

Global@CLS

An Inventory of Internationally Oriented Opportunities
for Columbia Law School Students

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Global@CLS provides an informal listing of the internationally oriented, non-academic opportunities on offer to Columbia Law School students and recent graduates. For information on the Law School’s exceptionally rich array of international and comparative law classes, seminars and clinics, please consult [the online curriculum guide](#).

Externships at the United Nations, NGOs and other organizations

The United Nations Externship provides students with a credit-bearing opportunity to learn more about the law and practice of the UN, and the processes of making and implementing international law at the world organization. The program consists of two parts: Fieldwork (typically two-three days per week) dealing with legal matters at a UN or UN-related office, and a weekly seminar at the Law School. Students may also, in conjunction with faculty, structure individual externships at major NGOs and other organizations.

Contact: [Prof. Larry Johnson, ljohns4@law.columbia.edu](mailto:ljohns4@law.columbia.edu); Nyaguthii Chege, Dir. of Human Rights, Int'l and Summer Programs, nchege@law.columbia.edu

Winston & Strawn International Moot Court Program

The Law School sponsors three international moot court programs: the [European Law Moot Court](#); the [Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court](#); and the [Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court](#). These programs are available to 1L students as part of the first-year writing and moot court programs, as well as to upper level JD and LLM students. Each offers experiential training in various international law subjects, and complements coursework in international, human rights, international arbitration, international trade and WTO law. Students in recent years have also participated in other moots as well, including the Jean-Pictet Competition in international humanitarian law and the Price Media Law Moot Court Programme.

Contact: Ilene Strauss, Director of Legal Writing and Moot Court Programs, is2208@columbia.edu.

Salzburg Cutler Fellows Program

Columbia is one of a handful of schools invited to send students to participate in the Salzburg-Lloyd N. Cutler Fellows Program. During two days in Washington, DC, students engage with leading academics, judges, and practitioners in the fields of private and public international law. They examine critical issues shaping today's international law agenda, and gain insight into international practice and public service.

Contact: Prof. Matthew Waxman, mwaxma@law.columbia.edu.

Spring Break Pro Bono Caravans

Spring Break Pro Bono Caravans are an immensely popular part of the pro bono program at Columbia. Groups of students travel to work at legal services and public interest organizations that, depending on the year, may be located in U.S or abroad. They work intensively with one another, new colleagues, and new communities to provide much-needed legal assistance.

Contact: Laren Spierer, Director of Pro Bono Programs, laren.spirer@law.columbia.edu

Summer Internships and Fellowships

Human Rights Internship Program. HRIP provides funding and other support to 1Ls and 2Ls seeking to spend a summer in human rights law-related work throughout the world. Past participants include, among others, lawyers who played roles in drafting the South African Constitution; worked at the International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and Yugoslavia; advised indigenous communities in Peru; and represented refugees in Hungary.

Contact: Nyaguthii Chege, Dir. of Human Rights, Int'l and Summer Programs, nchege@law.columbia.edu.

International Private Sector Internships. The Office of Career Services' extensive database includes listings for overseas internships with law firms, corporate legal offices, and other private sector employers. While some of these positions are unpaid, some may offer expense stipends. Still others, such as Nagashima, Ohno & Tsunematsu in Tokyo, provide compensation to Columbia students.

Contact: Marta Ricardo, Dean of Career Services, marta.ricardo@law.columbia.edu.

John Rochester Oldham '83 Fellowship. The Oldham Fellowship provides funding for students who undertake summer public interest work and/or research in greater China. (The Center for Chinese Legal Studies can assist in finding other summer opportunities in China as well.)

Contact: Paulette Roberts, Dir. of Asian and Comp. Law Programs, prober@law.columbia.edu.

Morrison & Foerster Public Interest Fellowship in Japan. The Morrison & Foerster Public Interest Fellowship in Japan provides stipends for up to three students to spend the summer working at NGOs, ministries, or other approved non-law firm positions in Japan.

Contact: Paulette Roberts, Dir. of Asian and Comp. Law Programs, prober@law.columbia.edu.

Academic Year Fellowships

Isaac and Jacqueline Weiss Shapiro Fellowship. Awarded to upper-class students engaged in sustained research projects on Japanese legal topics under the direction of Columbia faculty.

Contact: Paulette Roberts, Dir. of Asian and Comp. Law Programs, prober@law.columbia.edu.

Postgraduate Fellowships

Leebron Human Rights Fellowship. Expanded funding is now available for this and/or similar programs that permit graduating Columbia Law School students to spend a post-graduate year, either in the United States or abroad, in pursuit of a career in human rights law. Recipients may take up positions in academic life; in governmental, intergovernmental or nongovernmental organizations or agencies; or as legal practitioners specializing in human rights work.

Nyaguthii Chege, Dir. of Human Rights, Int'l and Summer Programs, nchege@law.columbia.edu.

Parker Fellowships - International Court of Justice and other tribunals. Columbia Law School has for many years successfully placed recent graduates in the ICJ's prestigious "traineeship" program. With a Law School stipend, trainees assist the Court with research, case preparation and drafting. Expanded funding is now also available for clerkships, obtained independently by students, at other qualifying international and regional tribunals and national courts, such as the South African Constitutional Court.

Contact: Victor Caldwell, Dir. of Clerkship Programs, vcaldwell@law.columbia.edu.

Mark Haas Public Interest Fellowship. This fellowship supports a graduating student, or a recent graduate, from mainland China or Hong Kong to pursue public interest legal work in the United States for up to five months.

Nyaguthii Chege, Dir. of Human Rights, Int'l and Summer Programs, nchege@law.columbia.edu.

Sandler Human Rights Watch Fellowship. During a year spent at either the New York or Washington, D.C. office of Human Rights Watch, recipients monitor international human rights developments, conduct on-site investigations, draft reports on human rights conditions, and engage in public human rights advocacy.

Nyaguthii Chege, Dir. of Human Rights, Int'l and Summer Programs, nchege@law.columbia.edu.

CLS Postgraduate Social Justice and Government Fellowships. Limited funding is available for qualified graduates who are committed to careers in public interest law to work in non-profit organizations, intergovernmental agencies and public international institutions that are confronting great demand with diminished resources.

Contact: Maddie Kurtz, Dir. of Public Interest Professional Development, madeline.kurtz@law.columbia.edu.

Study Abroad

Students can gain an enriched understanding of law, language, culture and governance in a global context by spending a 2L or 3L semester, or the entire 3L year, at an overseas partner school. Overseas programs are taught in English and other languages, and some offer dual degrees, certificates, or internships. All allow immersion in a foreign academic experience and credit toward the Columbia JD degree.

Contact: Audrey Baker, Dir. of Int'l Student Exchange and Dual Degree Programs, ab602@columbia.edu.

Global Alliance Programs (one 2L or 3L semester)

[University of Amsterdam](#)

[Oxford University](#)

[Paris I/Sciences Po](#)

*LLM in International Criminal Law
Law and Finance*

Global Business Law and Governance

Dual Degree Programs (entire 3L year)

[University of Paris I](#)

[Sciences Po](#) (Paris)

[London School of Economics](#)

[SOAS](#) (London)

[University College London](#)

[Kings College London](#)

[Inst. for Law & Fin.](#) (Frankfurt)

JD/M1 in French Law

JD/Master in Econ. Law – Global Studies

JD/LLM and JD/LLB

JD/LLM and JD/LLB

JD/LLM and JD/LLB

JD/LLM and JD/LLB

JD/LLM

Single Semester Programs (one 2L or 3L semester)

[University of Amsterdam](#)

[Bucerius Law School](#) (Hamburg)

[University of Buenos Aires](#)

[Central European University](#) (Budapest)

[Direito GV](#) - (Rio and Sao Paulo)

[ESADE Law School](#) (Barcelona)

[European University Institute](#) (Florence)

[Fudan University](#) (Shanghai)

[Hebrew University](#) (Jerusalem)

[Hitotsubashi University](#) (Tokyo)

[Humboldt University](#) (Berlin)

[University of Luxembourg](#)

[University of Neuchatel](#) (Switzerland)

[Peking University](#)

[Sapienza University](#) (Rome)

[Waseda University](#) (Tokyo)

Law Journals

Columbia is home to over a dozen student-run journals, and many self-identify as engaging to varying degrees with international issues and/or operating in the international community. Some announce their international orientation in their titles; others do not, but may still devote substantial resources to writings that are internationally relevant and cited by tribunals and scholars around the world. A selection of these follows:

American Review of International Arbitration. While not strictly a student-run journal, ARIA actively encourages the participation of student editors. ARIA publishes scholarly articles, commentaries, case notes, and other materials relating to international commercial arbitration. It is the only publication of its kind in the United States, and also one of the leading publications in the field internationally.

Contact: Kabir Duggal, Lecturer-in-Law, kduggal@law.columbia.edu.

Columbia Human Rights Law Review. HRLR publishes legal analysis and discussion of civil liberties and human rights under both international and domestic law. HRLR believes that thoughtful discussion of human rights issues and broad dissemination of information about legal remedies for human rights violations promote human rights around the world.

Contact: Editorial Board, jrnhum@law.columbia.edu.

Columbia Journal of Asian Law. CJAL is a student-run publication exploring both public and private law related to Asia. The Journal welcomes historical, comparative, and multi-disciplinary manuscripts, as well as papers or notes examining the impact of rapidly changing legal regimes on specific areas of practice.

Contact: Editorial Board, jrnasian@law.columbia.edu.

Columbia Journal of Environmental Law. The Columbia Journal of Environmental Law is one of the oldest environmental law journals in the nation and is regarded as one of the preeminent environmental journals in the country. In addition to law libraries, law firms, individuals, and courts throughout the United States, it has a significant international readership. The Journal encourages student writing and publishes student works through its note program.

Contact: Editorial Board, jrnenv@law.columbia.edu.

Columbia Journal of European Law. CJEL, a student-run publication, is one of the few legal publications in the United States devoted exclusively to European law and is one of the top-ranked journal in the world in its field. It publishes articles, authored by leading academics and practitioners, which cover a broad range of issues including business law, intellectual property, human rights, and social problems.

Contact: Editorial Board, cjel@law.columbia.edu.

Columbia Journal of Gender & Law. CJGL, edited and published entirely by students, publishes interdisciplinary works rooted in feminist inquiry with the aim of promoting dialogue, debate, and awareness that will broaden the very concept of feminism as one that critically engages varied forms of social hierarchy and power differentials and their relation to the law.

Contact: Editorial Board, jrngen@law.columbia.edu.

Columbia Journal of Transnational Law. The Columbia Journal of Transnational Law is the second oldest student-run international law journal in the nation, and the second most cited journal at Columbia. Its purpose is to provide both practitioners and scholars with insight into the evolving problems of an increasingly interdependent world. The Journal is regularly cited by academics, practitioners and courts, including the United States Supreme Court.

Contact: Editorial Board, transnational@law.columbia.edu.

Student Associations

Columbia Law School is home to more than 100 student organizations and activities, many of which reflect an interest in international or comparative law, or simply an affinity for cross-border culture and communities. A selection of these follows:

Asian Pacific American Law Students Association. APALSA facilitates academic and professional development and hosts numerous social events throughout the year. Members build strong friendships that provide support through law school and last well beyond graduation. The group works with chapters at other area law schools to build a network within our wider community.

Contact: apalsa@law.columbia.edu

Columbia European Law Association. CELA is a Eurocentric student group for all those interested in European law, policy, jurisprudence, institutions, firms, and NGOs. We monitor developments of interest to the transatlantic relationship, but also Europe's relationships with Africa and Asia. Students from all law degree programs, cultures and nationalities are cordially welcome to participate in our activities.

Contact: cela@law.columbia.edu

Columbia International Arbitration Association. CIAA is the Law School's only student association focusing exclusively on the topic of international arbitration. The organization taps into an abundant reservoir of enthusiasm for the subject of international arbitration among JDs, LLMS, academics, and practitioners. CIAA's many events attract worldwide attention and participation by some of the most prominent names in the field.

Contact: ciaa@law.columbia.edu

Columbia Society of International Law. CSIL is the Law School's principal student group dedicated to international law. It informs members about current international law issues and practice opportunities; provides access to many of the leading international law scholars and firms; and offers career guidance related to public and private international law.

Contact: csil@law.columbia.edu

Law in Africa Student Society. The Society creates a community by representing the interests of, and bringing together, students who identify with the African continent. It provides a forum for students, professors, and professionals to meet and pursue their interest in African cultures, societies, legal jurisprudence, and job opportunities.

Contact: lass@law.columbia.edu

NHK (Japanese Legal Studies Association). NHK welcomes anyone with an interest in Japan, regardless of level of familiarity with the country, its culture or language. The group organizes social, cultural, and educational events, along with information on opportunities at Columbia and in New York for people with Japanese interests. We work in close coordination with the Center for Japanese Legal Studies and the Japanese legal community.

Contact: nhk@law.columbia.edu

Society for Immigrant and Refugee Rights. SIRR promotes dialogue about the legal rights of refugees and immigrants in the United States and globally. It sponsors a competitive moot court team which allows interested students to delve into immigration law through a fun, yet intense, two-semester program.

Contact: sirr@columbia.edu

Society for Chinese Law. SCL is the student group for members of the Columbia Law School community with an interest in Chinese legal development, U.S.-China Relations, and legal practice in China. In addition to its Lunch Lecture Series, a forum for discussing recent Chinese legal developments, SCL regularly sponsors law firm events for students interested in working in China-related fields as well as social and cultural events.

Contact: scl@law.columbia.edu

South Asian Law Students Association. SALSAs promotes discussion and awareness of issues affecting South Asians, particularly with respect to the law. We also strive to create a sense of community among students of South Asian heritage as well as those interested in South Asia by organizing numerous social, cultural, educational, and professional events throughout the year.

Contact: salsa@law.columbia.edu

Student Public Interest Network. SPIN strives to build a community for students interested in pursuing public interest law, broadly defined, and provide a network for public interest collaboration at CLS. It is deliberately a cross-issue student group, welcoming students interested in all issues within public interest law.

Contact: SPIN@law.columbia.edu

Rightslink. Rightslink is a student-run human rights law outreach and research organization based at Columbia Law School. Working closely with the Human Rights Institute and other Columbia University entities, Rightslink organizes a variety of academic, social, and professional events throughout the year to foster a human rights community at the Law School and to connect students with scholars and practitioners around New York.

Contact: rightslink@law.columbia.edu

National Security Law Society. NSLS promotes discussion around vital issues such as national security, privacy, and the laws of war. It sponsors forums and panels on current events and broader long-term issues, connects students with the Law School's preeminent national security law faculty, and hosts meetings with practitioners in the field.

Contact: nsls@law.columbia.edu.

Centers and Institutes

Columbia Law School faculty direct a broad range of faculty-led centers and institutes through which they share scholarship and policy analysis through lectures, conferences, and other initiatives. Many of these engage on international or comparative topics, and some – such as the Human Rights Institute – offer paid or credit-bearing research assistant positions and other opportunities for students. A selection of these follows:

Center for Chinese Legal Studies. The Center for Chinese Legal Studies prepares students to take on leadership roles in Chinese law, and provides them with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in China's rapidly changing legal environment.

Contact: Paulette Roberts, Dir. of Asian and Comp. Law Programs, prober@law.columbia.edu.

Center for Intl Commercial and Investment Arbitration. The Center for International Commercial and Investment Arbitration Law is designed to further the teaching and study of international arbitration, building on Columbia Law School's well-established expertise in this growing legal practice.

Contact: Jessica Copland, Center Coordinator, jc4218@columbia.edu.

Center for Israeli Legal Studies. The Center for Israeli Legal Studies sponsors lectures, seminars, and conferences; creates fellowship opportunities for LL.M. and J.S.D. students; and develops exchange opportunities for students to pursue research or internships in Israel.

Contact via mail: Center for Israeli Legal Studies, CLS, 435 West 116th Street, NY, NY, 10027

Center for Japanese Legal Studies. The Center for Japanese Legal Studies is the first and only center of its kind in the United States. It actively promotes research on Japanese law, aided by the country's premier collection of Japanese legal materials.

Contact: Paulette Roberts, Dir. of Asian and Comp. Law Programs, prober@law.columbia.edu.

Center for Korean Legal Studies. The Center for Korean Legal Studies at Columbia Law School is a national focal point for research, scholarship, and exchange on Korean law and legal institutions.

Contact: koreanlaw@law.columbia.edu

Center for Law and Economic Studies. The Center for Law and Economic Studies' basic mandate is to develop interdisciplinary research and teaching programs in order to shed new light on the "fundamental economic and legal problems of the modern industrial society."

Contact: Christopher Mark, Assistant Director, cmark@law.columbia.edu

Center on Global Governance. The center addresses globalization's legal dimensions through diverse interdisciplinary research and scholarship. The Center supports long-term research projects, periodic conferences; policy-oriented projects with other Columbia University centers, and joint programs with international organizations such as the United Nations.

Contact: Carmen Abber, Program Coordinator, cabber@law.columbia.edu

Center on Global Legal Transformation. The Center on Global Legal Transformation's objective is to analyze how this trend affects the role of law as a mode of social ordering, its differential effects on individuals and societies around the world, and its impact on the legitimacy of law in the eyes of those whose compliance it seeks.

Contact: Prof. Katharina Pistor, kpisto@law.columbia.edu.

Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment. The Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (CCSI), a joint center of Columbia Law School and the Earth Institute at Columbia University, is the only university-based applied research center and forum dedicated to the study, practice, and discussion of sustainable international investment.

Contact: Lisa Sachs, Director, lsachs1@law.columbia.edu

European Legal Studies Center. The European Legal Studies Center enjoys an outstanding reputation for training students to assume leadership roles in international and European law, public affairs, and the global economy.

Contact: Prof. Anu Bradford, abradf@law.columbia.edu

The Human Rights Institute. The Human Rights Institute is the focus point of human rights at Columbia, and advances international human rights through education, advocacy, fact-finding, research, scholarship, and critical reflection. The Institute works in partnership with advocates, communities, and organizations pushing for social change to develop and strengthen the human rights legal framework and mechanisms, promote justice and accountability for human rights violations, and build and amplify collective power. Students work closely with the Institute as advisors in the Student Advisory Committee, as Research Assistants, and in co-organizing lectures and symposia. The Institute runs a vibrant program of events each semester, hosts international advocates from around the world, and offers career advising and mentoring to students.

The Human Rights Institute hosts a year-long program of speakers and events at Columbia Law School. The Institute invites eminent human rights scholars and advocates to address current issues of interest in the human rights field. Events range from series with leading advocates on human rights careers and the intricacies of practicing human rights law to lectures that tackle current events and debates, and seek to push new issues onto the agenda. The Institute's events provide a unique opportunity for students to engage directly with leaders in the human rights field. Events are open to law students, faculty, and the Columbia University community. Students are invited to share their ideas for events, and the Institute often co-hosts events with student groups. For more information: www.law.columbia.edu/human-rights-institute

Ira Millstein Center for Global Markets and Corporate Ownership. The Millstein Center for Global Markets and Corporate Ownership's mission is to bring world-class scholarship, research, and academic rigor to the vital task of restoring and strengthening long-term financing of innovative and durable public corporations, which are the underpinning of economic growth.

Contact: Marcel Bucsescu, Executive Director, marcel.bucsescu@law.columbia.edu

Program on National Security Law. The program allows students to explore the burgeoning intersection of law and national security. It focuses particularly on the role of domestic law in national security matters from the perspective of both lawyers and policymakers.

Contact: Prof. Matthew Waxman, mwaxma@law.columbia.edu

Sabin Center for Climate Change Law. The Sabin Center develops legal techniques to fight climate change, trains students and lawyers in their use, and provides up-to-date resources on key topics in climate law and regulation.

Contact: Michael Burger, Executive Director, mburger@law.columbia.edu