

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CONFERENCE 2025

WAR & PEACE, AND INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION: THE PROSPECT OF ACCOUNTABILITY FOR VIOLENT CONFLICTS

PROGRAM

8-9 May 2025 | Bocconi University, Milan, Italy

Aula Magna Gobbi, Via Gobbi 5



Pompeo Girolamo Batoni | Allegory of War & Peace (1776)

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Catherine A. Rogers

Chiara Giorgetti

Anna Chiara Amato

Anna Biasiolo

with support from Lyra Çela



Università
Bocconi

ANGELO SRAFFA
DEPARTMENT
OF LEGAL STUDIES

THURSDAY, 8 MAY 2025

9:30-10:00AM REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

10:00-10:15AM UNIVERSITY & OPENING WELCOMES

CESARE CAVALLINI Bocconi University
MARIA CHIARA MALAGUTI UNIDROIT

OPENING & INTRODUCTION TO KEYNOTE

CATHERINE ROGERS Bocconi University

10:15-10:45AM KEYNOTE

HAROLD HONGJU KOH Sterling Professor of International Law at Yale Law School,
Former Legal Adviser of the U.S. Department of State, Former Dean of Yale

10:45-11:00AM COFFEE BREAK

11:00-12:45PM ROUNDTABLE
WAR & PEACE, AND INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

In today's volatile world, international law, organizations, and institutions are increasingly under direct attack. Up against violent conflict, skeptics may dismiss the very notion of peaceful dispute resolution as naïve and ineffectual. But numerous historical examples, such as the Iran-US Claims Tribunal and the Eritrea-Ethiopia Claims Commission, and the Abeyei arbitration, provide insights about what might be or should not be adapted for contemporary conflicts. This roundtable will anchor conference discussions by examining the practice, promise, and limitations of various forms of international adjudication, including claims tribunals, state-to-state arbitration, and investor-State arbitration. Panelists will analyze the procedural innovations, jurisdictional frameworks, and enforcement mechanisms that promote accountability or otherwise help resolve issues arising out of conflict settings.

MODERATORS

CATHERINE ROGERS Bocconi University
TÚLIO DI GIACOMO TOLEDO Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)

PANELISTS

LAURENCE BOISSON DE CHAZOURNES University of Geneva School of Law
MONA ALI KHALIL Harvard Law School PILAC
NATALIE REID Debevoise & Plimpton
STEVEN FINIZIO WilmerHale

12:45-1:00PM **REPORT ON ISDS WORKSHOP WITH STATE REPRESENTATIVES**
FAHIRA BRODLIJA International University of Sarajevo/GIZ

1:00-2:00PM **LUNCH**

2:00-2:15PM **INTRODUCTION TO KEYNOTE**
ANNA CHIARA AMATO Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)/Bocconi University

2:15-2:45PM **KEYNOTE**

GIORGIO SACERDOTI Emeritus Professor of International Law, Bocconi University

2:45-3:00PM **PANEL PROLOGUE**
CHIARA GIORGETTI University of Richmond/Board of the Register of Damage

3:00-4:30PM **PANEL DISCUSSION**
THE SEARCH FOR JUSTICE AFTER CONFLICT THROUGH CLAIMS COMMISSIONS & TRIBUNALS AND ARBITRATION

As nations emerge from the shadows of war, claims commissions and tribunals and arbitration processes become crucial avenues for addressing grievances, restoring rights, and facilitating reparations for those affected by conflict. This panel will engage in a critical examination of historical, contemporary, and anticipated examples of post-conflict tribunals, highlighting how these frameworks operate within the broader landscape of international law and justice.

MODERATORS

CHIARA GIORGETTI University of Richmond/Board of the Register of Damage
JEREMY SHARPE Columbia Law School/UN Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (UNRoD)

PANELISTS

CHRISTINA HIOUREAS Foley Hoag
PARIS ABORO Covington
UCHE ONWUAMAEGBU ArentFoxSchiff
WON KIDANE Villanova University

4:30-4:45PM **COFFEE BREAK**

4:45-6:15PM

PANEL DISCUSSION
FROM COERCION TO COMPENSATION: SANCTIONS AND SETTLEMENT IN RESOLVING VIOLENT CONFLICTS

Sanctions serve as tools of coercion, often paving the way for meaningful settlements in the aftermath of violent conflict. Sanctions also, however, can pose significant challenges in international legal practice. Representing or negotiating with sanctioned parties raises complex questions about legality, ethics, and accountability. At the same time, settlements and other mechanisms for resolving violent conflicts confront difficult trade-offs, forcing us to grapple with the legitimacy of engaging with actors who have committed egregious violations of international law. This panel will explore these tensions, examining how international law navigates the delicate balance between justice, accountability, and the pragmatic need for conflict resolution.

MODERATORS

FABRIZIO MARRELLA Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia

CHIARA GIORGETTI University of Richmond/Board of the Register of Damage

PANELISTS

MANUELA LONDOÑO Open Society Justice Initiative

NIKOS LAVRANOS EFILA

SAADIA BHATTY Gide Loyrette Nouel

YURI PARKHOMENKO Foley Hoag

6:15-6:30PM

CLOSING REMARKS

ANNA BIASIOLO BonelliErede

APERITIVO

FRIDAY, 9 MAY 2025

10:00-10:15AM MORNING WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO KEYNOTE

ANNA CHIARA AMATO Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)/ Bocconi University

10:15-10:45AM KEYNOTE

MELIDA HODGSON President of the American Society of International Law, Partner at Arnold & Porter Kay Scholer LLP, Vice-Chair of the ICC Institute of World Business Law

10:45-11:00AM PANEL PROLOGUE

PAUL WILLIAMS American University/Public International Law & Policy Group

11:00-12:45PM PANEL DISCUSSION

LAWYERS ON THE FRONTLINES: ADJUDICATING DISPUTES THAT IMPLICATE VIOLENT CONFLICTS

Legal experts serve a unique role when representing parties, adjudicating claims, and rendering justice in international disputes that implicate violent conflicts. In these uniquely contentious, high-stakes environments, lawyers and arbitrators face unique challenges, such as assessing in real time the implications of shifting geopolitical dynamics, gathering evidence from war zones, ensuring fair representation, and (sometimes) securing their own safety. This panel will draw on speakers' experiences in various conflict-tainted legal disputes to reflect on how their roles in those disputes differ from more conventional disputes.

MODERATORS

CATHERINE ROGERS Bocconi University

PAUL WILLIAMS American University/Public International Law & Policy Group

PANELISTS

AHMED ABDEL HAKAM Volterra Fietta

BAIJU VASANI Twenty Essex

OLENA PEREPOLYNSKA Integrites

STEVEN HILL International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law & formerly NATO

12:45-2:00PM LUNCH

2:00-2:30PM **INTRODUCTION TO KEYNOTE**
CATHERINE ROGERS Bocconi University

KEYNOTE
DAVID VAUGHN Rule of Law Advisor, Chemonics UK

2:30-2:45PM **PANEL PROLOGUE**
CATHARINE TITI International Lawyer/French National Center for Scientific Research

2:45-4:15PM **PANEL DISCUSSION**
ECHOES OF CONFLICT: LEGAL MECHANISMS FOR RESTORING STOLEN CULTURAL PROPERTY

Today, a network of international conventions, national restitution laws, and diplomatic negotiations shape the legal frameworks for restitution of stolen art and artifacts. Enforcing claims through these legal frameworks, meanwhile, highlights the evolving role of international courts, arbitral tribunals, and other dispute mechanisms to restore stolen heritage. This panel will focus on the progress that has been made and the challenges that remain at this intersection of cultural identity, law, history, and global justice.

MODERATOR
CATHARINE TITI International Lawyer/French National Center for Scientific Research

PANELISTS
PIERRE d'ARGENT University of Louvain & Foley Hoag
ROGER O'KEEFE Bocconi University
MARIA VICIEN MILBURN Independent Arbitrator
SEUN ODUWOLE Nile University of Nigeria

4:15-4:45PM **CLOSING REFLECTIONS**

GEORGE A. BERMANN Walter Gellhorn Professor of Law and Jean Monnet
Professor of European Union Law, Columbia Law School

4:45-5:00PM **FINAL FAREWELL**
Organizing Committee

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