

## A Note from the Executive Director



**Charles T. Kotuby, Jr.,  
FCI Arb (JD '01)**  
Executive Director,  
Center for International  
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Professor of Practice

“**Few other U.S. law schools have committed as much to this global crisis**, but we’ve only been able to do it with a committed city and community behind us.”

The 2021-2022 academic year was one of growth and change at CILE. It was the first year I had the pleasure of serving as a full-time Professor and the Executive Director of CILE. We welcomed our first true post-COVID class of LL.M.s and S.J.D.s, and because we missed our friends from Sorbonne-Paris I and Augsburg the year prior, we were stacked with students from Western Europe. And what a time to be European. From France to Macedonia, Italy, and Germany to Northern Ireland, we all stood in solidarity as NATO assembled and the post-World War II order stiffened in the face of war in Europe for the first time in 75 years.

The year ahead of us will be a remarkable one. We are welcoming our largest class since before the COVID pandemic. We are welcoming more S.J.D.s than we ever have. And our strength is in our diversity. We have students from South America, the Middle East, Western and Eastern

Europe, and Eurasia. We welcome students fresh from law school and experienced and practicing lawyers.

We are perhaps proudest of what we have been able to do for our friends in Ukraine and Afghanistan. Thirty years ago, one of our first foreign partnerships was with Donetsk National University Faculty of Law in Eastern Ukraine. Today, we boast 26 LL.M. graduates from Ukraine, more than from any other country. We have been active in Afghanistan since 2015 and have collaborated with over a dozen Afghan law schools to train their students, coaches, and faculty in international commercial law and arbitration. When crises beset each country, we sprang into action. With the generous support of the law school and our friends at area firms and companies, we have welcomed eleven fully funded “Rule of Law Scholars” from Afghanistan and Ukraine into the LL.M. Program. The

support we received to make this happen is a testament to the Pitt Law community, the Pittsburgh business community, and our place in the world. Few other U.S. law schools have committed as much to this global crisis, but we’ve only been able to do it with a committed city and community behind us. When Afghanistan and Ukraine emerge from these crises, Pitt Law graduates will be at the core of leadership to help establish the rule of law.

The world needs a reliable rule of law, and for that, the world needs lawyers. When Shakespeare famously said, “[l]ets kill all the lawyers,” it was precisely because the legal profession stands as a mighty bulwark against tyranny. Now more than ever, we need lawyers equipped with logic and compassion, an appreciation of history, an eye toward progress, local energy, and a global outlook. Quality legal education is where this all starts. ■





**cile notes Fall 2022**

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Executive Director

**Rachael Ochoa**  
Program Administrator

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**International Law Society Officers 2022-2023**

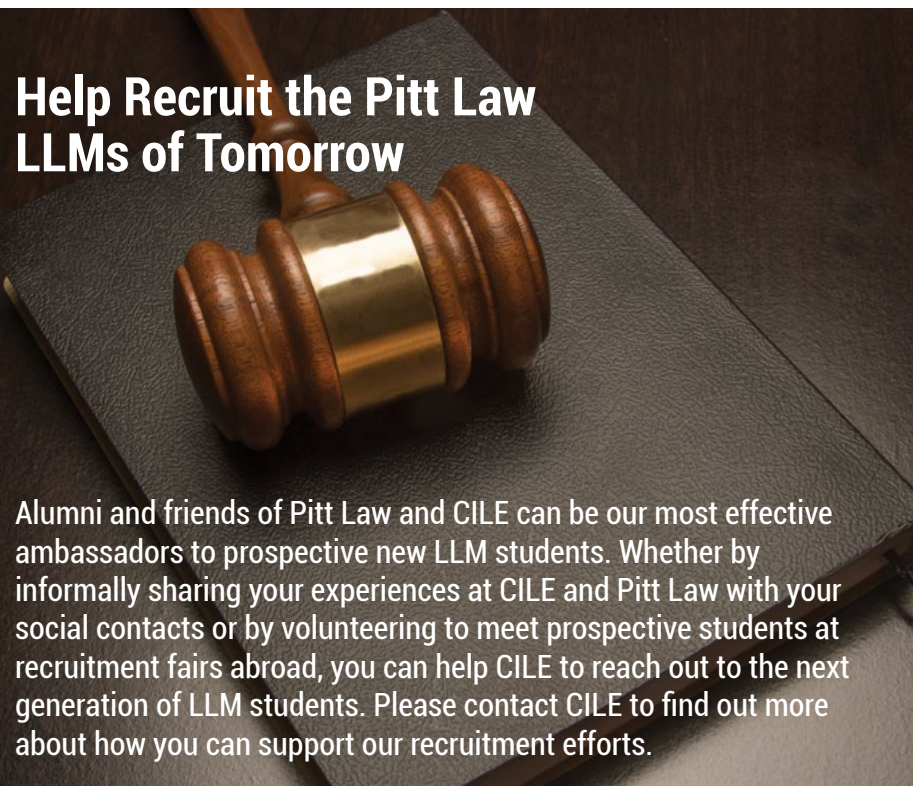
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**Moot Court Coordinator**  
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**Help Recruit the Pitt Law LLMs of Tomorrow**

Alumni and friends of Pitt Law and CILE can be our most effective ambassadors to prospective new LLM students. Whether by informally sharing your experiences at CILE and Pitt Law with your social contacts or by volunteering to meet prospective students at recruitment fairs abroad, you can help CILE to reach out to the next generation of LLM students. Please contact CILE to find out more about how you can support our recruitment efforts.

**From the Academic Director**



**Ronald A. Brand**  
Academic Director,  
Center for International Legal Education  
Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg  
University Professor and  
John E. Murray Faculty Scholar

**Foundations, Transitions,  
and the Future at CILE**

The past year has been one of change. In August 2021, we watched with pain as the United States withdrew from Afghanistan, leaving behind more than 250 students CILE has worked with through US Commerce Department Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) training for the Vis Arbitration Moot. Then in February, we witnessed the horror of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the country from which Pitt Law's LLM program has received more LLM students than any other. We connected with our colleagues in these countries through email, social media, and Professor Bernard Hibbitts' outstanding [jurist.org](http://jurist.org) legal information service. We saw our friends, colleagues, and their families suffering because of conditions for which they had no responsibility, over which they had no control, and from which they had no immediate escape.

We reached out to the law students we have worked with in Afghanistan. We connected them with Pitt Law's Immigration Law Clinic. We watched as apparent opportunities for permanent visas seemed to evaporate. We contacted our LLM graduates in Ukraine, many of whom have substantial positions

in government, academia, and the private sector. We worked with our Ukrainian graduates in the United States to produce a Ukrainian language version of an important field manual for documenting war crimes.

We are the Center for International Legal Education. We have taken that education abroad in many ways, including instruction in Donetsk, Ukraine, as early as 1999 and in the Middle East with the first Afghan team to participate in the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Hong Kong—a team made up entirely of women. (Check out their story in the "[Afghan Dreams](#)" [video](#) that was part of our program in November 2020. We have seen these educational opportunities slip away in both countries, as it is slipping away in other countries around the globe.

Our foundation of networks and programs at CILE has helped us be ready to react and reach out when these events occur. And our newest CILE staff members, Executive Director Charles Kotuby, Program Administrator Rachael Ochoa, and our Graduate Assistant, Nadine Hafaitha, have been excellent in

bringing their skills and contacts to this process. Chuck has connected CILE with significant efforts by law firms and the Brookings Institute so that Pitt Law may contribute to legal responses to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Rachael brings years of experience in international education and personally as a regular host to high school exchange students. Pitt's Center for Governance and Markets has worked with us to obtain support from the Open Society Foundation for Afghan Students. And the wonderful Pittsburgh legal community has committed financial support and internships for students from Ukraine and Afghanistan, allowing CILE to bring eleven students from those countries to this year's LLM class. This offers them sanctuary for a year, a legal education that will prepare them for the future, and hope that they will be able to return or otherwise make a difference for those they have had to leave behind.

As I reflect on the progress of CILE over the past 27 years, I am pleased that the past has prepared us so that we can respond when others are in need, leveraging legal education to offer hope in addressing those needs. As I look to the future, I see the strength of the students we have worked with worldwide and across the globe here in Pittsburgh (both JD and LLM). Our future is global, and it must be built on the rule of law. I believe CILE has helped contribute to the ability to make that future hopeful, and I believe our staff and students at CILE will do much to extend and enhance that contribution as CILE moves forward. ■





The 2021-2022 academic year saw a world emerging from a global pandemic and entering a period of violent geopolitical conflict which had not been seen in generations. From a military coup in Myanmar in February 2021 to the Taliban's take-over of Afghanistan in September 2021 and Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the world needs international law now more than ever. CILE's programming, student activities, and the incoming student body has sought to reflect these new global priorities and help shine a light on the essential role that international law can play in a world in conflict.

### OCTOBER 2021

On October 27, 2021, CILE hosted an in-person and virtual event titled "At the Cutting Edge of Atrocity Prevention: Law, Journalism, and Technology in Myanmar." A panel of scholars, including alumna Elizabeth Shackelford, a former diplomat and foreign policy expert at the Chicago Counsel on Global Affairs, Professor Bernard Hibbitts of Pitt Law School, and Wes Rist (JD '05) of the American Society of International Law, addressed the fallout from the February 1, 2021, military coup in Myanmar. This crisis was the first of several global events in 2021 and 2022 that challenged international law and the global institutions tasked with protecting civilians and preventing mass atrocities. What started as a short-term crisis turned into an ongoing conflict that has exacerbated existing concerns of atrocities targeting ethnic minorities and raised concerns around the role that international law and technology have played in preventing or even facilitating the military's actions.

The highlight of the event was the virtual participation by Wai Wai Nu, a human rights activist from Myanmar now living in Washington D.C., and two anonymized law student journalists from Myanmar who challenged the official story

being reported by state-run media and gave a first-hand accounting of what was happening on the ground to the global community. These law students were and remain active contributors to JURIST, the University of Pittsburgh's award-winning online legal news service powered by a global team of over 80 law student reporters, editors, commentators, correspondents, and content developers from 30 law schools on six continents. JURIST's mission is to engage law students with the most important events of their time, allowing them to document and defend the rule of law while preparing them for success and leadership in later professional and public life (see page 7).

### MARCH 2022

On March 30, 2022, CILE hosted an online program on "International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law in International Courts." Professor Elena Baylis led the discussion, which considered how international courts decide fundamental legal issues and adjudicate claims of international humanitarian and criminal law violations. Speakers on the distinguished panel included Dr. Raed Abu Badawia, Assistant Professor at the Arab American University in Palestine; Professor Qerim Qerimi of the University of Pristina, Kosovo; Professor Iliriana Islami of the University of

Pristina; Major Dimitri Facaros (JD '10), Group Judge Advocate with the 3rd Special Forces in the U.S. Army; and Professor John Cencich (LLM '19) of California University of Pennsylvania, who teaches Pitt Law's International Criminal Law course. The program provided an excellent overview of the law of warfare (international humanitarian law) and international criminal law and tied it to current situations in the home countries of the panelists.

### APRIL 2022

On February 21, 2022, the world watched as the Russian Federation violated core principles of international law. Since then, we have stood in awe at the resilience and shared sacrifice of the Ukrainian people. They are fighting on behalf of all humanity for peace, justice, and the rule of law. If the post-World War II framework means anything, perpetrators will be held to account before international courts and tribunals. Ukraine can lead the way in demonstrating that the global rule of law is achievable and real, but they need the help of the global bar and legal academy.

Modern warfare has moved to the courtroom, and the Russian invasion of Ukraine has brought international law and international courts and tribunals into a new era of relevance. Ukraine's strategy of "legal confrontation" against Russia began with the dispute over Crimea and has included dozens of claims filed with international courts and tribunals. The legal battlefield has expanded with the current conflict. From domestic sanctions and asset seizures to new international claims and war

reparations, the global bar and legal academy have been called to blunt Russian disinformation; expose and document on-the-ground evidence of war crimes; bolster Ukraine's position before international courts and the international community and secure monetary reparations for the Government of Ukraine and Ukrainian business and individuals.

CILE's history is the history of the broader Pittsburgh region, welcoming Ukrainian emigres for over a century. From our partnerships with Donetsk National University in the late 1990s, CILE has more LLM graduates from Ukraine than any country. Like many members of the global bar, we saw these events as a call to action.

In April 2022, we announced the **Ukrainian Legal Assistance Project**. Beneath the umbrella of CILE, this Project will provide a forum for discussion, thought

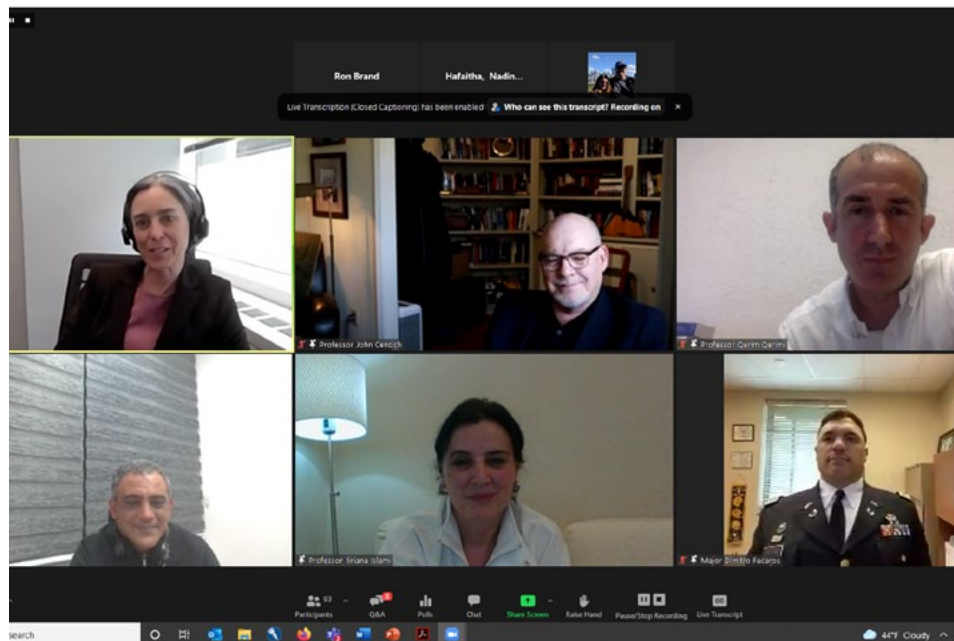
leadership, and pro bono legal work for Ukrainian individuals and entities in connection with the Russian invasion. CILE coordinates this work and acts as the initial client entity for law firms; over time, volunteer lawyers will work with Pitt Law students, prominent law firms, and NGOs to advance the overall mission. The ULAP also collects monetary support for young Ukrainian attorneys to provide travel funds, scholarships, and living stipends to enter the United States and continue their legal studies in our LLM program. While here, we will educate them to be future leaders, and they will become an essential component of a virtual global law firm dedicated to Ukrainian interests. Professor Charles Kotuby was interviewed about this program by the [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), [Reuters](#), and [WESA](#).

### JUNE 2022

The conflict in Ukraine came close on the heels of a renewed crisis in Afghanistan. CILE has a history there, as well. Since 2015 CILE has collaborated with over a dozen Afghan law schools to train their students, coaches, and faculty in international commercial law and arbitration. These crises had many things in common, but one that squarely implicates legal education: The displacement of law students at the start of their careers and the future need for global lawyers in these countries.

In June 2022, we announced our inaugural **Rule of Law Scholarships**. CILE and Pitt Law invested over

\$500,000 in scholarships and living expenses for our LLM students from Ukraine and Afghanistan. On the back of that investment, we immediately received help from the Pittsburgh community. Local families opened their homes to these students; local companies and law firms offered paid internships, and some have committed to help fund these scholarships. When Afghanistan and Ukraine emerge from these crises, Pitt Law graduates will be at the core of leadership to help establish the rule of law.







A HEARTFELT THANKS TO THE FIRMS, FOUNDATIONS, AND COMPANIES WHO HAVE MADE OUR RULE OF LAW FELLOWSHIPS A REALITY.



THE 2022-2023 RULE OF LAW SCHOLARS:



Tetiana Borysenko  
Donetsk National University  
Ukraine



Maryam Jami  
Herat University  
Afghanistan



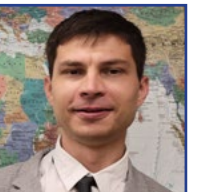
Hamid Hashemi  
Dunya University  
Afghanistan



Andrii Kokhan  
Taras Shevchenko  
National University of  
Kyiv Ukraine



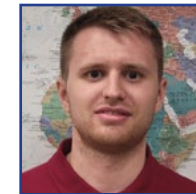
Oleh Kornat  
Ivan Franko National  
University of Lviv, Ukraine



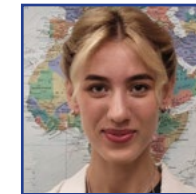
Tymur Mykhalov  
Donetsk National  
University, Ukraine



Nazeer Mayar  
Nangarhar University  
Afghanistan



Yaroslav Petrenko  
Taras Shevchenko  
National University of  
Kyiv, Ukraine



Anastacia Rozvadovska  
Taras Shevchenko  
National University of  
Kyiv, Ukraine



Olha Tsyliuryk  
Taras Shevchenko  
National University of  
Kyiv, Ukraine



Anna Vnukova  
Taras Shevchenko  
National University of  
Kyiv, Ukraine

JURIST JOINS CILE TO SUPPORT THE RULE OF LAW

JURIST, the Pitt Law-based international legal news service established in 1996 by Professor Bernard Hibbitts, worked closely with the Center for Legal Education this past year in joint support of the rule of law worldwide. JURIST is currently staffed by some 90 law students volunteering from 30 law schools in 16 countries, engaging them with the most important events of their time while preparing them for responsible leadership in later professional and public life.

In October, JURIST law student reporters in junta-dominated Myanmar joined CILE guest analysts for the live-streamed panel, Cutting Edge of Atrocity Prevention: Law, Journalism, and Technology in Myanmar. Leveraging its team of law student



reporters filing from Ukraine even before the Russian invasion, JURIST also supported CILE's Ukrainian Legal Assistance Project, which has brought multiple Ukrainian law students – including one working with JURIST - to Pittsburgh this year for their LLMs. In Pittsburgh, CILE additionally welcomed two LLM students from Afghanistan who had worked with JURIST

after the Taliban takeover of that country in August 2021. CILE and JURIST look forward to further close collaboration as JURIST expands its network of law student correspondents around the world to report the rule of law in crisis.

Find JURIST at [jurist.org](http://jurist.org) and on Twitter @JURISTnews.







The first quarter-century of CILE has spanned a period of intense change in how private entities and individuals interact with international law. When CILE was founded in 1995, the international legal system was primarily reserved for states, state entities, and the occasional international non-governmental organization. International legal education was limited to studying inter-state discourse, on the one hand, and purely private international law (usually in conflict of laws), on the other. These lines have blurred over the last 25 years. Individuals and corporations are frequent subjects of international law, with enforceable rights and obligations. Human rights litigation, investment arbitration, and domestic litigation of international claims were footnotes in textbooks when CILE was created—now, they are books unto themselves. International commercial arbitration was once a viable “alternative” to litigation; now, it is the indispensable monopoly of transnational dispute resolution.

CILE’s reputation lies at the confluence of private industry and international law. Its substantive strength has long been in private international law (through Professor Ron Brand’s work), the Convention on the International Sales of Goods (through Professor Harry Flechtner’s work), comparative law (through Professor Vivian Curran’s work), and transitional justice (through Professor Baylis’ work). With Professor Charles Kotuby’s nearly two decades of practical expertise in investment and international commercial arbitration, Pitt Law and CILE now stand at the forefront of U.S. centers fostering private interaction with international law and global dispute resolution. This is reflected in our 2022 programs.

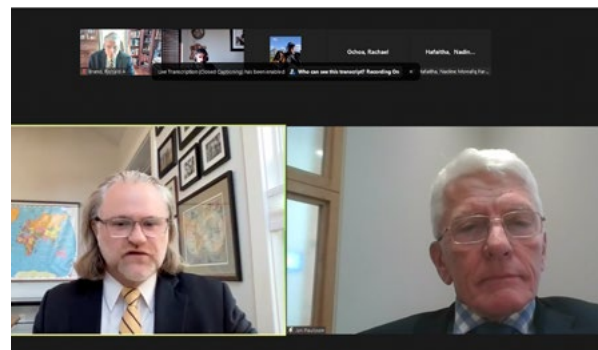
### MARCH 2022

On March 10, 2022, **Professor Jan Paulsson gave the 29th Annual McLean Lecture on World Law.** In this one-hour virtual lecture, he engaged with a global audience in “Examining Arbitration” and probing foundational questions on what it means to love arbitration and why anyone should love it. Professor Paulsson is one of the world’s most experienced international arbitrators and arbitration counsel, having served as party counsel, expert, or sole or co-arbitrator in hundreds of international arbitration proceedings over the past 30 years. He was, inter alia, a partner at Freshfields Paris and one of the founding partners of the specialist arbitration law firm Three Crowns. Professor Paulsson is the Michael Klein Distinguished Scholar Chair Emeritus at the University of Miami School of Law.

The McLean Lecture on World Law is the premier lecture series on international legal matters at the School of Law. In past years this series has hosted speakers that include two Judges of the International Court of Justice, Members of the Nuremberg Prosecution team, the first woman judge on the European Court of Justice, former Attorneys General of both the United States and Canada, the Solicitor General of Australia, the President Judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, Judges from the Supreme Court of Norway and the Constitutional Court of Kosovo, and other noted international scholars, professors, and practitioners. The lecture honors the memory of Mac McLean, a founder of

the World Federalist Association in Pittsburgh and worldwide. McLean was a vibrant part of the Pittsburgh international community and was dedicated to the idea that the expansion of the rule of law and the creation of a functioning global legal system is the best way to ensure lasting peace and justice.

Professor Paulsson’s lecture marked CILE’s longstanding support for and participation in the Middle East Vis Pre-Moot in Bahrain. It was delivered to a global audience via Zoom and is available on [YouTube](#).



### APRIL 2022

CILE programming on international arbitration is purposefully designed to be both practical and theoretical—to bridge the divide between our faculty, our students, and the practicing bar. As a theoretical matter, arbitration is a self-contained system of private justice, and as a practical matter, this concept offers several advantages. One is time and expense, a benefit partly from a curtailed scope of potential discovery against third parties. Creative lawyering over the past few decades, however, has begun to change this. The Federal Arbitration Act (9 U.S.C. § 7) empowers arbitrators to issue third-party subpoenas, and 28 U.S.C § 1782 has been interpreted to allow parties in international arbitrations to ask federal courts to do the same. However, the scope of these provisions has given rise to splits of authority among courts across the United States. Practitioners, scholars, and students have grappled with the divisions recently, and the Supreme Court’s 2022 Term has featured the issue on its docket.

On April 21, 2022, CILE was proud to announce co-sponsor and host the **Inauguration of the Pennsylvania and Ohio Chapter of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb)**. Headquartered in London and operating through dozens of chapters and branches worldwide, the CIArb is the world’s leading professional education and accreditation institute. This event brought together academics (Professors Charles Kotuby and Andrea Yanbai Wang (University of Pennsylvania)), experienced



arbitrators (Katherine Smith Dedrick and Albert Bates, Jr. (Troutman Pepper, Pittsburgh)), and arbitration counsel (Tom Crist (Benesch Friedlander, Cleveland), Caroline Edsall Littleton (Jones Day, Washington D.C.), Zach Torres-

Fowler (Troutman Pepper, New York), and John Pinney (Graydon, Cincinnati)) to discuss strategic considerations, best practices, and the legal discord in procuring third-party discovery in aid of arbitration.



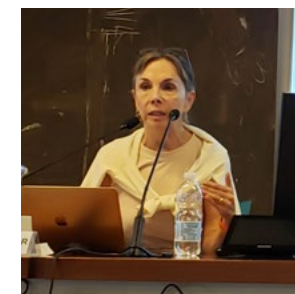


### SUMMER 2022

During the summer of 2022, CILE faculty taught international arbitration and dispute resolution courses throughout Europe. Some were with our historic partner universities, but we were proud to announce new partnerships this year.

### 2023 VERONA-PITT SUMMER SCHOOL TAKES ON ESG AND LEGAL ISSUES

On June 16-18, 2022 the University of Verona School of Law and Center of Excellence in Law and Technology Development and Pitt Law's CILE co-sponsored their annual Summer School in Verona, Italy. This year's title was "Transnational Commercial Law & ESG Sustainability." Speakers and topics included: Professor Ronald Brand; Professor Marco Torsello (University of Verona); Charles DeMonaco (Fox Rothschild LLP); Professor Massimo Denedettelli (University of Bari and ARBLIT, Milan); Professor Pietro Ortolani (Radboud University, Nijmegen); Professor Massimiliano Granieri (University of Brescia); Janet Checkley (JD '14) (Microsoft Asia, Singapore); Nevena Jevremovic (LLM '17) (Instructor, University of Aberdeen); Megan Blazina (General Counsel, Whirpool Corp., EMEA); Jo Anne Schwendinger (JD '83) (Founder, Clear Strategy Co.); Mark Walter (JD '98) (DAI Global, Singapore); Professor Leonardo Fabio Pastorino (University of Verona); Francesco Piron (Watson, Farley & Williams, Milan).



The program allowed Pennsylvania lawyers to obtain up to 12 substantive CLE credits. If you are interested in joining us for the 2023 Verona-Pitt Summer School, contact the CILE office at [cile@pitt.edu](mailto:cile@pitt.edu).

### THE INAUGURAL DURHAM SUMMER COURSE ON INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

In June and July 2022, Professor Kotuby taught at the University of Augsburg's Summer School on European and International Economic Law. The University of Augsburg offers its Summer Program to international foreign students and invites them to join a global faculty of academics and practicing lawyers for a unique six-week intensive course. Professor Kotuby taught a three-week course on international dispute resolution.

In July 2022, Professor Kotuby organized and served as co-Director of the first annual Summer Program on International Arbitration at Durham Law School in North East England. A graduate of Durham's LLM program (2000), an Honorary Professor of Law, and a Board Member for its Center for International Dispute Resolution, Professor Kotuby was joined by Co-Directors John Fellas (Independent Arbitrator); Wendy Miles KC (20 Essex); and Christian Leathley (Partner, Herbert Smith Freehills, New York), in addition to other instructors including; Hagit Muriel Elul (Partner, Hughes Hubbard & Reed, New York); Lei Chen (Chair in Chinese Law, Co-Director of the Centre for Chinese Law and Policy, Durham Law School); Dr. Todd Weiler (Independent International Arbitrator); Louis Flannery KC (Partner, Head of International Arbitration, Michcon de Reya); Michelangelo Cicogna



(Partner, De Berti Jacchia Franchini Forlani); Professor Sir Bernard Rix (Previously a Lord Justice of Appeal, International Judge of the Singapore International Commercial Court and a member of the Cayman Islands Court of Appeal. Professor of International Commercial Law at The Centre of Commercial Law Studies at Queen Mary, University of London); Andrew Flower (Managing Director, Alvarez & Marsal).

The program was attended by nearly 30 students from eight different countries to learn about the fundamentals of commercial and investment treaty arbitration and allowed Pennsylvania lawyers to obtain up to 12 substantive CLE credits. If you are interested in joining us for the 2023 Durham Summer School, contact the CILE office at [cile@pitt.edu](mailto:cile@pitt.edu).





### PITT LAW VIS MOOT TEAM ADVANCES TO THE ROUND OF 64

Pitt Law's team of Mack Dowiak, Wilson Gaurnera, Tricia Klan, and Alec Smith once again placed high in the general rounds of the Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, advancing to the Final Rounds. Arguing virtually, sometimes in early morning hours, on April 7-14, 2022, the team placed 40th out of 362 teams from over 80 countries in the general rounds and advanced to the round of 64. The team was coached by Professors Ronald Brand and Harry Flechtner, as well as by Pitt Law alums, Liz Taylor, Robbie Cimmino, and David Zwier.



Prior to the Moot, on March 7-12, 2022, the Pitt Law Vis team competed in the 12th Annual Middle East Vis Pre-Moot, held virtually from Bahrain and co-sponsored by Pitt Law's Center for International Legal Education (CILE), along with

the US Commerce Department's Commercial Law Development Program, the Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution, and the Royal University for Women in Bahrain. The Pitt Law team reached the semi-final round.

### PITT LAW LLM ARBITRATION MOOT TEAM TAKES FIRST PLACE IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY MOOT COURT COMPETITION

Organized by American University's WCL Center on International Commercial Arbitration, the Ninth LLM International Commercial Arbitration Moot Competition was held on April 7-9, 2022. This event, created specifically for LLM students, seeks to foster the study of international arbitration for the resolution of international business disputes and investment disputes. The 2022 Competition was sponsored by the Singapore International Arbitration Centre, focused primarily on oral advocacy before a panel of



arbitration experts, and concerned a hypothetical investment treaty dispute.

Out of nearly a dozen teams from law schools around the country, the team from Pitt took first place after three general and one knock-out round of argument. Filip Srbinoski was also awarded runner-up best oralist in the entire competition. Alongside Filip on the Pitt team were Camille Laulanie and Cameron McCrum. Professor Kotuby coached the team.

Pitt Law also sponsored a team for the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. The Jessup is the world's largest moot court competition, with participants from roughly 700 law schools in 100 countries and jurisdictions. The Competition is a simulation of a fictional dispute between countries before the International Court of Justice. This year's Pitt Law Jessup team included Leah Santorine, Brendan Renne, Jacqui Stalnaker, and Valerie Daigneault.

Throughout 2021 and 2022, Pitt Law students from the JD and LLM classes spent semesters and summers working on cutting-edge issues for some of the world's largest and most important legal institutions. From Paris to Milan and Vincenza, Augsburg to Washington D.C., our students have contributed to the progressive development of international law in private law firms, foreign universities, governmental agencies, and international organizations.

### A Year in Paris Alexandre LeBlanc (JD '22)

The need for leaders in the legal field that possess fluency in more than one language and a foundational understanding of both common law and civil law traditions grows in lockstep with our increasingly globalized world. As an aspiring lawyer who dreamt of working in the international legal sector, I held great weight in mastering a major language of trade and acquiring essential experience in a civil law country. Thus, the LLM in French, Business, and International Law at the Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne was the undeniable bridge that filled that gap.

Under the tutelage of the professors in the program, I was not only able to focus my efforts on finally mastering a language that I had spent all my academic career pursuing but also grasp an understanding of the legal profession from the French perspective. Most notably, I had the opportunity to network with attorneys that work in the world's leading law firms and companies, solidifying relationships that have and



will continue to impact my future. This LLM program has instilled an indispensable skill set I will apply in the next steps of my legal career. ■

### Working with ICSID in Washington and Allen & Overy in Paris Camille Laulanie (LLM '22)

After graduating with my LLM with a micro-credential in commercial law and dispute resolution, I interned for almost three months with the ICSID institutional team and front office. The institution was living in a historical moment, with the entry into force of its new rules and regulations on July 1, 2022, and as French is one of the official languages of the Center, I was in charge of most of the last reviews and editing of the texts, the updating of the website as well as of the different guidelines of the procedures administered

by the teams. I also reviewed several proofs to be published in the next publication of the ICSID review.

I will then start an internship for six months within the international arbitration team of the law firm Allen & Overy in Paris, and I would like to obtain the New York Bar to practice as a litigation and arbitration lawyer in France and abroad. ■







## A Year in Paris

### Andres Sellitto Ferrari (JD '22)

One year in Paris for your last year of law school. As attractive as that might sound, this program is no classic study abroad term. My experience as an LLM student at the Sorbonne this last academic year was unique. The program is certainly demanding—after all, it goes beyond merely teaching the basics of civil law and dives into areas of European and corporate law. It is also entirely taught in French by professors who expect to hold foreign students to the same standard as their French peers. What makes the program challenging, however, is also what makes it fulfilling.

Many classes take place in Paris' historic Fifth District, near the Pantheon area. Walking these streets every morning is undoubtedly inspirational and soul-filling. The University itself is a centuries-long institution with worldwide recognition, in which you will share a classroom with brilliant peers from across the world.

The program taught me the foundations of the civil law system, giving me a comparative perspective on subjects such as Civil Procedure or Contracts. Classes such as Rhetoric and Pleading allowed me to develop trial and persuasive advocacy skills from both a theoretical/philosophical and a practical standpoint. European Union law courses opened the door to understanding a unique approach to judicial and legislative processes. In my opinion, the program is broad enough to allow for the discovery of new subjects while still gaining practical knowledge in areas that can be useful even to prospective domestic U.S. practitioners. After all, it is not uncommon to be involved in international business transactions with European counterparts as a U.S. attorney. Having an idea of what is happening on the other side of the transaction may prove helpful to you and your client.

Even if the program's usefulness is not convincing, the overall living experience should be. Morning coffees near the Jardin du Luxembourg, amenable weekend walks along the Seine, or exploring the highs and lows of Parisian nightlife—the City of Lights is a spiritual home for every type of person. Just cogitate about your peers taking Secured Transactions during 3L while you are mid-pétanque and pastis at Place



Dauphine on a mild Sunday afternoon.

Whether looking for a whiff of a *bon vivant* lifestyle or seeking to expand your academic and professional horizons, the Sorbonne LLM program accommodates your expectations. Without a doubt, with the right degree of personal organization and language skills, the program is an opportunity not to be missed—and if paying much lower tuition for a year of school is of interest, well, there's that, too. ■

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Fahira Brodlija** (LLM '17) has been promoted to the manager of the ISDS Reform project in the Western Balkans for the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). She concluded two book contracts with Kluwer as a co-editor on topics of commercial and investment arbitration.

**Meredith Bunnell** (JD '08) is teaching a graduate-level child advocacy seminar as an adjunct professor at Duke University.

**Doris Gisele Toyou** (SJD '19) is an attorney at the Infrastructure Investments Fund (IIF), an affiliate private equity fund of JP Morgan Chase.

## A Summer Position at the Jones Day Office in Milan

### Alberto Pomari (LLM '22; JD '24)

I interned for two months at the Jones Day office in Milan as a Summer Associate. Upon applying for this position, I soon sensed that the job would squarely fit my international ambitions—and I was right. Virtually none of the matters I was assigned to were exclusively domestic. As I spent most of the time with the litigation department—led by Lamberto Schiona, a Jones Day partner—I was primarily involved in ICC arbitrations and litigations, having strong connections with the United States. For instance, we assisted the Jones Day team in Pittsburgh in a series of depositions in Milan for a civil lawsuit filed with a U.S. federal district.

Additionally, I wrote a couple motions for preliminary injunctions to prevent a well-known good from being marketed in E.U. Jurisdictions due to the patent protections enjoyed by our client. This required efficient, seamless coordination among the firm's offices in Europe, thus introducing me to other Jones Day professionals from Europe. I also participated in virtual meetings with clients—mainly Italian big corporations—grappling with a wide array of transnational disputes.

My day-to-day tasks varied considerably, from drafting pleadings to researching relevant case law. On several occasions, I was asked to draw up a memorandum illustrating how well-known legal doctrines (anticipatory breach, duty to mitigate, causation, sham litigation, etc.) play out differently in civil-law and common-law jurisdictions. However,



the most exciting, challenging task I was asked to discharge was drafting the appellate brief that we had to file with the Italian Supreme Court in a high-profile case. Under Mr. Schiona's valuable guidance, I was given a chance to combine the IRAC teachings I learned at Pitt law with my knowledge of Italian law. And better yet, this was not a merely academic exercise because I was representing the interests of an important client in front of the Supreme Court of my country—and the stakes were high. This experience, and more generally the entire internship, ultimately showed me that combining the education I received in a civil-law and a common-law jurisdiction is essential to effectively representing clients with international disputes. ■

*The views and opinions set forth herein are the personal views or opinions of the author; they do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the law firm with which he was associated.*







## My Summer in Augsburg, Germany Alec Smith (JD '23)

I cannot recommend the Augsburg Summer Program enough for students interested in studying abroad, working in international law/global disputes, or simply seeking new experiences. The Program attracts diverse, quality professionals to attend and teach and delivers a unique cultural and educational experience that cannot be replicated elsewhere. It goes far beyond merely learning the skills and material necessary for the global practice of law into the domain of interpersonal growth. And while I could attempt to capture that spirit in words, I write here—to explain just how my experience was a truly unparalleled opportunity for personal and professional development—I feel that words alone ultimately cannot convey my appreciation. Instead, then, I would much rather show you what this Program does—how it introduces participants to a global community of professionals and academics while functioning as the context for lasting relationships, how it provides exhaustive opportunity to experience German and European culture, and how it achieves both while simultaneously teaching global lawyers the information and skills necessary for successful practice. ■



## Semester in DC and Summer with US Army JAG Corps in Vicenza, Italy Leah Santorine (JD '23)

This summer, I had the privilege of interning with the US Army JAG Corps in Vicenza, Italy working in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Southern European Task Force, Africa, the 414th Contracting Support Brigade, and the 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne). I could use my Italian skills to work on agreements and criminal matters by interfacing with the Italian legal teams and courts, draft responses to congressional inquiries, analyze fiscal authorities for missions in Africa, and issues relating to US contracting in African countries and their interplay with status-of-forces agreements. I observed a joint exercise with German paratroopers over Lake Constance in Germany and saw how each legal process interacts to culminate in a safe and effective exercise. It was an incredible experience that allowed me to see how judge advocates in the Army handle a wide variety of international legal work while supporting the missions of their units and soldiers.

My experience interning with the US Department of Commerce, Commercial Law Development Program through the Semester in DC Program in the spring was essential in preparing me for my summer experience by giving me an introduction to how the federal government operates and handles issues of international law. I am incredibly grateful for the support, encouragement, and guidance from Professor Brand, Professor Kotuby, and the entire CILE team. As I look towards the future, these invaluable experiences have helped shape me as I head into my final year of law school and towards a career in international law. ■







## A Summer with Relief International Ben Masselli (JD '23)

This past summer, I had the privilege of interning with Relief International, a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit that provides emergency relief as well as growth and development assistance to some of the poorest regions of the world. As a legal intern, I worked directly with the Global Chief General Counsel on projects ranging from simple legal research to leading a conference call with staff from foreign countries. I found that because of the legal department's relatively small size, I was able to make an impact right away, getting hands-on experience with memorandum, legal resolutions, and other writing opportunities.

Since Relief International maintains head offices in the US, UK, Belgium, and France, I had the opportunity to work with stakeholders across Europe and employees based in host countries in the Middle East and Asia. As someone with little background in international law, the internship was a great way to see how the non-profit and non-governmental



organization space works at the global level.

Similarly, I had the opportunity to sit in on several NGO educational classes. Through these lessons, I learned how non-governmental organizations could improve how they interact and treat host countries and their citizens when bringing life-improving aid. I also gained a greater appreciation and understanding for those who devote their careers to helping others, especially in the legal realm.

Since Relief International operates in many different countries, its work must follow US laws and local laws of all contexts in which the organization participates.

Because of these guidelines, I received great experience working with internationally focused and local attorneys to solve complex international legal issues.

I greatly enjoyed the work this summer, especially the small, off-the-cuff learning opportunities that international law often provides. I believe this strengthened my interest to one day practice international law, whether it relates to NGOs or following my business interests to work with multinational corporations. I sincerely thank CILE and Professor Brand for making this opportunity possible and lighting a spark for a career in this field. ■



## LLM Students 2022-2023

**Deniz Akkaya** (Turkey) received his Bachelor's Degree from Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakif University before completing his Master's Degree in Economic Law at Galatasaray University in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2019 and 2020, respectively. Deniz was an Erasmus intern at H/E Law Firm in Brussels, Belgium. He completed a two-year internship at Cevahir Hukuk ve Danışmanlık Bürosu in Istanbul, Turkey, in June 2020. He worked as an Attorney at Cevahir Hukuk ve Danışmanlık Bürosu before joining the Pitt Law LLM Program.

**Sara Alduaij** (Saudi Arabia) received her Bachelor's Degree from Princess Nourah Bint Abdulrahman University in 2017. She worked as an administrative assistant at the Ministry of Media in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. She volunteered in multiple projects throughout her career, such as the Bathl Volunteer team and the King Abdulaziz Center for National Dialogue. Sara has worked as a training assistant at the Institute of Public Administration in Riyadh. She is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh's English Language Institute.

**Mohammad Almehmadi** (Saudi Arabia) received his Bachelor's Degree with First Honors from King Abdulaziz University in 2017. Mohammad has trained and worked as a system researcher at the Saudi Royal Court. He is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh's English Language Institute.

**Mohammad Almuayli** (Saudi Arabia) received his Bachelor's Degree from the College of Shari'a

"Islamic Law" and Islamic Studies in Saudi Arabia. He has served as a teaching assistant at King Faisal University, teaching commercial law, evidence, human rights, and family law topics. He is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh's English Language Institute.

**Igor Benassi** (Brazil) received his Bachelor's Degree from the Pontifical Catholic University of Campinas and his Master's Degree from Escola Paulista de Direito (EPD) in Brazil in 2014 and 2021, respectively. He worked as a banking and corporate lawyer at Finocchio & Ustra law firm for four years before spending some time as a contract specialist at Ambev S/A in 2020. He has worked as a legal coordinator for Corporate Affairs at Gomes, Hoffmann, Bellucci & Piva law firm.

**Tetiana Borysenko** (Ukraine) received her Bachelor's and Master's in Law, with Honors, from Donetsk National University. She participated in the Vis Moot and the Central and European Moot. Tetiana worked as an in-house lawyer at several law firms before joining Skliarenko, Sydorenko, and Partners and providing private advocacy in corporate law, commercial law, IT law, and intellectual property. She also launched her own legal advising business in Ukraine.

**Jasmine Dallaq** (Iraq) received her Bachelor's Degree from Al-Mustansiriya University College of Law in Iraq. Jasmine represented Iraq in the 28th Annual Vis Moot in 2021. She ranked first at the Scientific Debates Competition at Al-Mustansiriya University. She

served as a legal trainer at the 11th and 12th Annual Middle East Vis Pre-Moot Programs, preparing students from Iraq and other countries to participate in the Vis Moot Competition.

**Lea El Khoury** (Lebanon) received her Bachelor of Laws, Master of International Business Law 1, and Master of Arbitration and International Trade Law 2 degrees from the University of Paris I—Pantheon Sorbonne in Paris, France. Lea has interned at Tyan & Zgheib law firm in Beirut, Lebanon, and completed an internship at Bardon law firm in Paris, France. She has worked as a litigation intern at the FTPA Advocates in France. She was selected by the Sorbonne to participate in their exchange with Pitt Law for the 2022–23 academic year.

**Luisa Gambs** (Germany) is a student in the Faculty of Law of the University of Augsburg, Germany. She was a legal intern at the Bavarian Ministry for Social Matters in 2017. She worked as a volunteer with refugee children in 2015 and participated in a humanitarian project in North India. She was selected by the University of Augsburg to participate in their exchange with Pitt Law for the 2022–23 academic year.

**Seyed Hamid Hashemi** (Afghanistan) received his Bachelor's Degree from Dunya University and then attended Xiamen Academy of International Law before earning his LLM in International Law from Wuhan University. Hamid then attended Paris International Academy for





Arbitration Law and completed a course at The Hague Academy of International Law. He both participated in and coached, Vis Moot teams. Hamid worked as Head of Legal Affairs, Policy and Dispute Resolution at the International Chamber of Commerce in Afghanistan.

**Maryam Jami** (Afghanistan) received her Bachelor's in Law with Honors from Herat University. She has completed coursework in International & Comparative Law and Human Rights Law from the University of Leiden, University of London, Princeton University, and Harvard University. Maryam was a researcher at the Institute of War and Peace Studies, was the legal adviser for International Bridges to Justice and Jesuit Refugee Services in Afghanistan and Masnad Legal Consultancy, and performed legal research for Afghanistan Human Rights and Democracy Organization and Ritsona Refugee Camp. She is also widely published, having written in numerous journals in the five languages she speaks.

**Samuel Kempinger** (Germany) is a student in the Faculty of Law of the University of Augsburg, Germany. He interned at the chancellery Seitz/Weckbach/Fackler in 2019 before interning at the Tax Office Greyer in 2020. He completed two other internships in 2021 at the chancellery WBK PartG mbB and the chancellery Seitz/Weckbach/Fackler. He was selected by the University of Augsburg to participate in their exchange with Pitt Law for the 2022–23 academic year.



**Andrii Kokhan** (Ukraine) received his Bachelor's and Master's in Law, with Honors, from Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. He worked as a trainee at the Ukrainian Bar Association for Foreign Affairs, a junior legal advisor for Lifecell, chief specialist of legal expertise for the Executive Body of the Kyiv City Council, the chief legal counsel for TPS Real Estate Kiev, and an associate, project manager for Asters Law Firm.

**Oleh Kornat** (Ukraine) received his Bachelor's and Master's of Law from Lviv National University. He has worked as legal counsel for Lviv National University, a legal specialist for Lviv Service Delivery Center, Legal Counsel for a financial company, and a junior associate for Lavrynovych & Partners. He is widely published in Ukraine.

**Andrea Maceri** (Italy) received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Law from the University of Trieste. He did a two-year internship at

a small Trieste law firm before becoming a contract manager for a pipe mill in Louisiana. He is general counsel for North America for the iron and steel division of the Danieli Corporation, headquartered in Pittsburgh.

**Nazeer Mayar** (Afghanistan) received his Bachelor's in Law and Political Science from Nangarhar University and his Master's Degree in Governance and Development Studies from BRAC University in Bangladesh. He provided legal assistance to the Woman's Affairs Department of Baghlan, worked as a trainer at Aga Khan Foundation for Afghanistan Women's Empowerment Program, was a spokesperson and legal adviser to Baghlan Governor's Office, and was a visiting lecturer at Hakim Sanayee University Law School

**Tymur Mykhailov** (Ukraine) received his Bachelor's and Master's in Law and Economics, with Honors, from Donetsk National University.

He attended courses at MIM-Kyiv Business School and Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore. Tymur did Anti-corruption research and provided legal support as legal counsel in BRDO, was a private-practice attorney in trade, construction, agricultural, and IT, was the remote head of a legal department and represented clients in corporate conflicts, tax disputes, and white-collar crime cases for Skliarneko, Sydorenko, and Partners.

**Yaroslav Petrenko** (Ukraine) received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. He participated in the Jessup Moot while at Taras Shevchenko National University. Yaroslav was a judge's assistant in the Kyiv Circuit Administrative Court, worked as a junior associate at Sayenko Kharenko, and was a senior associate at Redcliffe Partners in the Litigation and Arbitration Department.

**Anastasiia Rozvadovska** (Ukraine) received her Bachelor's degree, with Honors, from Tara Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. Her primary field of study is Economic Law of the European Union. She has interned with Jones Day in Dusseldorf, was an investigator assistant for the Business Ombudsman Council in Kyiv, and interned with Oleh Rachuk Law Firm. Anastasiia participated in the Jessup Moot competition.

**Olha Tsyliuryk** (Ukraine) received her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. She was a postgraduate student at the

University of Economics and Law "KROK." She served as an in-house lawyer for Areal, an agricultural company; an in-house lawyer for Delta Capital Group, a construction company; the director for Brite & Gribe; the chief legal adviser and acting director for the State Enterprise Ukrainian Training Center; opened the Olha V. Tsyliuryk Law Office; was a lecturer at the University of Economics and Law and served as the legal adviser to the Mayor of Enerhodar City.

**Mathilde Vendryes** (France) received her Bachelor of Laws, Master's in Intellectual Property Law 1, and Master's in Industrial and Artistic Property Law 2 degrees from the University of Paris I—Pantheon Sorbonne in Paris, France. She served as a legal trainee in commercial law at the BNR Advocates law firm in 2018 and completed another traineeship in corporate law at the DMS Advocates law firm in Paris, France. Mathilde was also a literacy and artistic property trainee at Abacaris Films in 2021. She was selected by the Sorbonne to participate in their exchange with Pitt Law for the 2022–23 academic year.

**Anna Vnukova** (Ukraine) received her Bachelor's and Master's in Law from Tara Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. She worked as a junior lawyer at Jurimex-Online LLC in international trade and investment, as a lawyer for Tehagrovita Group of Companies in copyright law and arbitration, and as a lawyer for New Post LLC, working in intellectual property and IT law.

**Ebru Yukselten** (Turkey) received her Bachelor of Law Degree from Doğuş University Faculty of Law in Istanbul, Turkey, and a paralegal certificate from UCLA. Ebru has interned at Yasar Ozbay Law Office and completed a judicial internship at the Caglayan Courthouse. Upon earning her paralegal certificate, she spent time working as a paralegal at Kulen Law Firm in New York, working on immigration law.

**Tobias Zeller** (Germany) is a student in the Faculty of Law of the University of Augsburg, Germany. In 2019, he worked as a banker at Raiffeisenbank in Allgäuer Land. He completed an internship at KPMG Germany Tax in 2022. Tobias was selected by the University of Augsburg to participate in their exchange with Pitt Law for the 2022–23 academic year. ■

### SJD Students 2022-2023

**Khalid Alamer** (Saudi Arabia) is writing his dissertation on the impacts of unequal compliance between Saudi, GCC citizens, and non-Saudi investors in income tax. His dissertation supervisor will be Professor Philip Hackney. He received his Bachelor of Laws degree from King Khalid University in Saudi Arabia and his LLM from the University of Southern California in 2021. He has worked as a teaching assistant at Umm Al-Qura University and Najran University in Saudi Arabia.

**Anas Alhawas** (Saudi Arabia) is preparing his dissertation on the challenges and legal solutions combating transnational cybercrime and fraud by cybercriminals. His dissertation supervisor is Professor





Charles Kotuby. He received his Bachelor of Laws in Shari'a Law and Islamic Studies from Imam Mohammad Ibn Saud Islamic University and his LLM from the University of Denver in 2020. He has worked as a lecturer at the Institute of Public Administration in Saudi Arabia and as a legal consultant in various law firms in Saudi Arabia.

**Faiz Alhumaidhi** (Saudi Arabia) is writing his dissertation on the prospect of implementing a deferred prosecution agreement (DPA) in the Saudi criminal justice system. His dissertation advisor is Professor Christian Sundquist. He received his Bachelor of Laws degree from King Saud University in 2017 and his LLM from Georgetown University in 2022. He has recently worked as a teaching assistant at King Saud University in Saudi Arabia.

**Ebrahim Alshaiban** (Saudi Arabia) is writing his dissertation on how the Saudi legal system can diversify energy sources in Saudi Arabia to achieve broader avenues for economic revenues. His dissertation supervisor will be Professor Grant MacIntyre. He received his Bachelor of Laws degree from King Saud University in Saudi Arabia and his LLM from Indiana University Maurer School of Law in 2017. He has most recently worked as a lecturer at King Saud University.

**Daifallah Alsubhi** (Saudi Arabia) is preparing his dissertation on fintech and financial crimes in Saudi Arabia to develop comprehensive regulatory guidelines to control and prevent crimes in the country's fintech ecosystem. His dissertation advisor is Professor Pearl. He received his Bachelor

of Laws degree from Umm Al-Qura University in Saudi Arabia and his LLM from Georgetown University in 2022. He has recently worked as a teaching assistant at the Islamic University of Madinah in Saudi Arabia and the Georgetown University Law Center.

**Shakhzoda Tuychieva** (Uzbekistan) is writing her dissertation on the legitimacy of investment treaty arbitration. Her dissertation supervisor will be Professor Ron Brand. She received her Bachelor of Laws degree from the Tashkent State University of Law in Uzbekistan and her LLM from Penn State Law in 2022. She has recently worked as a research assistant at Penn State Law and has previously worked as a teaching assistant at Tashkent State University of Law.

**SJD Students 2021-2022**

**Hazim Alotaibi** (Saudi Arabia) is preparing his dissertation on artificial intelligence in health care. His dissertation supervisor is Professor Mary Crossley. He received his Bachelor of Laws degree in Shari'a Islamic Law from the Jamiat Al-Imam Mohamed Ibn Saud Al-Islamiah University in Saudi Arabia and his LLM degree from Boston University School of Law in 2016. He has recently worked as a junior faculty member at King Faisal University College of Law in Hofuf, Saudi Arabia, and has been a visiting scholar at Tufts University.

**Laras Susanti** (Indonesia) is writing her dissertation on the Indonesian legal protections of children's rights and against child marriage. Her dissertation

supervisor is Professor Haider Hamoudi. She received her Bachelor of Laws degree from Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia and her LLM degree from the University of Washington in 2014. She has worked as a researcher at the Law, Gender, and Society Research Center at Gadjah Mada University. She is the recipient of a Fullbright fellowship for 2021-22. ■

**Continuing SJD Students**

**Wasfi Al-Sharaa** (Iraq) is writing his dissertation on using criminal law in energy and environmental regulation. His dissertation supervisor is Professor Haider Hamoudi. He received his Bachelor of Laws degree from Shatt-El-Arab University College in 1998 and a master's degree in law from the University of Baghdad in 2001. He is an assistant professor of law and assistant dean of academic affairs at Basra Law School in Iraq. He is the recipient of a full scholarship from the University of Basra

**Ahmed Al Yarabi** (Oman) is writing his dissertation on the legislative process under the constitution of Oman. His dissertation advisor is Professor Jules Lobel. He received his Bachelor of Laws degree from the College of Law of Sultan Qaboos University of Oman in 2011 and his LLM degree from Pitt Law in 2014. He has recently worked as a lawyer for the Oman Telecommunications Company and as in-house counsel for other companies in Oman.

**Iva Grgic** (Croatia) is writing her dissertation on the law of contract farming. Her dissertation advisor

is Professor Ronald Brand. She received her Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Zagreb, Croatia, in 2013 and her LLM degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 2014. Before returning to Pitt Law, she worked in Zagreb as an associate with Bardek, Lisac, Mušec, Skoko in cooperation with CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz. Her work experience includes a post-LLM degree internship with Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP, and internships with Law Office Lipovscek and with Wolf Theiss, both in Zagreb. She was the coach of Pitt Law's 2015 Jessup Moot team, which won first place honors for its memorial submissions, and the 2019 Jessup Moot team.

**Nadine Hafaita** (Palestine) is preparing her dissertation on Arbitration related reform in Palestine under the supervision of Professor Ronald Brand. She received her Bachelor of Laws

degree from An-Najah University in Palestine in 2017 and her LLM from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 2019. She was the recipient of the 2018 Palestinian Rule of Law Scholarship for her LLM Studies and received the CALI Excellence for the Future Award in International Commercial Arbitration. She was a member of Pitt Law's 2019 Vis Moot team. She has been an intern and a Visiting Foreign Legal Consultant at Wilmer Hale in London. She was responsible for researching challenging arbitration-related issues and initiating gradual arbitration-related reform efforts in Palestine.

**Vincent Mutai** (Kenya) is writing his dissertation on the law of parallel importation of pharmaceutical products into the East Africa Community Common Market. His dissertation advisor is Professor Ronald Brand. He received his Bachelor of Laws degree from Moi University in Eldoret, Kenya,

in 2000, his LLM from Pitt Law in 2003, and an MBA from Point Park University in Pittsburgh in 2006. He has been the head of the Department of Commercial Law at Moi University School of Law, Acting University/Corporation Secretary for Moi University, and is a Founding Director of the Legal Aid Clinic of Eldoret (LACE) and Director of the National Legal Aid Service of Kenya.

**Shadi Shahoud** (Syria) is writing his dissertation on the harmonization of Arab secured transactions law. His dissertation advisor is Professor Hamoudi. He received his Bachelor of Laws degree in 2004 from Damascus University and his LLM from Pitt Law in 2016. He performed two years of bar program practice with the Syrian Bar Association in Homs and at the Hanna Shahoud Law Office. He was a partner with the Hanna & Shadi Shahoud Law Firm in Homs, working as a banking and insurance lawyer and practicing real estate law. ■

**Previous Pitt Law SJD Dissertations**

**2011 Yi-Ting (Cathy) Cheng** (Taiwan), [The Future of GATS Article XV: Service Subsidy Regulations Under the WTO](#)

**Fatima Waziri** (Nigeria), [Strengthening of Anti Corruption Commissions and Laws in Nigeria](#)

**2014 Bandar Alrasheed** (Saudi Arabia), [Corporate Governance of the Saudi Arabian Publicly Traded Companies: An Appraisal and Proposals for Improvement](#)

**2015 Vjosa Osmani** (Kosovo), [Treaty Application in Kosovo through Rules of Succession and as Domestic Law: The Example of the CISG](#)

**2017 Hisham Ababneh** (Jordan), [A Model BIT for Development: The Example of Jordan](#)

**Abdullah Alaoudh** (Saudi Arabia), [Religious Institutions in the Constitutional Orders of the Post-Revolution Arab Countries: Egypt as a Case Study](#)

**Zvenislava Opeida** (Ukraine), [Strengthening the WTO Subsidies Regime](#)

**2018 Ohud Alzahrani** (Saudi Arabia), [The Adoption of Children: An Exploration of Islamic Law in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and How it Compares to the International Standards Set by the Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-Operation in Respect of Inter-Country Adoption](#)

**2019 Oday Mahmood** (Iraq), [The Basis for Judicial Review in the Federal Supreme Court in Iraq: Mediating Between Democracy and Human Rights through Islam's Settled Rulings](#)

**2020 Doris Toyou** (Cameroon), [Private Equity and Investor Protection in the United States and in Europe](#)

**2021 Dr. Sulaiman Almualllem** (Saudi Arabia), ["A Reformative Legal Vision for the Kingdom: The Adoption of Rules of Discovery in the Civil Procedural System of Saudi Arabia: Considering the Example of the United States Discovery Regime"](#)





**Professor Ronald A. Brand** provided a “boot camp” course on preparing teams for the Willem

C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot sponsored by the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the U.S. Commerce Department from **August until October 2021**. The course was provided for coaches of teams in the Middle East, North African, Asian, and Eurasian law schools. The course was the first component in an academic year training and pre-moot process designed to aid law schools in transition countries develop curricula and skills in international commercial law and arbitration.

On **October 7, 2021**, Professor Brand’s op-ed article “Afghanistan: the education/security dilemma” was published in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

On **October 11-15, 2021**, Professor Brand participated as a U.S. delegation member at the Working Group of the Hague Conference on Private International Law, tasked with considering and drafting a possible convention on parallel proceedings in international litigation. The Working Group met by video on each of the five days and included participants from twenty-eight countries and the European Union.

On **October 18-22, 2021**, Professor Brand helped lead training sessions for students at 41 law schools from 23 countries in the Middle East, Africa, Eurasia, and

Asia in preparing for the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot. The program is Phase 1 of a multi-phase program co-sponsored by Pitt Law’ Center for International Legal Education (CILE), the Commercial Law Development Program of the U.S. Department of Commerce (CLDP), and the Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution (BCDR). During the week, Pitt Law graduates Robbie Cimmino and Nadine Hafaitha also provided training. Law school participants were from Bahrain, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, and Uzbekistan.

On **October 28, 2021**, Professor Brand presented on “Persuasive Legal Writing” to students from 10 law schools in Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Kosovo, Lithuania, and Saudi Arabia for purposes of preparing for the Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot. The program was arranged by Nevena Jevermovic (LL.M. ’16), who was teaching at the University of Zenica, Bosnia & Herzegovina, and now has received an appointment at the University of Aberdeen Faculty of Law.

On **October 29, 2021**, Professor Brand moderated a panel on “Rethinking the Service of Process In Cross-Border Transactions: *Rockefeller v SinoType*.” Brand set up the discussion by providing a history of the *SinoType* case and closed the session by summarizing

the distinctions indicated as important in the panelists’ presentations. The panel was part of the International Law Weekend, sponsored by the American Branch of the International Law Association (ABILA). Brand serves as a member of the Board of Directors

On **January 28, 2022**, Professor Brand spoke on the common law impact of the 1972 United States Supreme Court decision *M/S Bremen v. Zapata Off-Shore Company*, as part of a webinar workshop on “The Common Law Jurisprudence of the Conflict of Laws,” hosted by Professor Sarah McKibbin of the School of Law and Justice, Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts of the University of Southern Queensland, in Queensland, Australia.

On **April 1, 2022**, Professor Brand’s op-ed article “President Joe Biden’s Other Ukraine Speech” was published in *The National Interest*.

On **February 14-18, 2022**, Professor Brand participated as a U.S. delegation member at the Working Group of the Hague Conference on Private International Law, tasked with considering and drafting a possible convention on parallel proceedings in international litigation. The Working Group met by video on each of the five days and included participants from over thirty countries and the European Union.

On **March 7-12, 2022**, Professor Brand helped administer the 12th Annual Middle East Vis Pre-Moot, co-sponsored by Pitt Law’s Center for International Legal Education

(CILE) and the U.S. Commerce Department’s Commercial Law Development Program, and the Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution. This year’s competition hosted 36 teams from 27 countries. Pitt Law alumni Robbie Cimmino, Nadine Hafaitha, and Liz Taylor provided instruction in the training sessions. Pitt Law Professor Emeritus Harry Flechtner was an arbitrator in the final round of the Pre-Moot. The Pitt Law Vis Moot team of Mack Dowiak, Wilson Gaurnera, and Alec Smith competed in the Pre-Moot, reaching the semi-final round.

In **March 2022**, Professor Brand was named to the Editorial Advisory Board of the University of Bahrain Journal of Law.

On **May 14, 2022**, Professor Brand participated in a panel of senior scholars at the conference on “Jurisdiction Over Non-EU Defendants: Should the Brussels Ia Regulation be Extended?” held at the Inter University Center in Dubrovnik, Croatia, and sponsored by the European Association of Private International Law Young Research Network. In addition to Professor Brand, the panel on “Extending the Brussels Ia Regulation” included Professor Michael Hellner (University of Stockholm) and Professor Burkhard Hess (Max Planck Institute, Luxembourg) and Professor Margherita Salvadori (University of Torino).

On **June 13, 2022**, Professor Brand and Professor Emeritus Harry Flechtner posted “Rewarding Ignorance of the CISG: A Response to John Coyle” on the Transnational

Litigation Blog. The post was a response to the suggestion that choice of law clauses in international commercial contracts should be interpreted to mean what the majority of U.S. lawyers would prefer rather than what they mean under the rules of contract interpretation found in the U.N. Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods.

On **June 16, 2022**, Professor Brand spoke on Transnational Commercial Law and ESG at the 2022 Verona-Pitt Summer School in Transnational Commercial Law & ESG Sustainability, held in Verona, Italy, on June 16-18. The Summer School was held in person for the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Also speaking at the Summer School were Pitt Law alumni Janet Checkley, Charles DeMonaco, Nevena Jevremovic, Jo Anne Schwendinger, and Mark Walter.

On **June 23, 2022**, Professor Brand spoke on “The U.S. Approach to Forum Non-Conveniens,” as part of a panel on The Common Law Approach to Conflicts of Jurisdiction during a two-day online conference sponsored by the Journal of Private International Law and the Singapore Management University. The conference was the annual session of the Journal of Private International Law and was designed to review matters currently under negotiation in a Working Group at the Hague Conference on Private International Law. ■



**Professor Vivian Curran** was the keynote speaker at the Edouard Laboulaye Conference in

Lyon, France on **October 7, 2021**.

On **April 8, 2022**, Professor Curran participated in a virtual panel on the “*Transnational Discovery of E-Evidence*” at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of International Law panel in Washington, D.C.

On **April 22, 2022**, she delivered a Pitt Law Faculty Scholarship Presentation on “*Europe and Its Travails*.” ■



**Professor Charles T. Kotuby, Jr.** spoke to the American Bar Association’s International Family

Law Committee about “*Tips and Tactics in Managing International Discovery*” in **February 2022**.

In **March 2022**, the United States nominated Professor Charles T. Kotuby, Jr. to participate in UNCITRAL Working Group II’s upcoming Colloquium on Possible Future Work on Dispute Settlement. Working Group II oversees commercial arbitration and conciliation issues, and the Colloquium aimed to assist the UNCITRAL Commission in making an informed decision on the desirability and feasibility of future legislative work in the area





of commercial arbitration and international dispute settlement at its 55th session in 2022. Professor Kotuby presented his work on arbitral interim relief.

In **April 2022**, Professor Kotuby moderated an in-person and virtual panel, "*Does Section 1782 Contemplate Court Ordered Discovery for International Arbitration*" at an event hosted by Pitt Law and co-sponsored by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and CILE.

In **Fall 2021**, Professor Kotuby was reappointed by the U.S. Department of State as a Private Sector Advisor to the U.S. Delegation to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Working Group III on Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform and as a member of the Department of State's Advisory Committee on Private International Law (ACPIL).

In **Spring 2022**, Professor Kotuby was named the Co-Chair of the Pennsylvania and Ohio Chapter of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb), the Co-Chair of the Midwest Interest Group of the American Society of International Law (ASIL), and was appointed to the Academic Council of the Institute for Transnational Arbitration (ITA).

In **June 2022**, Professor Kotuby participated in a roundtable discussion at the Brookings Institute in Washington DC with Ambassador Norm Eisen and Didier Reynders, the European Commissioner for Justice, regarding the EU's "Freeze and Seize Task Force," which ensures EU-level coordination to implement

sanctions against listed Russian and Belarussian oligarchs.

In **Summer 2022**, Professor Kotuby delivered a three-week lecture on *Trends and Tactics in International Dispute Resolution* at the University of Augsburg's Summer Program in European and International Economic Law, and a two-day session on *The Fundamentals of Investment Arbitration* at Durham Law School's Summer Program on International Arbitration (with Dr. Todd Weiler). ■



**Professor Michael Madison** gave a virtual lecture titled "*Governing Knowledge*

*Commons: Looking Back and Looking Ahead*" to the Information Society Working Group at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence, Italy on **September 17, 2021**.

On **November 15, 2021**, he gave a virtual lecture titled "*Smart City Governance*" to a course on "*Technology infrastructures*" at Seoul National University co-taught by an SNU faculty member and University of Pittsburgh School of Computing and Information (SCI) Professor Martin Weiss.

On March 1, 2022, he spoke on "*Governing Knowledge Commons*" at a workshop titled "Cultural Heritage Institutions from a Commons Perspective" organized by the Center for Advanced Internet Studies (CAIS), located in Bochum, Germany.

On **February 2, 2022**, Professor Madison joined the EDHEC Business School "*Augmented Law Project*" as an Affiliate Researcher. EDHEC Business School is located in Lille, France.

In **Fall 2021**, as part of his "*Future Law Podcast*," Professor Madison hosted a four-part podcast series on LegalTech as part of the 2021 TechLaw.Fest, an annual pan-Asia gathering of legal professionals hosted and co-sponsored by the Singapore Academy of Law (SAL). In Spring 2022, he published an article titled "Ostrom amongst the Machines: Blockchain as a Knowledge Commons," 10 *Cosmos + Taxis* 3+4 1-15 (2022) with other Pitt-affiliated co-authors including Herminio Bodon, Pedro Bustamante, Marcela Gomez, Prashant Krisnamurthy, Ilia Murtazashvili, Jennifer Murtazashvili, Tymofiy Mylovanov, and Martin Weiss. The journal *Cosmos +Taxis* is a peer-reviewed journal published under the joint auspices of faculty at two Canadian universities: the University of British Columbia (Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine) and Simon Fraser University (Political Science Department). ■

## Faculty International and Comparative Law Publications and Postings

The following pieces on subjects of international and comparative law published and/or posted by Pitt Law faculty to SSRN and Digital Commons in the past year. You may view all Pitt Law SSRN posted papers [here](#) and all Digital Commons posted papers [here](#).

**Ronald A. Brand**, INTERIM MEASURES IN THE UNITED STATES IN AID OF ARBITRATION (with Lawrence Newmann and Houston Putnam Lowrey, Juris Publishers, 2022)

**Ronald A. Brand**, *A Hague Convention on Parallel Proceedings*, 63 HARVARD INTERNATIONAL LAW JOURNAL ONLINE 1 (with Paul Herrup, 2022)

**Ronald A. Brand**, *The Vulnerable Sovereign*, 83 UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH LAW REVIEW 423 (2021)

**Ronald A. Brand**, *Contract Jurisdiction*, in GUIDE TO GLOBAL PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW (with Karen Vandekerckhov) (Paul Beaumont and Jayne Holliday, eds., 2022)

**Ronald A. Brand**, *Provisional Measures in Aid of Arbitration*, in ARBITRATION, CONTRATTI E COMMERCIO INTERNAZIONALE/ ARBITRATION, CONTRACTS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE: STUDI IN ONORE DI GIORGIO BERNINI/ESSAYS IN HONOR OF GIORGIO BERNINI 311-340 (Fabrizio Marella and Nicola Soldati, eds. 2021)

**Ronald A. Brand**, *Regionalism in the Process of Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Titles, TECHNOLOGY, THE GLOBAL ECONOMY AND OTHER NEW CHALLENGES FOR CIVIL JUSTICE* 265-317 (Koichi Miki, ed. 2021)

**Ronald A. Brand**, *The Hague Judgments Convention in the United States: A "Game Changer" or a New Path to the Old Game?* 82 UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH LAW REVIEW 847-880 (2021),

**Ronald A. Brand and Paul Herrup**, *A Hague Parallel Proceedings Convention: Architecture and Features*

**Ronald A. Brand**, *The Vulnerable Sovereign*

**Ronald A. Brand and Paul Herrup**, *A Hague Convention on Parallel Proceedings*

**Vivan Curran**, Harmoniser la common law et le droit civil en un jus commune universalisable, -- *Revue de science criminelle*—(2022)

**Vivan Curran**, Mireille Delmas-Marty: Humaniste Incomparable, 74 *Revue internationale de droit comparé* 31 (2022)

**Vivan Curran**, *Addressing Member State Deviations from EU Foundational Values and the Rule of Law, Global Community Yearbook of International Law and Jurisprudence* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2022)

**Vivan Curran**, *L'utilité du droit comparé*, in Actes du colloque de 100 ans de l'Institut Edouard Lambert (ed., Frédérique Ferrand, forthcoming, 2022)

**Vivan Curran**, L'Europe face aux défis de pluralismes inattendus, Des mélanges ouverts : cheminer avec Mireille Delmas-Marty ( ed.s Geneviève Giudicelli-Delage et al., Mare et Martin, coll. Mélanges, forthcoming 2022)

**Vivan Curran**, *Appraising the U.S. Supreme Court's Philipp Decision, forthcoming— Pitt. L. Rev.—(2022)*

**Vivan Curran**, *A French Language International Arbitration Course for U.S. Law Students, in State of Arbitration: Essays in Honour of George Bermann* ( eds., Julie Bedard & Patrick Pearsall) (Juris, 2022).

**Vivan Curran**, *Federal Rule 44.1: Foreign Law in U.S. Courts Today*, 30 *Minnesota J. Int'l. L.* 231 (2021).

**Vivan Curran**, *The Un-Common Law, in A Cosmopolitan Jurisprudence. Essays in Memory of H. Patrick Glenn* (Helge Dedek, Oliver Twining, ed.s, Cambridge University Press, 2021), available on ssrn on SSRN.

**Vivan Curran**, *Federal Rule 44.1: Foreign Law in U.S. Courts Today*, 30 *Minnesota J. Int'l. L.* 231 (2021).





**Vivan Curran, *The Un-Common Law, in A Cosmopolitan Jurisprudence. Essays in Memory of H. Patrick Glenn*** (Helge Dedek, Oliver Twining, ed.s, Cambridge University Press, 2021), available on SSRN on SSRN.

**Charles T. Kotuby, Jr., *The High Court Decides a Set-Aside Application Involving Investment Treaty Succession, Gold Pool v Kazakhstan***, EWHC 3422 (Comm). 2021, LexisNexis Case Analysis (2022) (with Filip Srbinoski, LLM '22)

**Charles T. Kotuby, Jr., *Do the 2021 Reforms of the Italian Code of Civil Procedure Make Italy a Favorable Seat for International Arbitration?***, Assoc. Suisse Arb. Bull. (2022) (with Alberto Pomari, LLM '22)

**Charles T. Kotuby, Jr., Casenote: *Cassirer v. Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection Foundation*** (S. Ct. 2022), ASIL Private Int'l L. Interest Group Newsletter (May 2022)

**Charles T. Kotuby, Jr., *Leaving Permanent Courts Behind in the Creation and Reform of the Investor-State Dispute Settlement Regime***, in Beaumont, Ashdown, Terrien, Brodlija, eds., INVESTOR-STATE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT AT A CROSSROADS: THE DEBATES SHAPING THE FUTURE OF ISDS (Kluwer 2022) (forthcoming)

**Charles T. Kotuby, Jr., THE NEW YORK CONVENTION AS A UNIFORM LAW INSTRUMENT: A CONCISE GUIDE TO INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE AND CASE LAW** (Elger 2023) (forthcoming, with F. Ferrari & F. Rosenfeld)

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**Dr. Mais Haddad Joins SJD Alumni**



On December 13, 2021, Mais Haddad defended her dissertation on Patterns of Ethnic and Religious Discrimination in the Legal Systems of Middle East States. Her dissertation supervisor was Professor Haider Hammoudi.

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