Visit to The Jewish Agency, meetings with Israeli leaders

### **Israel and the Arab world - conflict or cooperation?**

#### **Day 5**

Seminar: Israel and the Arab world

Excursion: From the 'Green line' to the security barrier – the significance of the 1949 Israel/Jordan Armistice Lines

### **The special position of Jerusalem**

#### **Day 6**

Seminar: Who owns Jerusalem (today)? The legal issues concerning Holy Places, territorial sovereignty, and placing embassies in Jerusalem

### **The role of the international community in relation to this conflict**

Seminar: Internationally sponsored peace proposals since 1920 – what are the trends? Why have they failed?

Visit to Kotel (Western Wall) and Shabbat dinner

## **Golan Heights**

### **Day 7**

Optional excursion to the Golan Heights

## **Palestinian self-determination**

### **Day 8**

Lecture: The challenges of achieving Israeli-Palestinian peace – an Israeli perspective

Lecture: Palestinian social and political culture – a Palestinian perspective

Excursion: Visit to Ramallah including meeting with PLO Negotiations Affairs Department

## **International law relating to territorial sovereignty, frontiers and borders**

### **Day 9**

Lecture: How are borders determined under international law? - international law principles concerning the determination of international frontiers and borders

Seminar: Leading Israeli academics debate whether Israel's settlements policies are illegal

## **International humanitarian law**

### **Day 10**

Lecture: the Gaza conflicts and the use of force

Lecture: Challenges of complying with International Humanitarian Law in the Military Courts in the West Bank

Lecture: International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the fight against terrorism

Excursion: The "West Bank", "Occupied Palestinian Territories" or "Judea and Samaria"? – a guided tour through the territory

## **Human rights law**

### **Day 11**

Lecture: 'Never again' – the development of International Human Rights Law and International Criminal law since 1945

Excursion to Supreme Court: Can Israel be both a democratic and Jewish state? Meeting with Supreme Court Judge

Excursion to Yad Vashem - understanding the holocaust and its impact on Jewish consciousness

## **Israel, Palestine and the United Nations**

### **Day 12**

Seminar: The role of the UN institutions and the ICC in relation to the Israel-Palestine conflict. Leading experts will look at the role of the United Nations institutions in relation to the conflict, such as the UN General Assembly and Security Council, and the International Court of Justice.

Lecture: Anti-Semitism and the BDS movement

Workshop: Human Rights: Allegations of Israel's breach of Human Rights law in relation to access to water and sanitation in the "Occupied Palestinian Territories"

## What is the role of international law in resolution of this conflict?

### Day 13

In workshops and presentations the students will explore the question of the role of international law in dispute resolution