**George Ebare**

**UD78781IN87993**

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# Introduction

The modern system of international law indicates a product of just the previous decades bearing observation to the influence of several jurists and writers in the 18th century, who made certain utmost fundamental principles. International law comprises the principles and rules of common applications that address the practice or operation of nations and global organizations in their IR (international relations) with transactional companies, minority groups, private individuals, and one another. International law existence is due to the raised interstate involvement. IT chiefly purposes to manage international security and peace among distinct nations. It also assists in providing basic human rights, promoting amicable relations among nations (the international community members, for instance, UN), to refrain the nation from adopting force or threat over the territory of any nation to give self-determination rights to individuals, addressing international issues via international cooperation, and to use peaceful approaches to deal with international disputes are few of its roles or functions.

International law indicates an autonomous system of law presenting outside the lawful orders of specific nations. It is distinct from the home nation’s legal system in several aspects. For instance, regardless of the UN General Assembly, which comprises representatives of certain nations that have the outer presence of law, it has still zero power to issue binding legislation. Instead in the modern world, its determination, and resolutions are merely suggestions or recommendations – excluding matters and various aims within the United Nation system like admitting novel members of the UN, recognising the UN budget, and with engagement of the Security Council, appointing novel judges to the ICJ. Further, the unsuccessful League of Nations in history resulted in the 2nd World War. After the end of 2nd World War, a novel institution was developed, for example, United Nations, to safeguard the globe from future war. In the present time, this institution is a significant point of international law. It purposes at managing international security and peace, achieving international cooperation, and confirming amicable relations between countries. Further, international law is split into two kinds: Private International Law and Public International Law. The main subject of private international law is an individual (private person) where there is a dispute between the private individual with the Sovereign nation while public international law indicates a body of rules adopted in the Sovereign nations’ conflicts.

International law indicates a continuing growing or emerging body of law that has become gradually significant in the modern globe. The growth of international commerce and trade, advances in technology, and the emergence of globalisation have formed the globe more interlinked than ever before. Consequently, international law has become necessary in promoting economic development, supervising the state’s conduct, and confirming security and peace. This essay will provide an understanding of how international law connects to the modern world, the elements and approaches of international law, accomplishments, and challenges of international law in the modern world. Finally, it will also demonstrate certain recommendations in the modern world.

How International law relates to the modern world**.**

In the modern world, there is raising concern regard worldwide environmental issues such as climate variation, but the blockages to collective action on a global scale remain behind progress. While it is suggested by international law that global environmental treaty enforcement should be probable, the real machinery for confirming compliance is nearly fictional. Therefore, the mere hope is to depend on strategies of consensus building for forming treaties that generate ‘compliance without enforcement’. It can be said that there are several international environmental treaties in force, but it is considerably more challenging than many experts anticipated to adapt and change these treaties to reflect shifting ecological and political situations (Ali, 2015).

The modern globe is characterized by a huge degree of interconnectivity and interdependence which has resulted in the development and growth of international collaboration and cooperation. International law plays an important role in enhancing this collaboration and cooperation by giving a framework for the promotion of sustainable development, the protection of human rights, and providing a framework for the resolution of disputes. It is specifically significant regarding worldwide issues like the spread of infectious diseases, terrorism, and climate change (McDougal et al., 2018). Moreover, there is undeniably no doubt that the NGO's rise in engagement in law applications and law-making has essential varied several fields. Nations could no longer form laws without engaging stakeholders of non-governmental and international institutions depending on them for credibility and expertise as well (Von Bernstorff, 2021).

One of the main methods where international law connects to the contemporary globe is via the regulation of international commerce and trade. International trade growth has resulted in the development of a multifaceted web of international treaties and agreements, which give the lawful framework for business conduct across borders (Kelch, 2017). International trade law supervises challenges like dispute resolution occurring from international trade, the regulation of trade in services and goods, and the protection of intellectual property (Bethlehem et al., 2022). Another significant international law area is the safeguards of human rights. Law related to international human rights sets out the freedoms and rights that all people are entitled to, despite religion, race, or nationality. These rights contain the right to security, thought, and freedom of an individual. International human rights law is significant in confirming that every person is safeguarded from discrimination and abuse and that they have access to fair treatment and justice (McGregor et al., 2019).

International law also plays a chief role in the modern world in the maintenance of international security and peace. The foundation document of contemporary international law, the UN Charter, highlights the obligations and responsibilities of managing international security and peace. It also gives force used by nations in self-defence, although it also forbids force used in other situations. Apart from these main areas, international law is also rational to a series of other challenges that impact the modern globe (Ruys & Rodriguez Silvestre, 2021). For instance, environmental law relating to international law layouts the lawful framework for environmental protection and natural resource sustainable use. This contains challenges like the management of marine resources, biodiversity, and climate change. International law also relates to the modern world regarding the regulation of the internet and technology. Advances in technology and the growth of the internet have formed novel issues in areas like intellectual property, privacy, and cybersecurity. It is significant in giving a valid framework for the regulation of these challenges, and in confirming that organisations and individuals are held liable or responsible for their actions online (Carr & Lesniewska, 2020).

# Approach and elements of international law

Over the years, the international law approach has evolved, and it has become more flexible, cooperative, and inclusive. It can be said that the traditional method was centred on states’ sovereignty, which formed it tough to supervise national behaviour. Although the modern method or approach identifies that nations are not mere actors in the international field, and it seeks to supervise the behaviour or operations of other actors like international corporations, individuals, and organizations (Broberg & Sano, 2018). The modern approach also focuses on the significance of dialogue and cooperation in international law development. Nations are supported to work together to recognize general challenges and interests and to establish mechanisms for addressing disputes in a peaceful manner. This approach has resulted in the development of numerous international institutions like the ICC (International Criminal Court), ICJ, (International Court of Justice), and UN (the United Nations), which have been influential in maintaining peace and promoting cooperation (Derri & Fawei, 2015).

Moreover, the elements of international law refer to the institutions, rules, and principles that form the lawful system governing national behaviour in the international field. Customary international is the first element which is a set of uncodified practices and rules that are hugely identified as lawfully enforceable. It is based on the common acceptance and practice of nations and is an important element of international law. It emerged with time and has been adopted to supervise numerous areas like state responsibility, diplomatic relations, and the use of force (Вылегжанин et al., 2020). Treaties are other elements that refer to the agreement between nations that are lawfully enforceable. They are a critical element of international law and are adopted to supervise numerous areas like the environment, human rights, and trade. Treaties are signed and negotiated by nations and are generally ratified to become lawfully enforceable. Further, international customary norms are rules and principles that are hugely approved by the international community as lawfully enforceable or binding. International customary norms are not based on treaties, but on the general acceptance and state practice of the international community (Crootof, 2016). Instances of international norms contain the forbidden torture, the forbidden genocide, and the obligation to punish and prevent acts of terrorism. They are also one of the essential elements of international law.

General principles of law are also an element which is valid principles that are identified by the global community as fundamental to lawful systems. They guide legal challenges and are adapted to fill gaps in international law. General principles of law examples contain the principle of equity, the principle of non-discrimination, and the principles of good faith (Bosselmann, 2016). Moreover, international institutions are formed by nations to regulate state behaviour and promote cooperation in the international arena. They contain institutions like the ICC, ICJ, and the UN. These kinds of institutions have been instrumental in addressing disputes and promoting peace among nations.

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# Accomplishments of international law

Among the utmost accomplishment of the UN is the advancement and development of the international law body which is identified as central to enhancing social and economic development, and to advance international security and peace. International law is protected by standards, treaties, and conventions (United Nations, 2022). Without international law, there can be confusion or chaos. It creates a framework based on nations as the principal actors in the global lawful system, and it described their lawful duties in their acts or conduct within national boundaries, and, with each other, with their individual treatment. The international law domain covers the conduct of war, the use of force, the treatment of prisoners, problems of nationality, migration, refugees, international crime, disarmament, and human rights, among others (Oguno & Henry, 2020). It also supervises the worldwide commons like outer space, international waters, sustainable development, environment, world trade and global communications. Moreover, in the modern globe, international law refers to the utmost convenient type of supervising global order. Certain significant functions of international law contain: to provide human rights and fundamental freedom, maintaining international security and peace, addressing international disputes by peaceful means, providing self-determination rights to individuals, refraining from the force or threat used by a nation against the territorial integrity, and to achieve international cooperation in addressing international issues of a social, economic, humanitarian and cultural character (Mijalković & Blagojević, 2014).

The (UNCLOS) United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea is recognised as a remarkable accomplishment of international law in the modern world. It strikes a subtle balance between the utilization of the oceans and freedom of navigation on the one hand, and the rights of the sovereign and concern over the ocean and its resources on the other. It deals with long-standing problems that had been demonstrated to be intractable (for example, the territorial sea allowable breadth) and forms novel lawful regimes to show the emerging practice of the state (like the exclusive economic zone). It accomplishes a notable degree of compromise and consensus in fields that considerably affect sovereign rights and national sovereignty, specifically over resources-matters that have traditionally instigated countries to go to war and threaten (Unclose debate, 2022). Moreover, nations cooperate in applying and making international law in situations in which they are accorded the objectives or goals to be followed with a view to the law being employed to show inclination cooperation between them instead of forcing rules on them. According to Lowe, (2015), the chief areas in which international law has had accomplishment or achievement are in the global economy via the repression of criminal activity, environmental protection, World Trade Organization (WTO), and human rights and humanitarian law (Lowe, 2015).

In the modern world, one of the main achievements of international law is the development of the protection of human rights. International law has identified being instrumental in confirming that individuals’ fundamental rights are protected and respected. The UN General Assembly in 1948 adopts the UDHR (Universal Declaration of Human Rights) is recognised as a landmark accomplishment of international law. It identified the worthy and inherent dignity of all persons and developed a set of basic human rights that are indivisible and universal. It has inspired the establishment of human rights conventions and treaties at the international and regional levels and has been the keystone of international law (Hagenaars & Thompson, 2020). Also, international law has contributed to the encouragement and promotion of security and peace. In 1945, the UN was developed with the chief goal of managing international security and peace. A binding legal instrument, the UN Charter gives a framework for the peaceful settlement of disputes between nations and lays the principles of international cooperation. The UN has also been engaged in dealing with several conflicts such as the conflict in Herzegovina and Bosnia, the Gulf War, and the Korean War. The establishment of the ICC (International Criminal Court) and the ICJ (International Court of Justice) has also been methods in enhancing international security and peace. These kinds of courts have jurisdiction over offences committed by people such as genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes (Bachmann & Sowatey-Adjei, 2019). Further, international law contributes to the preservation and protection of the environment. In 1992, the UNFCCC (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) is determined as a lawfully enforceable instrument that gives a framework for global cooperation to deal with climate change. According to Deng et al., (2022), every UNFCCC party would on regular basis submit and update its national GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions inventories by sources and sinks removal to the convention parties (Deng et al., 2022). It has contributed to enhancing the transition to a low-carbon economy and decreasing GHG emissions. Further, the IMO (International Maritime Organisation) is a specialized agency of the UN with duty as the standards-setting body for the security and safety of overseas shipping.

The legal precedents lay by the Tribunal have prolonged the boundaries of international criminal and humanitarian law, both in regards to procedure and substance: the tribunal has formed vital advances in international humanitarian law referring to legal punishment and treatment of sexual violence in wartime; the tribunal has recognised a common torture prohibition in international law which could not be derogated by internal law, a treaty or otherwise; the tribunal has recognised that persecution and enslavement comprise crimes against humanity; the tribunal has outlined significant components of genocide crime, in specific the definition of this crime target; and the tribunal has formed several contributions to problems of procedural law certain in the areas of safeguard measures for bystanders or witnesses, the disclosure and confidentiality of information rational for the states’ national security, duress as a defence and guilty pleas of accused, among others (Ovid, 2021). Moreover, by continuing regional and national activities for international law dissemination among the rational authorities of the state, in particular military judges, prosecutors, judges, parliamentarians and the diplomatic community, and constant initiatives to integrate international humanitarian law into civil education programs as well as military training programs, in specific undergraduate programs at law faculties political science, Media, and encourage to national committees of education ministries to incorporate the primary dissemination concepts of international humanitarian law provisions in the Arab region (Masoud, 2019).

In the modern world, there are millions of ceremonies or marriages between distinct state citizens. The question occurs of which law ought to be appropriate or relevant to such a mixed nationality wedding. Should the family and the marriage occurring from it be subjected to the wife or husband’s law or to the law where marriage is celebrated? The collision of distinct internal laws would be dealt with by rules that apply. These rules show when a specific internal law would have a preference and which internal law would adapt to what matters. Private international law (PIL) is recognised as a province of the internal law of all states which shows which law, domestic or foreign would adopt in the provided set of situations in which certain dealing containing foreign components is at stake: transnational marriage, transactional inheritance, transnational company mergers, or transnational contracts are instances of circumstances in which certain consideration of PIL is essential. This is one of the greatest accomplishments of international law in the modern world because people find no more confusion regarding how the internal law will apply to what matters (Kolb & Hyde, 2018).

# Challenges of international law

In international law, contemporary issues are concerned with the vital knowledge of the essential principles and rules of public international law, its institutions, and its process of law-making. How could one expect international law to use, in the face of novel environmental challenges, cyber-conflict, and still-unrequited LGBT rights demands, the protection of individuals from mass atrocities, and corporate responsibility (Helfer & Voeten, 2014)? Climate change is recognized as a significant problem at hand and people are presently in a describing state due to this. It cannot be denied that it is vital to identify this from the changes and shifting in the pattern of weather to the variations in food productivity, to the increase in the sea level resulting in mass flooding, to the animals being extinct because of the raised amount of global warming, this has resulted in the globe coming to a catastrophe. For example, in 2022, the worldwide mean temperature is presently recorded to be around 1.15 degree Celsius more than the 1850-1900 average of pre-industrial. Heat in the ocean was at a record level in 2021 with the rate of warming specifically huge in the previous 20 years (World Metrological Organisation, 2022). Climate change raises issues in international law. Challenges connected to climate change pervade states' boundaries: actions or emissions in one nation would have negative consequences in another, and in fields where nations have zero sovereignty or jurisdiction. Climate change is not identified as the just challenge where this arises one perceives the ozone layer protection, for instance, or the oceans protection, as matters needing intensive global action in the modern world (Sands, 2017).

The world could not manage climate change without causing more damage or destruction to nature in the future. It is noted that two structural issues for international law to deal with climate change: access to justice and remedies effectiveness. Regarding access to justice, whereas there have been developments in connecting human rights and climate change, international forums for people are digitally restricted to regional systems (McKune & Ahmed, 2018). Further, another procedural issue involves victim concept rethinking. While international law infers that global environmental treaty enforcement should be probable, the operative machinery for confirming compliance is nearly non-existent. Therefore, the mere anticipation is to depend upon strategies of consensus building for creating treaties which generate “compliance without enforcement”. Moreover, in the modern world, the issue of national sovereignty is also one of the challenges of international law. While international law determines the state's sovereignty, it is usually tough to reconcile this concept with the necessity to safeguard the rights of groups and individuals within those nations. It can be denied with an example, when a nation involves in violations of human rights, it could be tough for the international community to intervene without violations of the sovereignty of the nation (Teson, 2018).

In relation to remedies, national duties exist technical toughness to recognize the damage caused. In contempt of this difficulty, the probabilistic causation concept is beginning to emerge. As per this concept, it is adequate to recognize a minimum of 50 percent of the contribution to the risk of damage with a view to identifying duty for the harm caused (Ramírez Bañuelos, 2021). In the context of the cyber environment, one of the issues nations experience in the cyber or virtual environment is that the manner and scope of applicability of international law to cyber practices, whether in defence or offence, has continued disconcerted since their beginning. Certainly, as the current international legal norms’ time (whether a treaty or customary-based) arose, virtual technology was not identified on the horizon. As a result, there is a danger that cyber operations could rapidly overtake approved understanding as to its supervising lawful regime (Schmitt, 2013).

The unplanned and slow evolution of international law has been recognised as another replication of national governments' power. States reluctantly negotiate treaties merely when they need. States like to show themselves as their own destiny masters, and it is merely when they observe that there is no other substitute although to have treaties that they would negotiate one. Regrettably, the modern globe is becoming gradually not dependent and thus there is an emerging necessity for treaties. More agreements or treaties between nations’ governments are now accepted than earlier (Suter, 2004) Further, it is also evident that international law is distinct from criminal law related to municipal. The rules are usually not clear, there is no overseas police force (The International Criminal Police Organisation is identified as an organisation of information-sharing instead of an enforcement one), no international parliament, the international courts are generally weaker compared to domestic courts, and there is barely any system to enforce compliance with judicial verdicts (Suter, 2004).

Further, the challenge of national compliance with international law is also becoming gradually multifaceted. While nations are lawfully bound by international law, it is seen that they usually do not obey their obligations. This is specifically a fact for powerful nations that could think that they are above any law. When nations are unsuccessful to obey international law, it could undermine the effectiveness and credibility of the complete international legal system. For example, Russia’s attack or invasion of Ukraine infringed on the United Nations Charter and could not be justified in accordance with international law as a humanitarian intervention or self-defence (Bellinger, 2022). However, international law gives a precise respond regard violations of Russia of global legal norms, international law lacks proper lawful mechanisms via such infringement could be appropriately dealt with. International law shows restrictions in its ability to deal with the conflict. It could be contended that this relative incapability of international law is associated with the statutes of super-sovereign of Great Powers such as Russia, which advantage of the institutional design of international law. Due to international law institutional designs like the veto power in the SC (Security Council and international law absence of enforcement mechanisms, contributes to impartial state order in which those with powers of super-sovereign look as if able to get away with fundamental norms breach with virtually no costs. Because Russia has a Great Power status, has infringed fundamental norms of international law but could still be protected from the reach of international law (Sterio, 2022).

Another challenge for international law is the swift pace of technological innovation. Advances in technology are converting the way one communicates, interacts with each other, and does business. Although the law is struggling intending to keep up with these variations. For instance, challenges associated with artificial intelligence, data privacy, and cybercrime are all comparatively novel and pose vital challenges or issues for international law. Further, in the view of d’Aspremont et al., (2015), there are an emerging number of non-state actors like international NGOs, terrorist organisations, and multinational corporations that have a vital effect on the international system. These kinds of actors are not subject to the alike lawful framework as nations, which could form it tough to possess them responsible for their actions (d’Aspremont et al., 2015). The United States, Britain, and France launched an airstrike contrary to Syrian targets on April 14, 2018. To say that the US government made a serious effort to defend its force use in accordance with international law in its UN Security Council statement would be far too kind. The Turkish government's terse assertions in its letter to the head of the UN Security Council concerning its military action in Syria's Kurdish-controlled regions, which began in 2018, also do not indicate that Turkey gave the prescription contrary to using force much weight when making its deployment choice. Unfortunately, so little time has passed since a flagrant infringement by Russia of the use of force prohibition in Crime, NATO’s (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) two members seemingly felt no operative necessity to defend force use in accordance with international law. The use of force by nations is still one of the challenges of international law (Kress, 2019).

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# Suggestions

The challenges of war crimes could merely be addressed by the pre-existing international law amendment and the appropriate law's implementation, forming it severer and forming the offenders responsible for a severer penal punishment (Andreopoulos & Carey, 2022). In the modern world, war crimes issues have not to be addressed lightly. The duty of the people’s protection lies within the sovereign hands and a range of measures must be taken with a view to mitigating such crimes. One of the utmost efficient methods to mitigate challenges in international is to fortify international organisations like the WTO, ICC, and UN. These organisations give a framework for coordination and cooperation among nations and other international actors, and they also play a vital role in enhancing the respect and integrity of international law in the modern world (Tallberg & Zurm, 2019). To fortify these organisations, member nations ought to give them proper and sufficient support and resources and they ought to work together to deal with any weaknesses or shortcomings in their functioning.

A nation ought not to conduct or deliberately support the activity of ICT (Information and communication technology) against its obligations in accordance with international law that deliberately vital infrastructure or else damages the operation and use of vital infrastructure to give services to the public (UNIDIR, n.d). Further, another recommendation is to promote international law's role in the domestic legal system. Several nations have unified international law systems into their home or domestic legal framework, but this procedure requires to be reinforced and expanded. This could be accomplished by enhancing the study and teaching of international law in universities and law schools and by ensuring that layers and judges are trained in international law application in their work.

International cooperation is also necessary to prevent issues in international law. In the modern world, nations and other global actors require to collaborate and work together to deal with international challenges like the use of force, the spread of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, and climate change (Martin, 2020). This could be accomplished by negotiation, dialogue, and the development of general standards and norms. International cooperation could also be eased via the formation of international agreements and treaties like the Paris Agreement on climate change. Further, the rule of law is considered a necessary principle to eliminate issues in international law. It indicates that every entity and person, including nation, are subject to the law and everyone is equal before the law, or no one is above the law. Rule of law is necessary for the prevention of abuses of power and the protection of human rights. To strengthen this principle, nations ought to confirm that their lawful system is independent, accountable, and transparent and that they give efficient remedies for law violations (Sands, 2017).

Accountability for infringements of international law is necessary to mitigate issues in international law. Nations and other global actors that infringe international law (Russia infringed on human rights during Russian-Ukraine War) ought to be responsible for their actions, Russia’s attack, or invasion of Ukraine, targeting children’s facility and the killing of innocent children is a war crime that has been committed by Vladimir Putin and should face the consequences. Sufferers of such infringements ought to be given reparations and remedies. This could be accomplished via the establishment of stricter international tribunals and courts and via state courts that have jurisdiction over international offences. In the modern world, international criminal law plays a significant role in mitigating issues in international law, specifically around international crimes, and terrorism contrary to humanity. The ICC and other courts have been developed to prosecute people liable for such offences, but their efficiency has been restricted by an absence of cooperation from certain nations. To fortify international criminal law, nations ought to work collaboratively and together to confirm that the ICC and other courts are provided with the essential support and resources and that they have the capability to function impartially and independently (Minow, 2019).

# Conclusion

International law indicates a continuing growing or emerging body of law that has become gradually significant in the modern globe. The growth of international commerce and trade, advances in technology, and the emergence of globalisation have formed the globe more interlinked than ever before. One of the main methods where international law connects to the contemporary globe is via the regulation of international commerce and trade. International trade growth has resulted in the development of a multifaceted web of international treaties and agreements, which give the lawful framework for business conduct across borders. Another significant international law area is the safeguards of human rights. Law related to international human rights sets out the freedoms and rights that all people are entitled to, despite religion, race, or nationality. International law also relates to the modern world regarding the regulation of the internet and technology. Advances in technology and the growth of the internet have formed novel issues in areas like intellectual property, privacy, and cybersecurity. International law also plays a chief role in the modern world in the maintenance of international security and peace. Further, the modern method or approach identifies that nations are not mere actors in the field of international, and it seeks to supervise the behaviour or operations of other actors like international corporations, individuals, and organizations. It also focuses on the significance of dialogue and cooperation in international law development. The essay has also discussed several elements of international law such as treaties, international customary norms, customary international law, international institutions, and general principles of law.

Further, among the utmost accomplishment of the UN is the advancement and development of the international law body which is identified as central to enhancing social and economic development, and to advancing international security and peace. The (UNCLOS) United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea is recognised as a remarkable accomplishment of international law in the modern world. It strikes a subtle balance between the utilization of the oceans and freedom of navigation on the one hand, and rights of sovereignty and concern over the ocean and its resources on the other. A chief area in which international law has had accomplishment or achievement is in the global economy via the repression of criminal activity, environment protection, World Trade Organization (WTO), and human rights and humanitarian law. International law has been identified as instrument that ensures individuals’ fundamental rights are protected and respected globally. The UN General Assembly in 1948 adopts the UDHR is recognised as a landmark accomplishment of international law, apart from this, there are also several forms of accomplishment in different areas of the modern world. However, international law also faces several challenges. Challenges connected to climate change pervade states' boundaries: actions or emissions in one nation would have negative consequences in another, and in fields where nations have zero sovereignty or jurisdiction. Climate change is not identified as the just challenge where this arises one perceives the ozone layer protection, for instance, or the oceans protection, as matters needing intensive global action in the modern world. Other issues are nation compliance with international law, unplanned and slow evolution, cyber environment, and sovereignty challenges. Although these issues can be prevented by adopting certain recommendations discussed above such as amendment and the appropriate law's implementation, fortifying international institutions, promoting international cooperation, enhancing accountability for infringements of international law, strengthening the rule of law, and enhancing the role of international law in the home or the domestic legal system.

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