

Annual Report of Activities
September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008

Launching the Center on Law and Globalization

Inaugurated on October 26, 2007 during a joint meeting of the American Bar Foundation's Board of Directors and the University of Illinois College of Law's Board of Visitors, the Center on Law and Globalization's first year has focused on laying an operational foundation to support the Center's mission. Specific achievements during this first year include:

- bringing on board a core group of leading international legal figures to the Center's International Advisory Board
- identifying a core group of affiliated faculty drawn from the research faculty of the American Bar Foundation and from the faculty of the University of Illinois College of Law
- launch of the Center's inaugural website located at www.lexglobal.org featuring an introductory Smart Library on Globalization, which treats the topics:
 - Perspectives on Law and Globalization
 - Sites and Types of Global Lawmaking
 - The Global Spread of Law
- launch of the Center's SSRN Research Paper Series
- planning for 2009 colloquia series, including the launch of a Chicago-based *Global Practice of Law Series* featuring prominent legal practitioners from around the world.

In its second year of operation, the Center will seek to leverage its resource and colloquia programs to introduce itself and to make connections with projects and researchers around the world who are working to understand the effects of globalization on the development and practice of law worldwide. To facilitate planning and to ensure financial sustainability beyond the Center's set-up phase, a planning grant will be pursued in addition to the launch of a broad-based fundraising program in 2009-2009.

Mission Statement

The Center on Law and Globalization brings together leaders of international organizations, journalists, and legal scholars to understand the legal dimensions of key global issues, to stimulate exchanges on how these issues are addressed, and to advance research and conclusions on major topics in global debates.

The Center focuses on international human and legal rights issues, notably justice and security, the international economy and marketplace, and health.

By advancing social scientific understanding of global law, global legal institutions and global legal behavior, Center scholars lay foundations for potential solutions.

The Center on Law and Globalization aims explicitly to help international legal agencies, such as the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, the Hague Courts, and the International Monetary Fund, to advance the research and scholarly frames available to global leaders, to enable national legal professions to catch a vision of the contributions they can make to advance participatory democracy and to help global and local leaders better understand the constraints, ideologies, and difficulties of advancing global agendas in a world of nation-states.

To open public debate on global issues to a wide global audience, the Center is pleased to introduce an interactive website, providing easy access to ground-breaking research on its principal issues through its unique Smart Libraries where the best research has been transformed into easily accessible executive summaries. The website offers a rich range of research and teaching materials for all specialists in higher education, international organizations and international journalism.

Based on the background research and thorough examination of each situation, the Center can assist in identifying specific problems and provide concrete recommendations to better society and help global leaders advance the proper use of law and justice in a variety of international situations.

Center on Law and Globalization Colloquia

Center on Law and Globalization Colloquia are organized to advance the Center's research mission in ways that promote understanding of the new political alignments and legal practices created by globalization. The colloquia will emphasize interdisciplinary and multinational participation and serve as a platform for promoting deeper understanding and cooperation among related disciplines in the study of law and globalization. Uniquely, the Colloquia seek to bring into conversation leading scholars, international global lawmakers, and journalists who treat globalization. The colloquia will help to identify other projects around the world touching on similar issues and concerns.

Colloquia held or in planning:

Financial Globalization and Human Rights

Held at the University of Chicago Law School
Chicago, February 2008

Critical Governance Issues for Bretton Woods Institutions and United Nations Organizations

In conjunction with the American Society of International Law Annual Meeting
Washington, DC, March 2009

Prosecution of Rape and Sexual Violence as War Crimes

In cooperation with the Grotius Centre for International Law, Leiden University and
Tilburg University
The Hague, Netherlands, June 2009

Global Practice of Law Series

Featuring prominent practitioners from around the world

This Chicago-based series to be launched in 2009 will provide opportunities for informal exchanges between practitioners and globalization scholars on emerging developments in the global practice of law.

Resources and Scholarship

The Center aims to be the premiere site for scholarship and resources on globalization and law. These resources are readily available worldwide via the Center website at www.lexglobal.org
Principal features of these resources that were launched in the first year of operation include:

The Smart Library on Law and Globalization.

Smart Libraries provide a singular resource for busy leaders, global lawmakers, educators and students, as well as consumers for whom English is a second or third language to read the most advanced research in non-technical executive summaries of their main arguments, findings, and recommendations.

The topics and content of the Smart Libraries are selected by a panel of international specialists in the field. Articles and books are rewritten in short “keytexts” which provide quick overviews of theories, data, and conclusions.

Smart Libraries also offer easy connections between readers and the top-ranked scholars whose work is featured in the Smart Library, a resource of great potential value for journalists, global and local lawmakers, as well as other scholars.

The Smart Library on Law and Globalization provide an overview of the principal contours of the field, including:

- Topic 1. [What Is Globalization?](#)
 - A. Perspectives on Globalization
- Topic 2. [Perspectives on Law and Globalization](#)
 - A. How Is Global Law Created?
 - B. How Is Global Law Received?
- Topic 3. [Sites and Types of Global Lawmaking](#)
 - A. Human Rights Law
 - B. Business and Market Regulation
 - C. International Courts and Adjudicatory Agencies
- Topic 4: [The Global Spread of Law](#)
 - A. How Is Law Diffused Globally?
 - B. Who Gets a Voice in Diffusing Norms Globally?

Bibliographies

Faculty associated with the Center, and other scholars in the field, are encouraged to post bibliographies they have compiled for the use of scholars and students worldwide.

Publications

Center Directors and Associated Faculty are posting their work-in-progress, working papers, and recent publications on the website.

Course Outlines

Since faculty associated with the Center teach courses on various aspects of globalization and law, their course outlines are posted on the website as a service to other academics who may be developing similar courses.

SSRN

The Center has initiated a Center Research Paper Series on the Social Science Research Network. SSRN offers a superb way to gain wide diffusion of research by Center-affiliated scholars both before and after scholarly publication.

In the first month of its operation, twenty-eight (28) papers were posted to the Center SSRN site and approximately 3,388 papers downloads were registered with up to 10,000 abstract viewings.

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