

## **Principles of International law and the United Nations system – preparation to the WORLDMUN 2005**

### Assignments:

- 1 presentation (10-15 minutes)
- 1 briefing note
- 1 position paper (session 8.)
- participation to collective exercises and simulations

### **I. The framework: processes, principles and actors of international law**

1. Sources, principles and subjects of international law (08/10 and 15/10)
  - the need for international law, the range of international law
  - primary vs. secondary obligations; institutional vs. substantial law
  - sources of international law
  - legal subjects and legal objects
  - fundamental principles
2. International law as the expression of the states' will (15/10)
  - principles of the laws of treaties
  - custom and the problem of states' consent to the formation of custom
  - hard law vs. soft law
  - transformation of international law: from traditional state-centred international law to community-based international law

*Presentation:* reservations to treaties and their limits

3. State sovereignty: (22/10)
  - criteria of statehood
  - the role of recognition
  - principles of self-determination
  - non intervention in domestic matters
  - principles of state succession
  - state jurisdiction in international law (territorial, personal, extra-territorial)

*Presentation:* legal basis for a Palestine state

4. State privileges: immunities of states and heads of state (29/10)
  - privileges and immunities as a protection of state sovereignty
  - immunities of heads of states
  - immunities of states and their property

*Presentation:* the Noga case

5. International organisations: common principles (05/11)
  - legal status and jurisdiction
  - the landscape of international organisations; international vs. regional organisations
  - participation in international organisations
  - cooperation between international organisations

*Presentation:* legal modes of participation in international organisations

6. The UN system (19/11)
  - origins
  - the UN Charter: fundamental principles
  - main bodies; main fields of action
  - the UN system
  - the UN and other international organisations and treaties

*Presentation:* legal effects of UN resolutions (UNGA/UNSC)

## **II. Principles of collective security and conflict resolution**

7. The peaceful settlement of international disputes and the role of the United Nations (26/11)

*Presentation:* the role of the ICJ in the settlement of international disputes

8. The use of force in international law (03/12)

*Presentation:* the use of force in Iraq (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Gulf Wars) and submit a *position paper* on the use of force in international law (from US/UK/French/German government's point of view)

9. The United Nations from peacekeeping to peace enforcement and nation-building: (10/12)

*Presentation:* the United Nations' operations in former Yugoslavia

*Presentation:* the United Nations' role in the reconstruction of Iraq

10. *Collective exercise: UNSC resolution on Sudan* (17/12)

## **III. International law, the UN and transnational crimes**

11. The United Nations and the fight against terrorism (07/01)

*Presentation:* the anti-terrorism committee

12. Tentative: The fight against trafficking in human beings, including women and children

## **IV. International humanitarian law and human rights protection**

13. International humanitarian law and the rise of international criminal justice (14/01)

*Presentation:* the ICC

14. Human rights protection (21/01)

*Presentation:* the role of human rights protection in the transformation of traditional international law

**V. International economic institutions and multi-lateral cooperation for development**

*15. Collective exercise: The UN Millenium Goals and the fight against poverty: international review conference (28/01)*

16. Principles of international economic and trade law

*Presentation:* theories of the new international economic order

**Topics for briefing notes:**

1. The UN General Assembly
2. The UN Security Council
3. The UN and regional organisations
4. ECOSOC
5. The World Health Organisation
6. The UNHCR
7. The WTO
8. The UNDP
9. The UN Commission on Human Rights
10. UNESCO's World Heritage Committee
11. The African Union
12. The Organisation of American States
13. The European Council
14. ASEAN