

AN INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL LAW

OVERVIEW

This module will provide the participants with an introductory overview of international law as a discipline in its historical context and in light of topical, contemporary case studies. It begins with an introduction to the development and nature of international law as well as relevant elements such as domestication and binding authority. We will explore pertinent international principles as well as methods of researching international law.

OBJECTIVES

1. To understand the basic principles and institutions of international law, including their origins and application in practice.
2. To be able to track the development of international law and its value when litigating on issues of SOGIE issues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of the session, participants should:

1. Understand the history and origins of international law.
2. Identify the different sources of international Law.
3. Be able to comfortably research international law
4. Understand what informs the content of the sources and their weight as standards.
5. Demonstrate a knowledge of relevant principles in international law

FORMAT & REQUIREMENTS

The module will be delivered through combined methods such as interactive lectures, presentations, and practical exercises. Participants are required to engage with the materials prescribed on the reading list, prior to each session.

EVALUATION & ASSESSMENT

Evaluation and assessment of each module will be carried out through the use of in session and post institute evaluations carried out by the Network Coordinator as well as next-day recaps.

OUTLINE

An Introduction to International Law

- I. Introduction to Theory
 - i. The history of international law
 - ii. What is international law?

- iii. The making of international law
- iv. Sources of international law
 - i. Custom
 - ii. General principles
 - iii. Treaties
 - iv. Conventions
- II. International Law in Practice
 - i. Domestication
 - ii. Weight given to international law
 - i. Binding authority
 - ii. Persuasive authority
- III. International Principles
 - i. Bangalore Principles
 - ii. Theory of legitimate expectation
 - iii. Margin of appreciation
- IV. International law research
 - i. African Commission
 - ii. African Court
 - iii. European Court
 - iv. Inter-American System
 - v. UN system