



Sydney Law School

Centres & Institutes @ Sydney Law School

Sydney Centre for International Law (SCIL)

www.law.usyd.edu.au/scil



Dr Ben Saul is Director of the Sydney Centre for International Law (SCIL) and a barrister (including in the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia). Ben specialises in public international law, particularly anti-terrorism law, humanitarian law, international criminal law and human rights law. He has published widely in international law journals and his recent book, *Defining Terrorism in International Law* (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2006), is the first scholarly work on the subject. He has taught law at UNSW, Oxford, Nepal, Hong Kong and Cambodia and is Editor in Chief of the *Australian International Law Journal*.

Ben is President of the Refugee Advice and Casework Service, Vice-President of Sydney PEN and a member of the International Law Association's International Committee on the compensation of victims of war. Ben has been a legal expert for the United Nations Committee on the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, monitored election violence in Sri Lanka for the International Commission of Jurists, assisted a member of the UN Human Rights Committee in Geneva and conducted field research on internal displacement in Sudan. Ben is actively involved in international law casework including in South Africa, Israel, Peru, and Guantanamo Bay.



The University of Sydney

The Sydney Centre for International Law was established in 2003 as a centre of excellence in research, teaching and practice in international law. The Sydney Centre builds upon the Faculty's well-recognised reputation in international law. Globally recognised professors of international law at Sydney have included Julius Stone, James Crawford, Ivan Shearer and Donald Rothwell.

The Centre pursues several main objectives:

- to make a major contribution to international legal scholarship;
- to promote excellence in the teaching of international law;
- to play a significant international legal advisory role for governments and non-governmental organisations in the Asia-Pacific region; and
- to enhance public awareness of, and interest in, international law.

Over the last two decades there has been a dramatic increase in the way public international law influences the conduct of states, citizens and corporations. There is an ever-growing body of international, transnational and regional rules governing activities at the international and domestic levels. More of us than ever before are taking part in the practices and processes of international law. These are significant changes and their impact has accelerated the need for research, for teaching excellence and for independent and comprehensive advice.

The primary focus of the Sydney Centre for International Law is the operation of international law in the region and the world. The Centre produces prolific cutting-edge research across a range of international law issues, including international economic law (trade, investment, arbitration, intellectual property), human rights, humanitarian law, anti-terrorism law, private international law, environmental law and climate change. The Centre frequently hosts public events on contemporary international law issues, with speakers such as foreign ministers, judges

of the International Court of Justice and senior practitioners and academics. It provides services to governments and non-government organisations here and throughout the Asia Pacific. The Centre is also involved in international law casework, consultancy, and development work. For example, recently the Centre has been involved in projects such as human rights training of police in Nepal, humanitarian training of the Iraqi Ministry of Defence, refugee law training of NGO activists from the conflict in the southern Philippines, and tax law reform in the Pacific region. It also provides opportunities for student involvement, including internship positions and editorial positions, thus encouraging deeper interest in international law scholarship by a younger generation of potential scholars.

Centre Director

Dr Ben Saul

Tel: (02) 9351 0354

Fax: (02) 9351 0200

Email: B.Saul@usyd.edu.au

Centre Administrator

Ms Sadhana Abayasekara

Tel: (02) 9351 0460

Fax: (02) 9351 0200

Email: law.scil@usyd.edu.au

Address

Sydney Centre for International Law

Faculty of Law, The University of Sydney

Room 625, Level 6, Law School Building (F10)

The University of Sydney, NSW 2006

CRICOS PROVIDER NO. 00026A

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