



Master's 2021-2022

# Public International Law

Is the Netherlands complicit in war crimes when it provides non-lethal assistance to opposition groups in Syria? Can the EU impose sanctions on Russia for its alleged involvement in the downing of MH-17? Do human rights treaties apply when armed forces operate abroad? In today's globalised society, problems and challenges increasingly transcend national boundaries. Climate change, terrorism, trade wars, refugees, and mass migration are examples of issues that require global solutions, and international law is an important tool to achieve and implement those solutions.

## Background

The Master's track in Public International Law provides students with a solid understanding of general international law while at the same time allowing specialisation in a particular area. The Public International Law programme can be tailored to suit your personal interests and ambitions with various electives in e.g. human rights law, international criminal law and international environmental law. You will be taught by leading researchers in the field and professionals working in international law. In addition to larger-scale lectures, classes are taught in seminars or tutorial groups, thus allowing a challenging exchange of ideas on the latest developments and academic insights in this dynamic area of law. Over 60% of our students have an international background hence instruction is given in an international classroom setting. Students who are particularly interested in research have ample opportunity to participate in the vibrant research community at the Amsterdam Center for International Law.

## Amsterdam Law Practice

This Master's offers a unique experiential education programme under the umbrella of the Amsterdam Law Practice (ALP). In ALP courses, you collaborate with fellow students on crafting solutions to practical legal problems. In *Practising International Law*, for instance, you will prepare a memorandum on an international legal problem as part of a clinic simulation. In the *Amsterdam International Law Clinic*, you will work on actual legal cases for NGOs and other clients under the guidance of our clinical staff. You can also elect to participate in a moot court or pursue an internship in the field of international law. You will learn by doing in an educational setting that prepares you to be a lawyer who makes a difference.

### Study programme\*

#### Compulsory courses (24 EC)

- Principles and Foundations of International Law (9 EC)
- International Dispute Settlement (6 EC)
- International Responsibility (6 EC)
- International Law and Justice in Context (3 EC)

#### Amsterdam Law Practice course (choose 1) (6 EC)

- International Law Moot Court: Philip C. Jessup (6 EC)
- WTO Moot Court (6 EC)
- Amsterdam Law Clinics (6 EC)
- ICC moot court (6 EC)
- Internship (6 EC)
- International Investment Arbitration Moot (6 EC)
- Practising International Law (6 EC)

### Three electives chosen from a selection of courses (18 EC)

#### A few examples:

- International Human Rights Law (6 EC)
- International Criminal Law (6 EC)
- European Human Rights Law (6 EC)
- International Criminal Tribunals: Procedural Aspects (6 EC)
- International Investment Arbitration (6 EC)
- EU Migration Law (6 EC)
- International Environmental Law (6 EC)
- International Refugee Law (6 EC)
- ACIL Research Seminar (6 EC)

### Master's thesis (12 EC)

\* The study programme in 2021-2022 may differ from the current programme. We refer prospective students to [coursecatalogue.uva.nl](http://coursecatalogue.uva.nl) (available from Mid-May).



### Entry requirements

Students with a Dutch university level Bachelor's degree in Law and students with an academic degree comparable to a Dutch Bachelor of Law (LLB) are eligible for this Master's programme. In case of having obtained another diploma, please check the entry requirements on our website: [uva.nl/llm-public-international-law](http://uva.nl/llm-public-international-law) under 'Application and admission'.

Applications will be assessed by the Board of Admissions.

**English language proficiency:** International students need to provide proof of their proficiency in the English language (i.e. TOEFL, IELTS or Cambridge certificate). Students who received their prior education in the Netherlands are exempted from this test. Please visit the website for more detailed information about English language proficiency requirements.

### Career prospects

The ever-increasing importance and complexity of public international law is reflected by a growing demand for professionals specialised in this area of law. You can find our graduates in government departments like the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Justice, in international organizations like the UN, the WTO and the EU, in non-governmental public interest organizations like Amnesty International and Greenpeace, in national and international courts like the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court, as well as in law firms and multinational corporations.

**Hyeonsim Lee** (South Korea), student Public International Law



Law. I chose Amsterdam because it's a vibrant city: there is always something going on. Amsterdam is just perfect to live in, it's not as crowded as Seoul. And because Amsterdam is an international city, with a lot of multinationals and NGO's, I expected to have a good chance to find a job. The atmosphere at the university is international, with students from all over the world. You share different perspectives that really helped to widen my scope. I enjoyed the lectures, the internships and law clinics related to our program. ”

“ I've always admired the lawyers I watched on television who defended people from minority populations. Law is a strong tool to help people in need. Because of my interest in human rights, I signed up for a Master's degree in International

### Facts & figures

Degree	LLM in International and European Law
Mode	full-time or part-time
Credits	60 ECTS
Statutory tuition fees (2020-2021)	full-time: € 2,143,- part-time: € 1,826,- For non-EEA students or for second Dutch degree programmes check our website
Language	English
Start	September
Application deadline	1 April: International students who need a visa or who plan to apply for UvA student housing 1 May: International students who do not need a visa or/and who do not plan to apply for UvA student housing 1 June: Dutch students

### 'Civiel effect'

Pursuant to the *Convenant inzake het civiel effect*, graduates who have completed the Master's in Public International Law in addition to a full Bachelor's degree in Dutch Law qualify for admission to the Dutch bar and judiciary (the so-called 'civiel effect' of the Master). For more information, see [student.uva.nl/civieleffect](http://student.uva.nl/civieleffect) (in Dutch).

### Study association

The Amsterdam Student Association of International Law (ASA International Law) is the UvA's student-led association for law students and others with an interest in international law. It organises networking events, lectures and trips to international law institutions. Read more at [asainternationallaw.com](http://asainternationallaw.com).

### Contact

If you would like to know more about the content of the Master's in Public International Law, please contact the programme coordinator, Dr Rosanne van Alebeek.

✉ [r.vanalebeek@uva.nl](mailto:r.vanalebeek@uva.nl)

For questions regarding applications, please contact:  
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🌐 [student.uva.nl/law/educationdesk](http://student.uva.nl/law/educationdesk)