

INTERNATIONAL LAW FLASH CARDS



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Why use flash cards?

Flash cards are widely regarded as one of the most effective ways to study and retain information. This is because:

- Flash cards engage 'active recall' through repetition. Using flash cards promotes remembering a concept from scratch as opposed to trying to memorise a passage from a textbook.
- Flash cards provide immediate feedback and self-reflection. This will provide you with the ability to quickly check your answer with the correct answer to determine whether you were correct, or whether you need to spend more time understanding the subject matter.
- Flash cards provide for confidence-based study. As flash cards do not follow a strict order, you are free to mix them up and add your own notations. If you are very confident with certain areas, they can be separated to concentrate on areas or questions that may need further work.

Method

The following series of flash cards present 50 questions and answers in a table format, with five cards per page. The questions are provided in the left column with the corresponding answers in the right column. Print the document and then cut each card following the bold border. Once cut, each card should be folded vertically along the central dotted line and glued or taped to form a single double-sided flash card.



To order the complete version of the Lawskool International Law Flash Cards please visit www.lawskool.com.au

Q1: Give a brief summary of what international law is.

Answer: International Law refers to what is sometimes described as Public International Law. This is the body of rules and principles that regulates relations:

- between States and public international organisations;
- among States and individuals in the field of international human rights law; and
- between the international society and individuals who have committed international crimes.

Q2: How does international law differ from domestic law in one key respect?

Answer: International law differs from domestic law in one key respect. In international law, there is no sovereign. In domestic law, the sovereign encapsulates all political authority and carries out the three functions of government: legislative, executive, and judicial. In International Law, there is no sovereign who makes law, no sovereign who enforces the law, and no sovereign who decides upon the law. Instead, these functions are generally carried out by the international community as a whole.

Q3: In international law does the doctrine of stare decisis apply?

Answer: There is no doctrine of stare decisis, a legal principle by which judges are obliged to respect the precedents established by prior decisions, in International Law. Consequently, international courts and tribunals are not bound by earlier judicial decisions.

Q4: According to J L Brierly what is a state?

Answer: A State is:
“...is an institution, that is to say, it is a system of relations which men establish among themselves as a means of securing certain objects, of which the most fundamental is a system of order within which their activities can be carried on.”