

SIENA UNIVERSITY

and the

Franciscan Center for Catholic Studies

present

Peaceful resolution of international disputes: international law and Catholic peacebuilding



Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Norm (Lonnstrom Dining Hall)

4:30PM to 6:00PM Zoom Link:

[https://siena.zoom.us/j/94190955607?](https://siena.zoom.us/j/94190955607?pwd=CQfJjmeaoYsxuXhZKdWH7WgaOvsmkz.1)

[pwd=CQfJjmeaoYsxuXhZKdWH7WgaOvsmkz.1](https://siena.zoom.us/j/94190955607?pwd=CQfJjmeaoYsxuXhZKdWH7WgaOvsmkz.1)



Emilia Justyna Powell, Professor of Political Science, Concurrent Professor of Law, University of Notre Dame



Emilia Justyna Powell is a Professor of Political Science and Concurrent Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame. She has written extensively on international law, international courts, territorial and maritime disputes, international dispute resolution, and the Islamic legal tradition. Her prominent publications include *Domestic Law Goes Global: Legal Traditions and International Courts*, with Sara McLaughlin Mitchell (Cambridge University Press, 2011); *Islamic Law and International Law: Peaceful Resolution of Disputes* (Oxford University Press, 2020); and her award-winning, *The Peaceful Resolution of Territorial and Maritime Disputes*, with Krista E. Wiegand (Oxford University Press, 2023).

Lecture Description

International law offers countries multiple ways to settle their disputes in a peaceful manner that avoids military confrontations. States may resort to bilateral negotiations, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, and international courts to solve their disagreements. These disagreements may deal with issues such as territorial sovereignty (land, islands, etc), maritime zones, and others. Why do states choose particular methods? What are the strengths and shortcomings of each method? What is the role of Catholic peacebuilding in the context of international dispute resolution? I will give examples of important recent disputes that have been resolved via each method of settlement and where Catholic peacebuilding played an important role.

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If you have questions email

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