

INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW

Ranked 4th in International Law by
U.S. News & World Report



Director's Message



FOR FOUR DECADES, American University Washington College of Law's commitment to international and comparative law has continued unabated, resulting in unparalleled global impact. Our faculty's scholarship, appointments, and activism reaffirm our leadership in advancing international law. Most recently, Professor Juan Mendez was appointed by U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres to the Board of Trustees of the U.N. Voluntary Fund on Victims of Torture, and Professor Claudio Grossman was appointed to the Institut de Droit International's Commission on Pandemics and International Law, in addition to his role at the U.N. International Law Commission.

In the face of the current global pandemic, we continue to strengthen and expand our international programming. We launched the Tech, Law and Security program to tackle the challenges arising from the intersection of technology, law, and security. We created a new summer program on WTO and U.S. Trade Law and Policy, and established the online and hybrid LL.M. program in International Arbitration and Business Law.

We look forward to welcoming you to our myriad of virtual events in international law this academic year and to mutual cooperation in addressing future challenges.

Padideh Ala'i

Professor of Law

Director of International and Comparative Legal Studies



"American University Washington College of Law actively contributes to shaping legal issues that affect the nation and the world. Our robust international law programs, world-renowned faculty, and more than 4,000 alumni around the world continue to enhance our global reach, enriching opportunities for students and faculty, both at home and abroad."

—Acting Dean Robert Dinerstein

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IN INTERNATIONAL LAW
U.S. NEWS & WORLD
REPORT

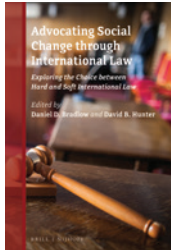
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FULL-TIME
INTERNATIONAL LAW
FACULTY

100+

INTERNATIONAL LAW
COURSES

Scholarship



Advocating Social Change through International Law

David Hunter and Daniel Bradlow (eds.) Brill (2019)

AUWCL Professor David Hunter and Professor Emeritus Daniel Bradlow co-edited a book on the strategic use of hard and soft international law to promote social change. The book offers thought-provoking insights into the role of international law in the advancement of more just and sustainable global societies, and pays tribute to non-state actors' contributions to the development of hard and soft law.



Research on War Crimes Tribunals in Asia

Diane Orentlicher (2020)

Professor Diane Orentlicher's recent publications include two assessments of war crimes tribunals in Asia. One reassesses the legal legacy of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East, focusing on its treatment of crimes of sexual violence. The other explores the question whether the risks of interference by the Cambodian government that the United Nations knowingly assumed when it supported the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia have proven justified by the court's record.



The Chilean Legal Strategy in Bolivia v. Chile

Claudio Grossman, in *The Judgment of the International Court of Justice*

in the Case "Obligation to Negotiate Access to the Pacific Ocean" (*Bolivia v. Chile*), 1 October 2018 [translated from Spanish] (2019)

Dean Emeritus and Professor Claudio Grossman edited the book and authored the chapter on "The Chilean Legal Strategy" to discuss his experience as an Agent for Chile in the landmark ICJ case *Bolivia v. Chile*. The book is a valuable resource to understand the mechanics of a case that has been very important for the history of Chile and that testifies to the importance of international law today.



The Diversity Deficit in International Investment Arbitration

Susan Franck et al.,

Journal of World Investment & Trade (2020)

In a recent publication, Professor Susan Franck, together with other prominent international arbitration experts, focused on adjudicator diversity and its relevance for the legitimacy of the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) system. The article presented empirical evidence of the diversity problem in ISDS, explained the causes of such diversity deficit, and proposed the way forward to improve diversity in ISDS.



Research Handbook on Post-Conflict State Building

Paul Williams and Milena Sterio (eds.) Edward Elgar (2020)

The book is part of Edward Elgar's Research Handbooks in International Law series. It analyzes the essential components of state building, and provides insightful case studies from authors working on the ground as state-building processes took place. The book serves as a practical guide for practitioners and academics on the challenges of post-conflict state building.



The Failure to Grapple with Racial Capitalism in European Constitutionalism

Jeffrey Miller

and Fernanda Nicola, in *European Constitutional Imaginaries: Utopias, Ideologies and the Other* (2020)

AUWCL Professor Fernanda Nicola and Gallaudet University Professor Jeffrey Miller analyzed the influence of U.S. constitutionalism upon the jurisprudence of the European Court of Justice (ECJ), especially in regards to economic integration and market liberalization. However, in bracketing the racial capitalism in the Supreme Court jurisprudence, the current European constitutionalism provides a distorted picture of U.S. constitutionalism, which inhibits a deeper understanding of the EU colonial past and the shortcomings of the ECJ antidiscrimination jurisprudence.

International and Comparative Law Highlights, 2019-2020



AUWCL's Partnership with the American Society of International Law (ASIL)

The Grotius Lecture at ASIL's Virtual Annual Meeting in June 2020 marks the 22nd year of AUWCL's sponsorship of this lecture series. Professor James Gathii of Loyola University Chicago delivered the lecture entitled "The Promise of International Law: A Third World View."

ASIL awarded the 2020 Goler T. Butcher Medal to AUWCL Dean Emeritus and Professor of Law Claudio Grossman for his contributions to international human rights law. In addition to Grossman, AUWCL Professor Juan Mendez received this prestigious award in 2010.

Trade and Peace: WTO Deputy Director-General Addresses Participants in AUWCL's Trade Law and Policy Program

Ambassador Alan Wolff's lecture on July 17, 2020 at AUWCL analyzed the important linkage between trade and peace, as illustrated in the recent history and aspirations of conflict-affected countries to accede to the WTO. For Ambassador Wolff, trade for peace is more than a slogan; it is hope for a better future, and the WTO plays an important role in promoting peace and security.



Stepping Up Against Climate Change

Professor David Hunter is widely recognized for his involvement in groundbreaking litigation addressing environmental concerns. Following his instrumental role in the success of the *JAM v. IFC* case before the U.S. Supreme Court in 2019, he co-authored an *amicus curiae* brief in a petition for rehearing en banc the case of *Kelsey Cascadia Rose Juliana, et al. v. United States of America* before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. The brief supported the petitioners' demand that the U.S. government enact policies against climate change.

International Arbitration in Times of Economic Nationalism

The AUWCL Center on International Commercial Arbitration brought together leading academics and practitioners from all major legal traditions at its 2019 Biannual Symposium on Salient Issues in International Commercial Arbitration. The Symposium, chaired by AUWCL Professor Horacio Grigera Naón, focused on the challenges posed to international arbitration by increased political and economic nationalism, changes in intra-EU investment protection, and the rise of international commercial courts in Asia.



Promoting Gender Equality through Trade Agreements

Professor Padideh Ala'i and Visiting Scholar Renata Vargas presented their research on mainstreaming gender in trade agreements at the WTO Public Forum Working Session in October 2019. The research shows that the existing commitments to address gender in trade agreements are weak and oftentimes unenforceable. The authors discussed how WTO members can use trade agreements to advance gender equality and women's economic participation.

COVID-19 and International Law

AUWCL faculty actively contribute to the development of international legal standards in response to the global pandemic. Professor Grossman serves as a member of the Institut de Droit International's Commission on Pandemics and International Law. During the *Faculty Speak Series* in May 2020, Professors Nicola, Saez, Goldman, and Grossman addressed the effects of COVID-19 on marginalized populations, the discrepancies in health care accessibility, and the future impact on human rights in a post-pandemic globalized world.

Our World-Renowned Faculty

International Law

Rebecca Hamilton, Associate Professor of Law; Executive Council Member of the American Society of International Law

Diane Orentlicher, Professor of Law

Paul Williams, Rebecca I. Grazier Professor of Law and International Relations; Founder of the Public International Law and Policy Group (PILPG)

International Economic Law

Padideh Ala'i, Professor of Law; Director of International and Comparative Legal Studies

Susan Franck, Professor of Law

International Arbitration and Business Law

Gerard Comizio, Adjunct Professor; Associate Director of the Business Law Program

Horacio Grigera Naón, Distinguished Practitioner-in-Residence; Director of the Center on International Commercial Arbitration

David Snyder, Professor of Law; Director of the Business Law Program

Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

Robert Goldman, Professor of Law and Louis C. James Scholar

Claudio Grossman, Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus; Member of the U.N. International Law Commission; Associate Member of the Institut de Droit International

Claudia Martin, Professorial Lecturer-in-Residence; Co-Director of the Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

Juan Méndez, Professor of Human Rights Law in Residence

Diego Rodríguez-Pinzón, Professorial Lecturer-in-Residence; Co-Director of the Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law; Member of the U.N. Committee against Torture

Macarena Sáez, Faculty Director of the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

International Criminal Law

Susana SáCouto, Professorial Lecturer-in-Residence; Director of the War Crimes Research Office

Gender and the Law

Janie Chuang, Professor of Law

Daniela Kraiem, Practitioner-in-Residence; Director of the Women and the Law Program

Immigration Law

Jayesh Rathod, Professor of Law; Associate Dean for Experiential Education

Anita Sinha, Associate Professor of Law; Director of the International Human Rights Law Clinic

International Environmental Law

David Hunter, Professor of Law; Member of the Strategic Advisors Group for the International Finance Corporation's Compliance Advisor/Ombudsman (the World Bank Group)

William Snape, Practitioner-in-Residence; Assistant Dean of Adjunct Faculty Affairs; Senior Counsel of the Center for Biological Diversity

Technology, Law, and Security

Kenneth Anderson, Professor of Law

Gary Corn, Director of the Tech, Law, and Security Program

Jennifer Daskal, Professor of Law; Faculty Director of the Tech, Law, and Security Program

Alex Joel, Scholar-in-Residence and Adjunct Professor; Senior Officer with the U.S. Office of the Director of National Intelligence

European Union and Comparative Law

Fernanda Nicola, Professor of Law; Director of the International Organizations, Law and Development Program

Intellectual Property

Michael Carroll, Professor of Law; Faculty Director of the Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property

Christine Haight Farley, Professor of Law; Faculty Director of the Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property

Sean Flynn, Professorial Lecturer-in-Residence; Director of the Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property





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OUR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

- Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law
- Anti-Corruption Law Program
- Brazil-U.S. Legal and Judicial Studies Program
- Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law
- Center on International Commercial Arbitration
- Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Program
- Immigrant Justice Clinic
- International Human Rights Law Clinic
- International JD Dual Degree Programs
- International Legal Studies Program
- International Organizations, Law and Development Program
- Impact Litigation Project
- Kovler Project against Torture
- Legal English Program
- Program on Environmental and Energy Law
- Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property
- Program on International Communications Regulation and Policy
- Semester Exchange and Summer Abroad Programs
- Spanish for Lawyers Program
- Syrian Initiative to Combat Sexual and Gender Based Violence
- Tech, Law, and Security Program
- Trade, Investment, and Development Program
- U.S. and International Anti-Corruption Law Program
- War Crimes Research Office
- Women and the Law Program