International Law in Practice

Short Course / 28.5 CPD points

Date: 22-25 September 2014
Time: 09:30-17:00
Location: British Institute of International and Comparative Law
Charles Clore House, 17 Russell Square, London WC1B 5JP
Course Lead: Professor Robert McCorquodale
Institute Director, BIICL

Background
International Law in Practice is a four-day programme run by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law (BIICL), which provides a broad introduction to key issues in international and comparative law – from public to private and from commercial to human rights.

Who?
BIICL is an independent legal research institute with charitable status, unaffiliated to any university, undertaking applied research, publications, training and events. This course is led by many of the Institute’s leading researchers and practitioners, the course is ideal for those in the early years of legal practice, those working in governmental and non-governmental organisations with legal elements to their work, and students who are about to commence a postgraduate degree in aspects of international law.

Why?
International law is now a part of the practice of almost every lawyer today. Knowledge of treaty obligations arises in taxation issues and European law disputes, as well as government interactions; awareness of the responsibilities and immunities of government entities can be at the heart of a commercial contract and a human rights action; understanding of the applicable law and the laws of different states is relevant to matrimonial, commercial and competition issues; and the appropriate forum for resolving a dispute is necessary to discern for an investment matter as much as a humanitarian and rule of law concern. There are few areas of legal practice that are not affected in some way by international law, whether that matter is transacted or litigated in a national, regional or international location.

This course is unique in that it introduces participants to international law, as broadly understood and as it arises in practice. It includes the core elements of public international law, such as treaties, customary international law, state responsibilities and immunities, human rights and humanitarian law, as well as how international law is dealt with in national law and in terms of dispute settlement. It also encompasses the areas where international law operates in aspects of law previously considered outside the public areas, such as commercial transactions and personal affairs, which include private international law, comparative law, competition law and international economic law, as well as key aspects of European law and the rule of law.

www.biicl.org
Teaching Arrangements
Teaching will be seminar style with opportunities for class discussion and interaction. Practical examples and dispute settlement avenues will be given where relevant. Reading lists, including reference to electronic materials, will be provided for each session.

All sessions will be taught in English. If you are not a native English speaker, you will need to have experience of studying in English at university level or to have achieved an appropriate score in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or an equivalent programme.

Key topics to be covered on the programme include:

Day 1: Legal Foundations of Public International Law; International Law and National Law; State Responsibility; Immunities from Proceedings
Day 2: International Human Rights Law; International Investment Law; Business and Human Rights; International Law concerning Armed Conflict; Legal Practice in International Law
Day 3: Private International Law; Competition Law; EU Law
Day 4: Rule of Law; Human Rights Beyond the State; Comparative Law; International Dispute Settlement

CPD Accreditation
The course is accredited with 28.5 CPD points.

Testimonials From Past Attendees
“...would highly recommend this course to colleagues. It provided great coverage of a huge topic.”

“...very good, speakers well prepared and with extensive knowledge of their topics. Effort was made to interact with the audience and the reading list was extremely useful.”

“...overall, the content and quality of speakers was phenomenally good. For me this was an excellent introduction to key fundamentals of International Law.”

“...very informative and interesting course. Enjoyed the opportunities to debate recent cases and difficult principles.”

“...an excellent, practical course that skilfully covers many big issues in a short period of time.”

“...excellent coverage of all international law topics. It wasn’t specialist on a particular area, which was helpful in understanding international law as a whole field.”

“...excellent course, pitched at just the right level. Very useful in showing the bigger picture and how various aspects of international law fit together.”

“...the course, besides being well-structured, balanced and well-delivered, provided me with a deeper understanding of the key issues of international law.”

“...very useful to make contact with others who practice International Law and hear of various career paths.”

Fees and Applying
The course fee is £600 (incl. VAT) and covers:

- Tuition and course materials;
- Refreshments (tea/coffee/water) during sessions;
- One evening social event with expert guest speakers; and

Book online at www.biicl.org/events

Booking deadline: Friday, 12 September 2014 (Places are limited. Early booking is advised).

BIICL International Scholarship
The Institute offers a course fee waiver to one registrant from a developing country. Please note that this award does not include travel or accommodation costs. To be considered for this award, eligible applicants must send a one page letter indicating why they would like to do the course and why they should receive a waiver to Claudia Mansaray, Marketing Manager at c.mansaray@biicl.org – applications must be received by no later than Friday 29 August 2014.