



GA6 Chair Report

**THE ROLE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF
INTERNATIONAL LAW IN SETTTLING
TERRITORIAL DISPUTES**

Chair: LUISE DRESIG

Deputy Chair: JAESANG LEE

Personal Statements

About MUNISS:

- This will be the 17th annual Model United Nations Conference held by the International School of Stuttgart.
- The Conference will take place between the 18th and 21st of April.
- Each year, a specific theme is chosen for the Conference and this year it is: “Adapting to the modern era: Ensuring global progress and equity”.

About GA6/Tips for the Conference:

- The United Nations General Assembly 6th Committee is dedicated to addressing international legal questions. All UN member nations and observer states are part of GA6 and all have an equal vote.
- This year, we will be debating the following three topics in GA6:
 - o Topic 1: Establishing Norms and Regulations to Strengthen International Cybersecurity and Personal Data Privacy.
 - o Topic 2: Developing an International Legal Framework to Regulate Sex Work.
 - o Topic 3: The Role and Effectiveness of International Law in Settling Territorial Disputes.

However, this Research Report will only be focusing on Topic 1.

- In MUNISS, GA6 is a beginner committee, meaning that it is mostly made up of less experienced MUN delegates. We recognize that for many of you this might be the first time you are participating in an MUN Conference. Therefore, we would like to give you some tips for you to make the best out of this experience:
 - o Prepare in advance: Preparation in MUN is the key to success. The reason for this is that we will be debating complex issues and they will require a deep understanding for you to be able to come up with possible solutions in your clauses/resolutions. Therefore, you should do the following before the Conference:
 - Read the Research Reports thoroughly, to make sure you have a good understanding of the topic.
 - Carry out extensive research on your country and find out your countries’ stance on the issue, what relation your country has in regards to the issue (direct involvement, or indirect involvement), and attempts/achievements of your country in combatting the issue.
 - Using the knowledge you have acquired in the first two steps, you should brainstorm solutions that will be effective in combatting the issues, keeping in mind that you are the representative of a country and therefore also have to act the way your country would. Finally, you can propose these solutions in the format of clauses, that you will be able to debate during the Conference.
 - o Try participating: We know that it can be quite intimidating to speak in front of a large group of people you don’t know, especially if it’s your first Conference. However, know that everybody who does MUN started the same way and has felt the same way! Therefore, try to push



yourself, even if you are scared or unsure. You can only get more comfortable through practice!

- Have fun and learn at the same time: Keep in mind that MUN is a great opportunity for you to not only learn more about global issues, but also come up with realistic solutions on how to combat them! This will help you do the following:
 - Build empathy, as you must often argue for something that you do not personally agree with, but that your country sees this way.
 - Enhance your negotiation skills, as you will have to collaborate with countries that have different point of view to find a solution that is acceptable for everybody.
 - Improve your public speaking skills, as you will be holding speeches and POIs.

Chair – LUISE DRESIG

My name is Luise and I am currently 16 years old/in 10th Grade. I will be your Head Chair for GA6 during MUNISS XVII. I live in Germany and go to Frankfurt International School. My first MUN experience was in 4th and 5th Grade, when I participated in the Junior MUN conference hosted by my school. Following that, I stopped doing MUN for a while, but started again in 8th Grade. Since then, I have participated in three conferences as a delegate, including FISMUN, THIMUN, and MUNISS last year (where I was in the Security Council). This will be my second time chairing, as I have previously only chaired HRC2 at FISMUN. I am excited to meet all of you and hope for a successful conference!



Deputy Chair – JAESANG LEE



Hi :) My name is Jaesang Lee, and it is an honor to be your Deputy chair for General Assembly 6. I am 15 years old, and I am currently 9th grade student in international school of Stuttgart. Next to the normal school days, I have a few hobbies as well. I like playing football and basketball. I support premier league team called Tottenham Hotspur (Best club in the world). My MUN experience is quite short to be honest, but I have attended conferences as delegate, so I am familiar with MUN. We will make sure that you will be as comfortable as can be during debate, and we will guide you through the conference as best as we can.



Introduction

In the last couple of years, the world has witnessed a variety of conflicts arise, in particular territorial disputes. For instance, recent examples include the Russo-Ukrainian War and the War in Gaza. Many have wondered if these conflicts can be resolved by peaceful means considering the complexity of their roots. This is where international law comes into play. Although international law is limited in its executive power, and there is no guarantee that it will solve territorial disputes, it provides a general framework for the peaceful settlement of conflicts.

International law mainly functions through norms, rules, and standards.¹ Examples of this include treaties, customs, and the general principle of law.² In order to support this, international law is upheld by multiple branches that have been developed throughout the course of time. The principal center of this is the United Nations, which aims maintain international peace and security. This is outlined in the UN Charter of Article 33, "Calls on the organization to help in the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means, including arbitration and judicial settlement".³ Within the United Nations, the main organs that contribute to international law are the Security Council, the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly, and the International Court of Justice, in addition to the International Law Commission. Although independent of the United Nations, the International Criminal Court is also responsible for a specific aspect of international law. (Further explanation provided in the glossary.)

Over the course of time, there have been various territorial disputes, some of which were settled by international law, and some of which were not. The most of important part of international law is thus encouraging dialogue, the peaceful settlement of conflicts, in addition to guidance on how to do so. Examples of territorial disputes that the ICJ has settled include the following: Minquiers and Ecrehos (France/United Kingdom), Sovereignty over Certain Frontier Land (Belgium/Netherlands), Temple of Preah Vihear (Cambodia v. Thailand), Frontier Dispute (Burkina Faso/Mali), Land, Island and Maritime Frontier Dispute (El Salvador/Honduras: Nicaragua Intervening), Territorial Dispute (Libya/Chad), Maritime Delimitation and Territorial Questions (Qatar v. Bahrain), Land and Maritime Boundary (Cameroon v. Nigeria: Equatorial Guinea Intervening), Sovereignty over Pulau Ligitan and Pulau Sipadan (Indonesia/Malaysia).⁴

¹ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

² Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

³ "International Law and Justice." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/global-issues/international-law-and-justice. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024

⁴ Sumner, Brian Taylor. "Territorial Disputes at the International Court of Justice." *Duke Law Journal*, vol. 53, no. 6, 2004, pp. 1779-812. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/40040452. Accessed 10 Mar. 2024.



Glossary

International Law: “Defines the legal responsibilities of states in their conduct with each other, and their treatment of individuals within State boundaries.”

Territorial Dispute: A disagreement of which states exercises sovereignty over a part of land.⁵

Security Council: An organ of the United Nations that is made up of 15 members.⁶ The 5 permanent members include China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and United States, which also have veto power.⁷ The 10 non-permanent members serve as representatives of different regions of the world, five of which are elected each year by the General Assembly for a two-year term.⁸ Unlike other UN organs, the Security Council is able to create binding resolutions, and authorize a series of activities.

Sixth Committee of the General Assembly: Responsible for considering legal questions.⁹ In contrast to the Security Council, it is made up all UN members states, which have an equal vote.¹⁰

International Court of Justice (ICJ): The highest court in the world, thereby it is also called the “World Court”.¹¹ It is composed of 15 judges, selected for 9 year terms by the Security Council and General Assembly.¹²

International Law Commission: Established to assist Article 13 of the UN Charter to “Initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of... encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification”.¹³

International Criminal Court (ICC): Prosecutes individuals who commit genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing.¹⁴

Tribunals: Non-permanent institutions, which only focus on one case.¹⁵

⁵ "Territorial Disputes." *Curtis*, www.curtis.com/glossary/public-international-law/territorial-dispute. Accessed 10 Mar. 2024.

⁶ UN Membership." *Dag Hammarskjold Library*, research.un.org/en/unmembers/scmembers. Accessed 10 Mar. 2024.

⁷ "UN Membership." *Dag Hammarskjold Library*, research.un.org/en/unmembers/scmembers. Accessed 10 Mar. 2024.

⁸ "UN Membership." *Dag Hammarskjold Library*, research.un.org/en/unmembers/scmembers. Accessed 10 Mar. 2024.

⁹ "International Law and Justice." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/global-issues/international-law-and-justice. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

¹⁰ "International Law and Justice." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/global-issues/international-law-and-justice. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

¹¹ "International Law and Justice." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/global-issues/international-law-and-justice. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

¹² "Uphold International Law." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/our-work/uphold-international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

¹³ "International Law and Justice." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/global-issues/international-law-and-justice. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

¹⁴ "International Law and Justice." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/global-issues/international-law-and-justice. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

¹⁵ "International Law and Justice." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/global-issues/international-law-and-justice. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.



Treaties: Agreements on negotiated terms signed and ratified by the states concerned.¹⁶

Customs: A set of unwritten rules (norms) that all countries are expected to follow.¹⁷

General principle of law: A set of unwritten rules (norms) that the majority of countries are expected to follow.¹⁸

Sovereignty: "The sovereignty of a State is confined to a defined piece of territory, which is subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the State and is protected by international law from violation of other states."¹⁹

Municipal law: Laws established by the government of a State, from domestic, to national, to local level, etc.²⁰

¹⁶ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

¹⁷ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

¹⁸ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

¹⁹ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

²⁰ Suter, Keith. "The Successes and Limitations of International Law and the International Court of Justice." *Medicine, Conflict and Survival*, vol. 20, no. 4, 2004, pp. 344-54. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/27017609. Accessed 8 Mar. 2024.



Issue Explanation

When international law is tasked with handling territorial disputes, there is only a restricted amount that can be done. The options are listed below:

- Security Council can authorize the following:²¹
 - o Peacekeeping missions (Under the condition that all parties consent to this, that there is impartiality, and no use of force except for self-defense and defense of the mandate)²²
 - o Ad hoc tribunals
 - o Sanctions (mostly economic)
 - o Censures (public statements of disapproval)

- International Court of Justice:
 - o Serves the two purposes:²³
 - Contentious proceedings: cases submitted by states voluntarily.
 - Advisory proceedings: occur when the UN asks the ICJ to provide a recommendation.
 - o In the case of settling territorial disputes, the ICJ evaluates the following in order to come to a decision: ²⁴
 - Treaty law: Treaties are made in the best interest of all parties and binding to all parties after signature/ratification. Therefore, if there is a treaty on the distribution of territory, this can easily be checked and provide a straightforward answer/persuasive justification.
 - Geography: Physical boundaries are sometimes difficult to mark due to movement. Therefore, states may argue that their territory has shifted as well.
 - Economy: If a State has had strong economic ties to the disputed territory, this may serve as an argument.
 - Culture: "Ethnic nation", could include common language, religion, history, identity, etc. that connects the territory to one State more than another.
 - Effective Control: When no State claimed sovereignty over the territory in the past, but one State had closer ties to the territory in various aspects.

²¹ "Uphold International Law." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/our-work/uphold-international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

²² "Principles of peacekeeping." *United Nations Peacekeeping*, United Nations, peacekeeping.un.org/en/principles-of-peacekeeping. Accessed 9 Mar. 2024.

²³ International Court of Justice." *Study Smarter*, www.studysmarter.co.uk/explanations/politics/world-politics/international-court-of-justice/. Accessed 9 Mar. 2024.

²⁴ Sumner, Brian Taylor. "Territorial Disputes at the International Court of Justice." *Duke Law Journal*, vol. 53, no. 6, 2004, pp. 1779-812. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/40040452. Accessed 10 Mar. 2024.



- History: Shared history, including historical priority (first possession), and duration (length of possession).
 - Uti Possidetis: States that had been under colonial rule and keep the same boundaries when they gain independence.
 - Elitism: When a certain group claims it has superiority over the territory.
 - Ideology: Unique identification with the territory.
- Once the ICJ has made its verdict, it has no executive power to carry this out. Therefore, the Security Council may either reside to further action, states may decide to use the verdict as the foundation of an agreement, or there are no consequences.²⁵
- Sixth Committee of the General Assembly:
 - No executive power (can only provide legal advice)²⁶
- International Law Commission International Criminal Court:²⁷
 - Although involved in other matters concerning international law, they cannot assist in settling territorial disputes.

In order to divide the functions of international law up, it is possible to use the separation of powers that most national governments are split up into: the legislative branch, which creates laws, the executive branch, which carries out laws, and the judicial branch, which evaluates laws. Although there is not a global government, it is possible to approach international law from a similar perspective:²⁸

- In the international community, the legislative branch would include international treaties, conventions, customs, the general principles of law, etc. There is not a clear set of laws that applies to everybody, but instead there are agreements that certain countries are in accordance with. This encourages dialogue and negotiation between countries.
- The judicial branch would include organizations such as the ICJ and ICC, evaluating the laws and to what extent they have been violated in certain cases.
- However, in contrast to municipal laws, international legislation cannot be carried out. There is no executive branch which has authority or power (an example being international police force). Therefore, it is restricted in the consequences it can impose on states when they do not comply with international law.

²⁵ "International Court of Justice." *Study Smarter*, www.studysmarter.co.uk/explanations/politics/world-politics/international-court-of-justice/. Accessed 9 Mar. 2024.

²⁶ "Uphold International Law." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/our-work/uphold-international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

²⁷ Suter, Keith. "The Successes and Limitations of International Law and the International Court of Justice." *Medicine, Conflict and Survival*, vol. 20, no. 4, 2004, pp. 344-54. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/27017609. Accessed 8 Mar. 2024.

²⁸ Suter, Keith. "The Successes and Limitations of International Law and the International Court of Justice." *Medicine, Conflict and Survival*, vol. 20, no. 4, 2004, pp. 344-54. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/27017609. Accessed 8 Mar. 2024.



As such, the first two points define the role of international law in striving for a peaceful solution, rather than a violent one. In terms of territorial disputes, this would include the role of the ICJ and the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly. However, as stated in the last point, there is no executive power, which is a restriction narrowing down the overall impact of international law. International law cannot force nations to take certain actions. Going back to international law in terms of territorial disputes, the actions of the Security Council only comes close to executive power.

Therefore, the success of international law largely depends on the willingness of states to comply with it. As former U.S. Secretary of State William Rogers once said, "Nations must live up to their obligations under international agreements. International law, like any other set of rules, can function effectively only in a climate of respect and observance".²⁹ When connecting this back to territorial disputes, peace and stability are especially at risk if states choose not to comply with international law, since they have no other option other than violence in that case. "If states fail to honor their obligations solemnly agreed to, then the role of law in the settlement of international disputes becomes minimal and nations have no resource but to resort to force to protect their sovereignty and territorial integrity."³⁰

²⁹ Rogers, William P. "THE RULE of LAW AND THE SETTLEMENT of INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES." *The American Journal of International Law*, vol. 64, no. 4, 1970, pp. 285-91. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/25660379. Accessed 4 Mar. 2024.

³⁰ Rogers, William P. "THE RULE of LAW AND THE SETTLEMENT of INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES." *The American Journal of International Law*, vol. 64, no. 4, 1970, pp. 285-91. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/25660379. Accessed 4 Mar. 2024.



History of the Topic

The concept of international law has been around for a long time, however, the establishment bodies which permit such an implementation is only quite recent. Up to this day, there have been two main attempts to create a system of international law, both following the World Wars.³¹ The reason for this timing is that society saw the devastating impacts of such a large-scaled wars and was shocked by the damage done by both conflicts.³² As a result of this, governments from around the world decided to come together in order to prevent similar conflicts from escalating in the future.³³

The League of Nations was founded on the 10th of January 1920, as a result of the Paris Peace Conference, which set an end to World War 1.³⁴ It is considered to be the first intergovernmental organization.³⁵ However, as it was only made up of 60 states, it was never universal.³⁶ In terms of hindering territorial disputes, each State had to pledge to respect the territorial integrity (and political independence) of all other member states.³⁷ However, maintaining international peace and security still proved to be a challenge, since not all states were represented.³⁸ For instance, the United States, a major global power, refused to join.³⁹ In addition, the Permanent Court of International Justice was created, to serve purposes of international law. It

³¹ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

³² Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

³³ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

³⁴ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

³⁵ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

³⁶ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

³⁷ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

³⁸ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

³⁹ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.



is also considered as the predecessor to the International Court of Justice.⁴⁰ However, the League of Nations was unfortunately not able to prevent the outbreak of the second World War and ceased to exist on the 20th of April, 1946, shortly after WW2 ended.⁴¹

The League of Nations was replaced by the United Nations (24th October, 1925), which follows the same concept.⁴² On June 26th, 1945, the UN Charter was created, and with it the first bodies focused on international law. For instance, the Security Council and the International Court of Justice were immediately established. Soon after, the General Assembly Sixth Committee followed on the 11th January, 1946. The following year (1947), the International Law Commission was set up. Finally, the International Criminal Court (although independent from the United Nations) was set up on the 17th July, 1998, as a result of the Rome Statute. Gradually, states were no longer considered as the sole actors of international law, as international organizations were recognized as well.⁴³

Since then, many territorial disputes were attempted to be solved with international law. While some were successful, others were not. However, this is the best system attained at the present day.

⁴⁰ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

⁴¹ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

⁴² Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

⁴³ Shaw, Malcolm. "International law." Edited by Encyclopaedia Britannica. *Britannica Student*, Britannica, 9 Jan. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/international-law. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.



Any Previous Attempts

International law for territorial disputes is mostly determined by treaties, charters, customs, general principles of law, etc. Therefore, there is no one clear set of rules deciding what laws apply to territorial disputes. International law is also based on a situational assessment, which is slightly different for each case.

However, in the UN Charter, which is binding to all 193 member states, some principles of international law and territorial disputes (not directly named, but mentioned indirectly) are outlined:

- Preamble: "To establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, (...)"⁴⁴
- Article 1 (focusing on the purpose of the United Nations): "To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace;"⁴⁵
- Article 13 (a): "Promoting international co-operation in the political field and encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification;"⁴⁶

An example of a resolution passed by the United Nation, focusing on territorial matters is the Convention on the Law of the Sea. This is a legal framework for the international waters and the distribution of their resources. It mentions the following regulations:

- A State's territorial sea extends up to 22.2 km from its baseline. ⁴⁷
- Contiguous zone: Extension of territorial sea, where states have limited control of customs, fiscal, immigration and sanitary laws.⁴⁸

⁴⁴ "United Nations Charter (full text)." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

⁴⁵ "United Nations Charter (full text)." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

⁴⁶ "United Nations Charter (full text)." *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text. Accessed 7 Mar. 2024.

⁴⁷ "United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea." *EUR-Lex*, European Union, 28 Aug. 2018, eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/united-nations-convention-on-the-law-of-the-sea.html. Accessed 10 Mar. 2024.

⁴⁸ "United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea." *EUR-Lex*, European Union, 28 Aug. 2018, eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/united-nations-convention-on-the-law-of-the-sea.html. Accessed 10 Mar. 2024.



- Exclusive economic zone: Extends from the baseline to a maximum of 770.4 km. States are in control of all resources in this region (for fishing, mining, oil exploration, etc.).⁴⁹
- High seas: open ocean, not subject to any countries' jurisdiction.⁵⁰

⁴⁹ "United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea." *EUR-Lex*, European Union, 28 Aug. 2018, eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/united-nations-convention-on-the-law-of-the-sea.html. Accessed 10 Mar. 2024.

⁵⁰ "United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea." *EUR-Lex*, European Union, 28 Aug. 2018, eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/united-nations-convention-on-the-law-of-the-sea.html. Accessed 10 Mar. 2024.



Media Contribution

There is a general belief that international law is irrelevant, since it cannot be enforced.⁵¹ This is also the case when it comes to territorial disputes.⁵² Thereby, international law is viewed critically, often overlooked, ignored, or not covered in the media when a conflict of such nature arises.⁵³ The positive impacts of international law thereby seem to vanish in the media, although international law is key in promoting the peaceful resolutions of conflicts.

⁵¹ Reed, Lucy. "THE MEDIA'S PORTRAYAL of INTERNATIONAL LAW." *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting (American Society of International Law)*, vol. 95, 2001, pp. 216-19. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/25659483. Accessed 9 Mar. 2024.

⁵² Reed, Lucy. "THE MEDIA'S PORTRAYAL of INTERNATIONAL LAW." *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting (American Society of International Law)*, vol. 95, 2001, pp. 216-19. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/25659483. Accessed 9 Mar. 2024.

⁵³ Reed, Lucy. "THE MEDIA'S PORTRAYAL of INTERNATIONAL LAW." *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting (American Society of International Law)*, vol. 95, 2001, pp. 216-19. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/25659483. Accessed 9 Mar. 2024.



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