

## Dr Alexander Orakhelashvili

Lecturer

**[Birmingham Law School \(/schools/law/index.aspx\)](/schools/law/index.aspx)**

### Contact details

**Telephone** [+44 \(0\)121 414 6284](tel:+441214146284) (tel: [+44 121 414 6284](tel:+441214146284))

**Fax** +44 (0)121 414 3585

**Email** [a.orakhelashvili@bham.ac.uk](mailto:a.orakhelashvili@bham.ac.uk) (mailto: [a.orakhelashvili@bham.ac.uk](mailto:a.orakhelashvili@bham.ac.uk))

Birmingham Law School  
University of Birmingham  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham  
B15 2TT  
United Kingdom



### About

Dr Alexander Orakhelashvili has taught and researched public international law at four British universities over the past 10 years. His teaching also includes criminal law and jurisprudence. He is a frequent speaker at international conferences and seminars on developments in public international law, and has provided legal advice regarding public international law issues in litigation before English and American courts.

### Feedback and office hours

Mondays 2pm to 4pm during term time.

### Qualifications

- LLB (Tbilisi State University), 1997
- LLM (Leiden), 2000
- PhD (Cantab.), 2005

### Biography

Dr Orakhelashvili obtained his first law degree from Tbilisi State University in 1997, his master's degree from Leiden University in 2000 and his PhD from Cambridge University in 2005, and joined the School of Law in September 2009. Previously, he was Shaw Foundation Junior Research Fellow in Law at Jesus College, Oxford (2005-2008). He has taught and supervised in public international law and the armed conflicts law at the universities of Cambridge (2003-2004), London (2003-2005) and Oxford (2005-2008).

### Teaching

- Public International Law (LLB)
- Public International Law (LLM, module leader)
- Jurisprudence (LLB)
- International Criminal Law (LLM)
- Theory of Criminal Law (LLM, module leader)

### Postgraduate supervision

- International Law (all areas)

### Current doctoral students

Dr Orakhelashvili is currently supervising two doctoral students undertaking research in the following areas:

- Aut dedere aut iudicare as a customary rule
- The UN member states and individuals sharing international responsibility for the serious violation of international law committed during peace support operations

### Research

Dr Orakhelashvili's research focuses on all areas of public international law. He is an author of *Peremptory Norms in International Law* (OMIL, OUP 2006, paperback 2008, 657 pages), which is the updated and expanded version of his doctorate defended at Cambridge University in 2004, and constitutes the first comprehensive study of the complex phenomenon of peremptory norms in the international legal system. He has also authored *The Interpretation of Acts and Rules in Public International Law* (OMIL, OUP 2008, 620 pages), which is first and so far the only comprehensive work on interpretation encompassing not only international treaties but also other international legal acts such as unilateral declarations, reservations, Security Council resolutions and declarations accepting the International Court's jurisdiction. Most recently he published the first ever comprehensive monograph on *Collective Security* (OUP, 2011), an original study of the operation of universal and regional security institutions and their dynamic mutual interaction. Dr Orakhelashvili has also contributed over 50 articles and chapters to leading journals, yearbooks and edited collections. His work has been repeatedly cited by judges in national and international courts, for instance in 2004 by Mance LJ (as he then was) in the Court of Appeal decision on *Jones v Saudi Arabia*, as well as the Australian High Court, European and Inter-American Courts of Human Rights.

## Other activities

- Deputy Director of LLM Programmes
- Dr Orakhelashvili is an editor of the *Journal of International Peacekeeping* (<http://brill.publisher.ingentaconnect.com/content/mnp/joup>) (formerly *Yearbook of Peace Operations*, Martinus Nijhof/Brill).

## Publications

### Books:

- *Collective Security* (<http://ukcatalogue.oup.com/product/9780199579846.do>), OUP 2011, 408 pages, ISBN 978-0-19-957984-6
- *Peremptory Norms in International Law* (<http://ukcatalogue.oup.com/product/9780199295968.do>), Oxford Monographs in International Law Series, Oxford University Press (657 pages, 2006; paperback 2008)
- *Interpretation of Acts and Rules in Public International Law* (<http://ukcatalogue.oup.com/product/9780199546220.do>), Oxford Monographs in International Law Series, Oxford University Press, 2008, 622 pages, ISBN 978-0-19-954622-0

### Edited Collections:

- General Editor, *Research Handbook on the Theory and History of International Law* ([http://www.e-elgar.com/Bookentry\\_Main.lasso?id=13449](http://www.e-elgar.com/Bookentry_Main.lasso?id=13449)), Research Handbooks in International Law Series, Edward Elgar Publishers; contributions by 14 academics; 2011, 560pp.
- Co-editor (with Dr Sarah Williams of UNSW), *40 Years of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties* (<http://www.biicl.org/publications/view/id/137/>), 9 contributors, (BIICL Publisher, London; 2010, 207 pages)

### Articles and Chapters in Books:

- The Position of the Individual in International Law, *California Western International Law Journal*, Volume 31, Spring issue, 2001, 241-276
- Questions of International Judicial Jurisdiction in the *LaGrand* case, *Leiden Journal of International Law*, No. 1, 2002, 105-130
- The *Arrest Warrant* Case (Congo v. Belgium), Case Review, *American Journal of International Law*, No. 3, July 2002, 677-685
- State Immunity in National and International Law, *Leiden Journal of International Law*, No. 3, 2002, 703-714
- The European Convention on Human Rights and International Public Order, *Cambridge Yearbook of European Legal Studies*, vol. 5, 2002-2003, 237-270
- Legal Basis of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Operations, *Virginia Journal of International Law*, Winter Issue, January 2003, 484-524; also reproduced in the collection of essays on *International Peacekeeping* (B. Kondocho (ed.), Library of Essays in International Law, Ashgate Publishing, 2007)
- State Immunity and International Public Order, *German Yearbook of International Law*, vol. 45, 2002, 227-267
- Restrictive Interpretation of Human Rights Treaties in the Recent Jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights, *European Journal of International Law*, No.3, 2003, 529-568, quoted by Mance LJ in *Jones v Saudi Arabia*, Court of Appeal, 2004
- Peremptory Norms of International Law and Reparation for Internationally Wrongful Acts, *Baltic Yearbook of International Law*, vol. 3, 2003, 19-55
- Treaties and Title to Territory, *Cambridge Law Journal*, March issue, 2003, 9-12
- The Concept of International Judicial Jurisdiction: A Reappraisal, *The Law and Practice of International Courts and Tribunals*, vol. 3, Fall issue, 2003, 501-550
- The Post-War Settlement in Iraq: The UN Security Council Resolution 1483(2003) and General International Law, *Journal of Conflict and Security Law*, vol. 8(2), 2003, 307-314
- The *Oil Platforms* case (Iran v. USA), Case Review, *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, July issue, 2004, 753-761
- The Impact of Peremptory Norms on Interpretation and Application of the UN Security Council Resolutions, *European Journal of International Law*, No 1, 2005, 59-88
- Judicial Competence and Judicial Remedies in the *Avena* case, *Leiden Journal of International Law*, No. 1, 2005, 31-48
- The *Assanidze* case (ECtHR), case review, *American Journal of International Law*, January Issue, 2005, 222-230
- International Public Order and the International Court's Advisory Opinion on *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*, *Archiv des Völkerrechts*, No. 2, 2005, 240-256
- The World Bank Inspection Panel in Context: Institutional Aspects of the Accountability of International Organisations, *International Organisations Law Review*, Second Issue, 2005, 57-102
- *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*: Opinion and Reaction, *Journal of Conflict and Security Law*, No. 1, 2006, 119-139
- The Idea of European International Law, *European Journal of International Law*, Volume 17, No. 2, 2006, 315-347
- *Armed Activities on the Territory of the Congo* (DRC v Rwanda), case review, *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, July issue, 2006, 753-763
- Legal Stability and Claims of Change: The International Court's Treatment of *Jus ad Bellum* and *Jus in Bello*, *Nordic Journal of International Law*, Third issue, 2006, 371-407
- The Legal Framework of Peace Operations by Regional Organisations, *International Peacekeeping: Yearbook of International Peace Operations*, volume 11, 2006, 111-143
- The International Court and "Its Freedom to Select the Ground upon which It Will Base its Judgment," *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, January issue, 2007, 171-184
- State Immunity and International Public Order Revisited, *German Yearbook of International Law*, volume 49, 2006, 327-365
- Interpretation of Jurisdictional Instruments in International Dispute Settlement, *Law and Practice of International Courts and Tribunals*, volume 6(1), 2007, 159-188
- The Acts of the Security Council: Meaning and Standards of Review, *Max-Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law*, Volume 11, 2007, 143-195
- Overlap and Convergence: The Interaction between *Jus ad Bellum* and *Jus in Bello*, *Journal of Conflict and Security Law*, volume 12(2), 2007, 157-196
- State Immunity and Hierarchy of Norms: Why the House of Lords Got it Wrong, *European Journal of International Law*, Volume 18(5), 2007, 955-970
- The Power of the UN Security Council to Determine the Existence of a "Threat to the Peace", *Irish Yearbook of International Law*, Volume 1, 2006, 61-100
- The Normative Basis of "Fair and Equitable Treatment": General International Law on Foreign Investment? *Archiv des Völkerrechts*, No. 1, 2008, 74-105
- The Interaction between Human Rights and Humanitarian Law: Fragmentation, Conflict, Parallelism or Convergence? *European Journal of International Law*, Volume 19(1), 2008, 161-182

- The *Al-Jedda* case (House of Lords) case review, *American Journal of International Law*, April issue, 2008, 337-345
- Natural Law and Customary Law, *Zeitschrift für ausländisches öffentliches Recht und Völkerrecht*(Heidelberg JIL, MPI Heidelberg), 2008(1), 69-110
- Between Impunity and Accountability for Serious International Crimes: Legal and Policy Approaches, *Netherlands International Law Review*, 2008, 207-232
- Statehood, Recognition and the United Nations System: A Unilateral Declaration of Independence in Kosovo, *Max-Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law*, volume 12, 2008, 1-44
- Principles of Treaty Interpretation in the NAFTA Arbitral Award on *Canadian Cattlemen*, 26 *Journal of International Arbitration*, 2009(1), 159-173
- International Law and Geopolitics: One Object, Conflicting Legitimacies? 39 *Netherlands Yearbook of International Law*, 2008, 155-204
- (a) The Kosovo UDI between the Agreed Law and Subjective Perception: A Response to Hilpold, forthcoming in *Chinese Journal of International Law*, July issue 2009, 285-290; (b) Kosovo and the Pitfalls of Over-theorising International Law – Observations on Hilpold’s Rejoinder, forthcoming in *Chinese Journal of International Law*, November issue 2009, 589-592
- Division of Reparation between Responsible Entities, in J Crawford, A Pellet & S Olleson (eds.), *The Law of International Responsibility* (Oxford University Press, 2010), 647-665
- Peremptory Norms as an Aspect of Constitutionalisation in the International Legal System, in S Muller & M Frishman (eds.), *The Dynamics of Constitutionalism in the Age of Globalisation* (TMC Asser Press, 2010), 153-180
- Threat, Emergency, and Survival: The Legality of Emergency Action in International Law, *Chinese Journal of International Law*, June issue, 2010, 345-391
- Recent Practice on the Principles of Treaty Interpretation, forthcoming in S Williams & A Orakhelashvili (ed.), *40 Years of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties* (BIICL, London 2010), 117-155
- Unilateral Interpretation of Security Council Resolutions: UK Practice, 2 *Goettingen Journal of International Law* (2010), 823-842
- Commentary to Article 30 of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (Application of successive treaties relating to the same subject matter), P Klein & O Corten (eds.), *Commentary to the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties*, OUP 2011, 765-800
- Commentary to Article 30 of the 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organisations or between International Organisations (Application of successive treaties relating to the same subject matter), P Klein & O Corten (eds.), *Commentary to the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties*, OUP 2011, 801-803
- Hegemony, Multipolarity, and the System of International Law, forthcoming in M Happold (ed.), *International Law in a Multipolar World* (Routledge, London 2010), 114-137 (publication date 12 October 2011)
- Four Chapters in Orakhelashvili (Gen. Ed.), *Research Handbook on Theory and History of International Law*: (a) The Relevance of Theory and History – The Essence and Origins of International Law (pp 3-22); (b) The Origins of Consensual Positivism – Pufendorf, Wolff and Vattel (pp 93-110); (c) International Law, Politics and Ideology (pp 327-377); (d) The 19th Century Life of International Law (pp 441-455)
- The International Court’s Advisory Opinion on UDI in Kosovo: Washing Away the “Foam on the Tide of Time”, 15 *Max Planck YB UN Law* (2011), 65-104
- The Competence of the International Court of Justice and the Doctrine of the Indispensable Party: from *Monetary Gold* to *East Timor* and Beyond, 2(2) *Journal for International Dispute Settlement* (2011), 373-392
- Immunities of State Officials, International Crimes, and Foreign Domestic Courts: A Reply to Dapo Akande and Sangeeta Shah, 22(3) *European Journal of International Law* (2011), 849-855

## Encyclopaedia Entries

- Natural Law and Justice, *Max Planck Encyclopaedia of Public International Law* (OUP 2011), 8000 words
- The *Anglo-Iranian Oil Company* case (UK/Iran), *Max Planck Encyclopaedia of Public International Law*(OUP 2011), 3200 words
- Governmental Activities on Foreign Territory, *Max Planck Encyclopaedia of Public International Law*(OUP 2011), 6500 words
- *Jus Cogens*, *The New Oxford Companion to Law* (OUP 2008)

## Book reviews

- UK Legislation concerning international law, *British Year Book of International Law*, vol. 72, 2001
- Book Review: W. Schabas, *The Abolition of the Death Penalty in International Law* (CUP), reviewed in *German Yearbook of International Law*, vol. 45, 2002
- Book Review: L. Zegveld, *The Accountability of the Armed Opposition Groups in International Law* (CUP), reviewed in *German Yearbook of International Law*, vol. 45, 2002
- Book Review: T. Franck, *Recourse to Force* (CUP), reviewed in *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, July issue, 2003
- Book Review: D. Fleck (ed.), *The Handbook of the Law of Visiting Forces* (OUP), reviewed in *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, January issue, 2004
- Book Review: H. Fox, *The Law of State Immunity* (OUP), reviewed in *British Year Book of International Law*, vol. 74, 2003
- Book Review: C. Amerasinghe, *Jurisdiction of International Tribunals* (Kluwer), reviewed in *British Year Book of International Law*, vol. 74, 2003
- Book Review: S. Zappala, *Human Rights in International Criminal Proceedings* (OUP), reviewed in *German Yearbook of International Law*, vol. 46, 2003
- Book Review: A. Cassese, *International Criminal Law* (OUP), reviewed in *German Yearbook of International Law*, vol. 46, 2003
- Book Review: P. Zygojannis, *Die Staatengemeinschaft und das Kosovo. Humanitäre Intervention und internationale Übergangsverwaltung unter Berücksichtigung einer Verpflichtung des Intervenierten zur Nachsorge* (Duncker & Humblot), reviewed in *British Year Book of International Law*, volume 75, 2004
- Book Review: J. Pauwelyn, *Conflict of Norms in Public International Law* (CUP), reviewed in *Cambridge Law Journal*, March Issue, 2004
- Book Review: Y. Shany, *Competing Jurisdictions of International Courts and Tribunals*, reviewed in *Cambridge Law Journal*, November Issue, 2004
- Book Review: R. McCorquodale (ed.), *Human Rights*, reviewed in *Australian Yearbook of International Law*, 2005
- Book Review: M. Lattimer & P. Sands (ed.), *Justice for Crimes Against Humanity*, reviewed in *British Yearbook of International Law*, volume 75, 2004
- Book Review: C. Amerasinghe, *Local Remedies in International Law* (Second ed., CUP, 2004), reviewed in *German Yearbook of International Law*, 2005
- Book Review: M. Sornarajah, *International Law on Foreign Investment* (Second ed., CUP, 2004), reviewed in *German Yearbook of International Law*, 2005
- Review Essay: *The Fundamental Rules of the International Legal Order: Jus Cogens and Obligations Erga Omnes*, edited by Christian Tomuschat and Jean-Marc Thouvenin (Brill, 2005), reviewed in *American Journal of International Law*, April issue 2006, 513-517
- Book Review: S. Rosenne, *The Law and Practice of the International Court, 1920-2005* (4th ed., 2006), reviewed in *Nordic Journal of International Law* (2005), 473-477
- Book Review: A. Bianchi (ed.), *Enforcing International Law Norms against Terrorism*, reviewed in *British Yearbook of International Law*, volume 76, 2005

- Book Review: F. Voeffray, L'actio popularis ou la défense de l'intérêt collectif devant des juridictions internationales (Paris: Presses Universitaires de France, 2004), reviewed in *British Yearbook of International Law*, volume 76, 2005
- Book Review: T. Treves *et al.*, Civil Society, International Courts and Compliance Bodies (Asser Press 2005), reviewed in *British Yearbook of International Law*, volume 76, 2005
- Book Review: S. Talmon, Kollektive Nichtanerkennung illegaler Staaten. Grundlagen und Rechtsfolgen einer international koordinierten Sanktion, dargestellt am Beispiel der Türkischen Republik Nord-Zypern (Tübingen 2006), 56 *International and Comparative Law Quarterly* (2007), 966-967
- Book review: R. Murphy, UN Peacekeeping in Lebanon, Somalia and Kosovo, Operational and Legal Issues in Practice, by Ray Murphy, CUP 2007, *Journal of International Peacekeeping*, No 1, 2008
- Joint Book Review: C. Stahn, The Law and Practice of International Territorial Administration, Versailles to Iraq and Beyond, CUP 2008/R. Wilde, International Territorial Administration: How Trusteeship and the Civilizing Mission Never Went Away, OUP 2008, *Journal of International Peacekeeping*, No 1, 2008
- Joint Book Review: M Nowak & E McArthur, The United Nations Convention Against Torture, A Commentary, 2008, 1680 pages/Otto Triffterer (ed.) Commentary on the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court Observers' Notes, Article by Article, 2008, 1954 pages, *European Journal of International Law*, 2009(2), 457-462
- Joint Book Review: D Fleck (ed.) *The Handbook of International Humanitarian Law*, (2nd ed., OUP 2008)/ E Wilmshurst & S Breau (eds.), *Perspectives on the ICRC Study on Customary International Humanitarian Law* (CUP 2008), in *British Yearbook of International Law* 2008, 371-378
- Book Review: H Ruiz Fabri, E Jouannet & V Tomkiewicz (ed.), *Select Proceedings of the European Society of International Law*, volume 1, 2006 (Hart Publishing 2008), *European Journal of International Law*, 2009, 962-964
- Book Review: R Arnold (ed.), Law-Enforcement within the Legal Framework of Peace Support Operations (Brill 2008), *Journal of International Peacekeeping*, No 3-4, 2009
- Joint Book Review: Vincent Kronenberger & Jan Wouters (ed.), *The European Union and Conflict Prevention* (TMC Asser Publishers, 2004); Martin Reichard, *The EU-NATO Relationship* (Ashgate 2005), *Journal of International Peacekeeping*, No 3-4, 2009
- Joint Book Review: E Denza, *Diplomatic Law – Commentary on the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations* (Third Edition, OUP 2008)/J Quigley & L Lee, *Consular Law and Practice* (Second Edition, OUP 2008), *Nordic Journal of International Law*, 2010, No 2
- Book Review: Z Yihdego, *The Arms Trade and International Law* (Hart Publishing, Oxford, 2007), *Journal of Conflict and Security Law*, 2010
- Review Essay: M Kamminga & M Scheinin (eds.) *The Impact of Human Rights on General International Law* (OUP 2009), *International Journal of Minority Rights*, June issue, 2010, 491-499

#### Online Publication

- Submission to the Iraq Inquiry regarding the lawfulness of the Iraq invasion in 2003, September 2010, [www.guardian.co.uk/documents](http://www.guardian.co.uk/documents) (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/documents>)

#### Conference and Seminar Presentations

- Panel Speaker, *The Impact of Peremptory Norms of General International Law (jus cogens) on the Interpretation and Application of the UN Security Council Resolutions*, presented at the International Law Association (ILA) British Branch Annual Conference, Reading, 11-12 April, 2003
- Panel Speaker, *International Litigation Relating to the Conflict in the African Great Lakes Region*, presented at the Oxford Public International Law Discussion Group Seminar, Oxford, 16 February 2006
- Speaker, *From Al-Adsani to Jones: State Immunity and International Public Policy in Civil Proceedings*, presented at London School of Economics, 2 November 2006
- Speaker, *The interaction between human rights and humanitarian law: a case of fragmentation?* Presented at the Institute for International Law and Justice Colloquium, New York University (NYU), 26 February 2007
- Panel Speaker, *Acts of the Security Council: Meaning and Standards of Review*, presented at the International Law Association (ILA) British Branch Annual Conference, Sussex University, Brighton, 20 April 2007
- Chair and Commentator, Conference on Transitional Justice and International Law, Department of Politics, Oxford University, 22-23 June 2007
- Panel Speaker, *Peremptory Norms as an aspect of Constitutionalism in International Law*, presented at the Conference on the Dynamics of Constitutionalism in Public International Law, organised by the Hague Academic Coalition (TMC Asser Institute, Clingendael Institute & Carnegie Foundation), Peace Palace, The Hague, 16 May 2008
- Panel Speaker, *Is Hegemony Sustainable in the International Legal System?* Presented at the International Law Association (ILA) British Branch Annual Conference, Hull, 17-18 April 2009
- Speaker, *Judicial Review of International Decisions by International and National Courts*, Naples University, Italy, 6 December 2010
- Speaker, *Constitutional Basis of UN Peace-keeping*, University of Nottingham, 26 January 2011
- International Crimes, Human Rights Violations, And the Subject-Matter Immunity of States and Their Officials, Presentation at ILA British Branch Seminar, Bristol 29 November 2011
- Speaker, *The Jurisdictional Immunities (Germany v Italy) case: judicial development of natural law*, Oxford Public International Law Discussion Group Seminar, Oxford, New College, 23 February 2012

