

Date: Wednesday, 24 May 2023
Time: 5.00 pm – 6.30 pm AWST (7.00 pm – 8.30 pm AEST)
Format: In person and online
Venue: Corrs Chambers Westgarth, Brookfield Place Tower 2, Level 6,
 123 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000

This is a free public event but registration is essential.

The Australian Academy of Law and Corrs Chambers Westgarth are delighted to host this event chaired by Professor Erika Techera, University of Western Australia

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has brought back the notion of use of military force and aggression as a means of international politics. The reaction of the international community was and is somewhat ambivalent. Solid condemnations in the General Assembly of the UN with only a few states supporting Russia but also considerable hesitation to unequivocally condemn Russia outright on the part of major states like China, India or Brazil. The aggression raises a number of different questions around the two principal legal topics surrounding the use of force: the "*ius ad bellum*" and the "*ius in bello*". The former deals with the legality of using (military) force and the latter deals with the rules of war, i.e., the rules that apply in armed conflict regardless of the legality of using force as a means of conflict resolution. In particular, the following issues will be discussed:

- The legal basis for the use of force under international law
- The legality of Russia's aggression in Ukraine – the Russian position
- The conduct of the war: IHL, human rights, international crimes, international responsibility
- The impact of Russia's aggression on international law and its development



Dr Lara Pratt, Senior Lecturer, University of Notre Dame. Dr Lara Pratt has been a Senior Lecturer at the University of Notre Dame since 2012. Lara teaches in a variety of courses with her main teaching area being those courses with an International Law element, including Public International Law, Law and War and Human Rights. Lara's research interests are in public international law, in particular international humanitarian and international criminal law, as well as human rights law. Lara has a long relationship with the Australian Red Cross' WA International Humanitarian Law Advisory Committee and is currently on the WA Divisional Advisory Board.



Professor Jürgen Bröhmer is a Professor of Law at the Law School of Murdoch University in Perth, Western Australia. He joined Murdoch University in 2012 (as Dean until 2019). Professor Bröhmer received his law degree from Mannheim University in Germany and his doctorate and post-doctoral habilitation from Saarland University in Saarbrücken, Germany, where he worked at the Europa-Institute from 1992 to 2006 (and still is part of the visiting faculty). Jürgen has published extensively on issues of public international law and teaches general public international and international trade law at Murdoch.

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