

The Formation of Global Norms in a Changing World Order

13-24 July 2020

Course schedule

WEEK ONE:

Monday: Development of contemporary global principles and norms of the public international law, incl. customary norms, their peculiarities on basis of sources like the Charter of the UN, Statute of the International Court of Justice and the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaty. The role of reservations and objections, declarations and resolutions made by states.

Tuesday: International Organizations and Diplomatic Conferences in making global norms. International multilateral agreements and the potentially unequal position of parties in concluding them. Special status of the UN Charter and especially the Security Council to maintain or restore international peace and security. Problems at 1972 Stockholm UN Conference on Human Environment and some difficulties in becoming a Member State in the “closed international organizations” like WTO, EU, NATO etc.

Wednesday: Customary law and the power of states to influence its development. Historical overview of actions of states in protecting their national interests in living or non-living resources of the seas which have led through customs to adoption of globally accepted legal regimes on the continental shelf and exclusive economic zone of coastal states.

Thursday: Formation of international regimes and the effect of regimes on examples of the 1994 Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization and the III UN Conference on the Law of the Sea and the adoption of “constitution of the seas” UNCLOS with its novelties.

Friday: Interrelations of might and right in the international community of States. The power/influence of small states or their groups in the current legal system. Different mechanisms in decision-making, pros and cons of “consensus”.

Free discussions with the listeners on topics of the course.

WEEK TWO:

Monday: Norms in International Relations. We will look at how IR scholars understand the formation of norms and the role of norms in international politics.

Tuesday: Changing world order – institutions. We will look at the role institutions play in maintaining the world order. We will also look at the impact of new non-Western multilateral institutions have on the changing world order.

Wednesday: Changing world order – economics. We will look at the role of multilateral trade agreements and the flow of capital on international relations. The rise of China and its impact on world order will also be discussed.

Thursday: Small states and global norms. Norms have been called the weapon of the weak. How can small states contribute to the formation of global norms? What impact to global norms have on small states?

Friday: Western norms in a post-Western world. We will look at the role of non-Western ideas in shaping the coming world order as well as the interception of Western norms in non-Western locations.

The lecture timings are the following:

10:00 - 11:30: First part of the lecture

11:30 - 11:45: 15 minute break

11:45 - 13:15: Second part of the lecture