



FLIA Conference

Passionately promoting international cooperation and public dialogue through the development of new ideas

BRICS Cooperation: Facing International Changes together, Pursuing Mutual Benefit and Win-Win Result

From October 2 to October 4, FLIA co-organized seminars titled "BRICS Cooperation: Facing International Changes together, Pursuing Mutual Benefit and Win-Win Result" at Faculdades de Campinas, Fundação Armando Alvares Penteado, and Instituto de Política Pública e Relação Internacional - UNESP, in cooperation with Centro Chinês de Estudos dos Países de Língua Portuguesa da Universidade de Economia e Negócios Internacionais and Associação Desenvolvimento Econômico Brasil-China. Professor Jialan Liu gave a presentation titled "The Construction and Effects of the Cooperation mechanism of China and Portuguese-speaking Countries." Professor Rui Zhuang shared her research on the topic of "Chinese Belt and Road Initiative and the Opportunity of BRICS Economic Cooperation." Professor Qingxin Lan talked about "Deepening the economic and trade cooperation of BRICS countries" at the seminars.



FLIA Seminar at Faculdades de Campinas



FLIA Seminar at Fundação Armando Alvares Penteado



FLIA Seminar at Instituto de Política Pública e Relação Internacional - UNESP



BRICS Cooperation: Facing International Changes together, Pursuing Mutual Benefit and Win-Win Result

FLIA > Belt and Road Initiative Simulation Program



About the Belt and Road Initiative Simulation

The BRI Simulation Program is an international negotiation program that equips students and young professionals with knowledge and skills for participating in the Belt and Road Initiative. It is the first direct and comprehensive educational program for the BRI. It is designed and developed by the Foundation for Law and International Affairs (FLIA).

The program provides training and courses, competitions, publications, and a professional network. Students and young professionals who have participated in competition can join the OBOR Talents Pool and become a member of the OBOR young professional network.

For more information about the program, see obor.education

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- August 2019
- July 2019
- June 2019
- May 2019
- April 2019
- March 2019
- February 2019
- January 2019
- December 2018
- November 2018
- October 2018
- September 2018
- August 2018
- July 2018
- June 2018
- May 2018
- April 2018
- March 2018
- February 2018
- January 2018
- December 2017
- November 2017
- October 2017
- September 2017
- August 2017
- July 2017
- June 2017
- May 2017
- April 2017
- February 2017
- December 2016
- August 2016
- May 2016
- March 2016
- February 2016
- January 2016
- December 2015
- November 2015
- October 2015
- September 2015
- July 2015
- June 2015

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Our Courage in 2020 and Beyond

July 19, 2020 | No Comments

— Some Words Written for FLIA’s Fifth Anniversary



Five years is a milestone. As we celebrate FLIA’s fifth anniversary, it is particularly my job to assess and remind our teammates and myself how far we have gone in the past five years, how many international programs and events we have organized, how much work we have published, and how many people we have empowered or influenced along the way.

But beyond these achievements, I think it is more important to remind ourselves whether we are running closer to our believed vision. Just as in the past, we constantly ask ourselves who we are and what message we want to deliver to the world.

Our mission is to facilitate international scholarly activities, conduct high quality, independent research and policy analysis, engage in public education and awareness-building programs, create a professional network in the field, as well as amplify the voice of the rising generation. **Our core vision is to empower professionals, especially young professionals, in the field of law and international affairs to achieve self-fulfillment and contribute to globalization and localization toward a more diverse, intelligent, and peaceful world.**

As we are holding on to our mission and vision, I cannot help but ask myself a question – have we changed in the past five years?

Yes, and No.

FLIA is a team with over fifty established and young researchers from all over the world. We are a team of global citizens. The concept of a global citizen is first of all one of personal development. People who are viewed as global citizens usually have gone through a profound process of transformation and self-growth, during which they transcended themselves from self-abasement and self-conceit, accepted who they are and their past experiences, and believe that all individuals should be given the same attention and opportunities regardless of his or her gender, nationality, race, color, or faith.

This is a valuable and uncommon ability. It is how we became the global citizens we are by giving our attention, interest,

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- July 2020
- August 2019
- July 2019
- June 2019
- May 2019
- April 2019
- March 2019
- February 2019
- January 2019
- December 2018
- November 2018
- October 2018
- September 2018
- August 2018
- July 2018
- June 2018
- May 2018
- April 2018
- March 2018
- February 2018
- January 2018
- December 2017
- November 2017
- October 2017
- September 2017
- August 2017
- July 2017
- June 2017
- May 2017
- April 2017
- February 2017
- December 2016

International Symposium: The Role of BRICS in Global Governance and International Law

FLIA, IEEI - São Paulo State University (UNESP), Graduate Program "San Tiago Dantas" (UNESP, UNICAMP, PUC-SP), the Brazil-China Economic Development Association, and IBRACHINA co-organized the international symposium: The Role of BRICS in Global Governance and International Law on October 4, 2019 at Unesp - Praça da Sé, 108, 3th floor. São Paulo-SP. The conference invites paper submissions. We hope to bring ideas from across the globe considering historical and comparative contexts that foster interdisciplinary conversation. Papers from all disciplines and geographical areas are welcome.



Concept Paper: The Role of BRICS in Global Governance and International Law

Summary: The Role of BRICS in Global Governance and International Law

Roundtable: the Implications of the 19th Chinese Communist Party Congress

Roundtable on the 19th Chinese Communist Party Congress, sponsored by Penn State Law, Penn State School of International Affairs, the Coalition for Peace & Ethics, the Foundation for Law and International Affairs, and Res. Career Development Network of Law and International Affairs, was hosted on Friday, November 3, from 10 AM through Noon at Katz 241, Penn State Law School. Academic scholars from the U.S., China, and Europe spoke via online chat to discuss the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China and what the new constitution entails.



Concept Note

Summary

Roundtable Materials

International Symposium on Rule of Law & Social Credit Systems

International Symposium on Rule of Law & Social Credit Systems was held successfully at KoGuan Law School, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, People's Republic of China on September 23, 2017. The symposium was guided by Shanghai Reform and Development Commission, and the Shanghai Public Credit Information Service Center. It was co-organized by Shanghai Jiao Tong University KoGuan School of Law, East China University of Political Science and Law School of Economic Law, Shanghai Law Academy Research Center for Banking Law Practice, Shanghai Jiao Tong University Research Center for Internet Law Innovation, East China University of Political Science and Law Research Center for Rule of Law, The Intellectual Property Office of Tencent Holdings Limited, and the Foundation for Law and International Affairs.



Opening Remarks



Panel 1 Social Credit Legislation: The Status Quo and the Future



Panel 2 The System and Practice of Credit in the Global Context



Panel 3 The Social Credit System and Global Governance



Panel 4 Social Credit and the Market Economy



Panel 5 Personal Data Protection in the Social Credit System



Closing Remarks

International Conference: New International Trade and Investment Rules between Globalization and Anti-Globalization

From April 21-23, The Foundation for Law and International Affairs, Manchester University Alliance Manchester Business School Business and Human Rights Catalyst, The Coalition for Peace and Ethics, The Pennsylvania State University Center for Global Studies, Penn State Law, the Penn State School of International Affairs, and The Penn State University Research and Career Development Network for Law and International Affairs hosted the international conference "New International Trade and Investment Rules between Globalization and Anti-Globalization." Featured guest speakers from China, the US, the UK, Italy, Denmark, and Hong Kong attended the conference. The conference included a pre-conference workshop, four panels, and one special session.



Opening Remarks on April 22

The conference began with opening remarks given by the Interim Dean James W. Houck and Dean Designate Hari M. Osofsky of Penn State Law School.



The Pre-conference Workshop: "Scenarios for China's Future"

The pre-conference workshop, held on April 21, was titled "Scenarios for China's Future." The organizer, Matthew Spaniol, is a scenario planning and corporate foresight expert. He serves as an Industrial PhD Fellow at Danish Maritime, representing the maritime industry, and has experience working for the Oxford Scenarios Program and as an analyst at the Copenhagen Institute for Futures Studies. Guest speakers and students attended the workshop.



Keynote Speech: Accounting for Human Rights in International Trade

Professor and Associate Dean of the Faculty of Humanities at Manchester University Kenneth McPhail gave the keynote speech. He argued that the connections between trade and human rights must take into account both the language of normative frameworks and the language of business, which set the stage for the further discussion at the conference.



Panel 1: The Convergence and Diversification of the International Trade and Investment Regimes

The first panel was moderated by Board Member of the Foundation for Law and International Affairs Flora Sapio. Yumei Lin (Associate Professor, Vermont Law School) & Sheng Sun (Vermont Law School), Ohwasun Ajayi (Attorney, U.S. Department of Education), Armstrong Chen (Partner, King & Wood Mallesons), and Feng Li (Lecturer, China Foreign Affairs University) presented at this panel.



Panel 2: The Constitutionalization of International Trade and Investment Rules Beyond the State or Among States

The second panel was moderated by Professor of Penn State Law School and School of International Affairs Larry Cata Backer, Wei Shen (Professor & Dean, Shandong University Law School), Flora Sapio (Professor, Australian National University; Board Member, FLIA), Paolo Farah (Professor, West Virginia University Department of Public Administration), Bin Li (Professor, Beijing Normal University Law School) and Xiaofa Li (Postdoctoral Researcher, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics) presented at this panel.



Panel 3: The Rise of New Societal Orders and Global Supply Chains, Labor, and Investment Markets

The third panel was moderated by Professor Kenneth McPhail of Manchester University. Larry Cata Backer (Professor, Penn State Law), Nicholas Rowland (Professor, Pennsylvania State University - Altoona) & Matthew Jon Spaniol (Professor, Roskilde University), Sean Jorgensen (Attorney & Secretary of the Foundation for Law and International Affairs), and Keren Wang (Ph.D. candidate, Penn State University Department of Communication Arts and Science) presented at this panel.



Opening Remarks on April 23: Summary and Reflection on the Conference on April 22

The fourth panel and the Special Session were presented on April 23. Dean and Professor of Shandong University Law School Wei Shen gave the opening remarks. Dean Wei Shen started the proceedings with a marvelous critical summary of the first day's efforts with suggestions for moving forward. He highlighted the four great themes of the efforts on April 22: Globalization v anti globalization; Trade v investment; Governance; and Prediction.



Panel 4: States and Stakeholders in the Construction of an International Economic Legal Order

Panel 4 was moderated by Penn State Law Professor Panagiotis Tridimas. Sukru Say (SJD Candidate, Penn State Law School), Jianzhi Zeng (Fairbright Visiting Researcher, Cornell University School of Law), and Aisi Zhang (SJD Candidate, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) presented at this panel.



Special Session: The New International Trade and Investment Rules: Chinese Perspectives

The last panel (the Special Session) was moderated by Professor and Dean of Shandong University Law School Wei Shen. Paolo Farah (Professor, West Virginia University), Nicholas Rowland (Professor, Pennsylvania State University - Altoona) & Matthew Jon Spaniol (Professor, Roskilde University), Yi Liang (Ph.D. Candidate, University of International Business and Economics), and Yewei Shi (Ph.D. Candidate, Peking University) presented at this session.



Closing Remarks: A Comprehensive Summary of the Conference

Professor Larry Backer of Penn State Law and the Penn State School of International Affairs gave the closing remarks, which provided a comprehensive summary of the conference. The three-day event promoted global conversation on international trade and investment rules issues. Different perspectives and positions were shared on the mutual platform.

The First Session of the Forum of the United Nations on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law

FLIA's delegation attended the first session of the United Nations Forum on Human Rights, Democracy, and the Rule of Law, which was held from November 21-22, in Geneva, Switzerland, at the Palais des Nations. The topic was widening the Democratic Space: the role of youth in public decision-making. FLIA and CPE (The Coalition for Peace and Ethics) organized a side event at the Forum titled "Political Participation and the Global Civic Education of Youth."

FLIA's delegation attended the first session of the Forum on Human Rights, Democracy, and the Rule of Law, which was held from November 21-22, in Geneva, Switzerland, at the Palais des Nations. The topic was widening the Democratic Space and the role of youth in public decision-making. FLIA and CPE (The Coalition for Peace and Ethics) organized a side event at the Forum titled "Political Participation and the Global Civic Education of Youth."



FLIA's Delegation Attended the First Session of the Forum of the United Nations on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law

On November 21 and 22, 2016, the first session of the Forum of the United Nations on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law was held in Geneva, under the theme of "Widening the Democratic Space: the Role of Youth in Public Decision-making". FLIA's Delegation Attended the conference.



FLIA and CPE Organized the Side Event at the UN Forum: Political Participation and the Global Civic Education of Youth

FLIA and CPE (The Coalition for Peace and Ethics) organized a side event of the United Nations Forum on Human Rights, Democracy, and the Rule of Law titled "Political Participation and the Global Civic Education of Youth," on November 21, Geneva, Switzerland, at the Palais des Nations.

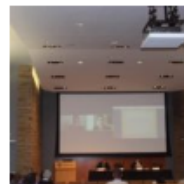
Seminar: "The Hague Ruling on the South China Sea: The Divergence of Law and Diplomacy"

On October 5, 2016 at Penn State Law School, the Penn State Research and Career Development Network for Law and International Affairs, Center for Global Studies, The Penn State International Arbitration Group, and Foundation for Law and International Affairs hosted the seminar on the topic of "The Hague Ruling on the South China Sea: The Divergence of Law and Diplomacy." Featured guest speakers from China, the US, Italy, the UK attended the seminar. The Interim Dean and Distinguished Scholar in Residence at Penn State Law and the School of International Affairs, Professor James W. Houck, gave the opening remarks. The seminar included three panels.



Panel 1: The Role and Reach of International Arbitration in Disputes between Sovereign States

Panel 1 discussed "The Role and Reach of International Arbitration in Disputes between Sovereign States." Panel 1 was moderated by Professor Catherine A. Rogers. The speakers on this panel included Professor Thomas E. Carboneau, Dr. Liang Zhang, and Mr. Oluwaseun Ajayi.



Panel 2: The International Relationships and Interests Behind the South China Sea Disputes

Panel 2 was titled "The International Relationships and Interests Behind the South China Sea Disputes." The panel was moderated by Professor Joseph M. DeThomas. Mr. Wang Guan, the chief political correspondent for CCTV America, Professor Flora Sapio, and Dr. Di Li spoke at the panel.



Panel 3: The Principal Legal Issues in the Disputes between China and Philippines over the South China Sea

Panel 3 was "The Principal Legal Issues in the Disputes between China and Philippines over the South China Sea." This panel was moderated by Dean Houck, Professor He Jiang, Dr. Ekrem Korkut, and Professor Qiongqiong Tang presented on this panel.



Foundation for Law & International Affairs

ABOUT FLIA ACADEMICS FLIA EDUCATION FLIA CONSULTATION FLIA COMMUNITY GET INVOLVED

FLIA summer 2016 conference: The Constitutional Dimension of Judicial Reform

Professor Flora Sapio gave the keynote speech on Judicial Reform in Italy at East China University of Political Science and Law



Professor Flora Sapio Keynote Speech on Judicial Reform in Italy at East China University of Political Science and Law

Professor Flora Sapio delivered an excellent paper on this topic, her paper 'Constructing an European Area of Justice: Judicial Reform in Italy' perfectly captured this modern conundrum: 'how a sovereign state such as Italy, always at the side of recipient of legal norms, preserve features and traditions of their own social norms in light of integrating with globalization that demand efficiency and predictability.'



欧美司法制度四人谈

2016年6月18日, 华东政法大学法治中国研究中心、法律与国际事务学会 (FLIA) 及意大利都灵国际事务研究所联合举办了司法改革的学术座谈会: 欧美司法制度四人谈。

FLIA-organized events on the topic of "From Constitution to Adjudication"

FLIA organized three presentations on the topic of "From Constitution to Adjudication." The presentations examined constitutional issues from the perspective of public legislation, private legal rights, and the judicial system, respectively.



Dr. Yuhua Sun: How Can the Judicial Interpretation of Internet Libel Break through the Firewall of the Constitution?

Dr. Sun is a professor of law at Eastern China University of Political Science & Law and visiting scholar at Columbia University Law School. He specializes in constitutional and procedural law. In his presentation, he argued that the current judicial interpretation of Internet libel in China failed to balance the needs to protect freedom of speech, rights of supervision, and human dignity. He also suggested a resolution to this constitutional problem.



Dr. Ulisses Schwarz Viana: If home-schooling is constitutional in Brazil

Ulisses Schwarz Viana is a State Attorney of Brazil and he will participate in oral arguments before the 11 Judges of the Brazilian Supreme Federal Court on a case on homeschooling. He holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy of Law. His opinion concludes with some considerations in Sociology of Law and Philosophy of Law. He argued why homeschooling is against the principle of diversity in the Constitution. He also discussed why the U.S. Supreme Court's decision Wisconsin v. Yoder (1972) cannot provide guidance to the Brazilian Supreme Court in his upcoming case.



Prof. Zhivert Tong: Chinese Judicial Reform: Current Challenges and Future Opportunities

Professor Tong is an internationally renowned scholar who has lectured all over the world and at elite institutions in the United States. More importantly, he is a "big V", one of the great public intellectuals in China and a key opinion leader. His discussion of rule of law and judicial reform has caused great attention in the States. In his presentation he talked about the current judicial reform in China from the perspective of Chinese constitutionalism.

FLIA-organized events at top Chinese universities in Xi'an - Shanghai - Beijing | October 17th - 23rd, 2015

Foundation for Law and International Affairs presents "Socio-Economic Rights and Global Orders – China's Challenges, Opportunities and Contributions", bringing leading scholars from China and the U.S. for a discussion on China's approaches to social, economic and cultural rights, and on the opportunities and challenges for Chinese enterprises in the area of corporate social responsibility.



October 17th: Invited Lecture at Northwest University of Politics and Law

Foundation for Law and International Affairs co-sponsored an event with the "West China Legal House" Journal at the Northwest University of Politics and Law in the city of Xi'an. FLIA resident scholar Professor Larry Hacker presented a lecture titled "Written Constitutions and Unwritten Constitutions."



October 19th: Special Presentation at Chang'an University

FLIA resident scholar Larry Hacker chaired a presentation titled "The Tradition and Culture of Western Colleges" to approximately 700 students and faculty members. Students were able to ask questions about the differences between Chinese and Western educational systems.



October 20th: Invited Lecture at East China University of Political Science and Law

At the invitation of the Constitutional Law Research Center at East China University of Political Science and Law, FLIA Resident Scholar Larry Hacker presented a lecture titled "The Concept of Constitutionalization: The Political Body Corporate From Incarnation to Ensoulment and Operationalization". Keren Wang provided translation throughout the presentation.



October 22nd: Symposium on Socio-Economic Rights at Beijing Normal University

Foundation for Law and International Affairs presents "Socio-Economic Rights and Global Orders – China's Challenges, Opportunities and Contributions", hosted by Beijing Normal University Law School on Friday, October 23rd, 2pm- 5pm.

FLIA > FLIA Exchange



International Education

FLIA Exchange

FLIA Exchange is a program where FLIA aims to promote the cooperation between institutions in terms education and research. The program also sponsors and brings distinguished scholars to other countries to increase the exchange of knowledge, expertise and perspectives on a specific topic by teaching and presenting. We have directly promoted the cooperation between different universities from China and the US. We have brought scholars to different countries for presentations, teaching and field trips. We also have helped scholars to find the best visiting scholar programs from other countries.

Currently, FLIA is cooperating with Henan Normal University on the program "Education for Future Professionals Working in the OBOR Initiative"

[Read More](#)

“一带一路”战略下国际法律事务卓越人才培养

河南师范大学引智项目

HENAN NORMAL UNIVERSITY
FOUNDATION FOR LAW AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



To find out the previous FLIA Insight research projects, please go to the [Previous Research Projects & Reports](#) page.

Research Project I



Global Views on the One Belt One Road

China invites other countries and regions to jointly build the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road. The Initiative is essentially a new open platform on which countries in Eurasia and beyond can strength economic and cultural cooperation to achieve common prosperity. This research project intends to:

- 1) Build the firm foundation in law and policy (laws, regulations, treaties (in multiple languages), arbitrations rulings/judicial judgments, party documents, and officials' speeches)
2) Summarize public opinions from all over the world (media, think tank, governmental report, scholarly work and blogs, and officials' presentations)
3) Look at the implementation and summarize the important events and work in China about One Belt One Road

Research Project II

Law and Social Credit System

The Chinese government is currently striving to establish a social credit system nationwide to ensure sound and healthy social and economic development. The construction of a social credit system in China is an important method aimed at perfecting the socialist market economy system and innovating social governance. The 12th Five-Year Planning Outline of the Economic and Social Development put forward the overall requirement of "accelerating the construction of a social credit system." One main principle for social credit system construction is to progressively establish and complete credit law and regulation systems.

International Conference: Law and Social Credit System

法与社会信用体系

September 23, 2017
Shanghai, China



Research Project III



Refugee Policy in China

China has acceded to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol. Despite its accession to the treaties, however, China's domestic law on refugees and asylum is still under development. At the same time, the number of refugees and asylum seekers coming to China has gradually increased in the past two decades. As of March 2014, there were 301,448 refugees and asylum seekers registered in China with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). As China's economic strength and political influence continue to grow, it is inevitable that more and more refugees and asylum seekers would be attracted to China. Thus, balancing its legal obligation under the treaties and the state's own security interests will become a major challenge for China. This project looks not only into the laws and legal procedures, but also considers all relevant factors to design a comprehensive, institutional plan that may benefit the global community and bring no harm to the stability of Chinese society in future scenarios.

Research Project IV

Social Organizations and Local Judiciary

The research project "Civil Society Organizations Participation to Grassroots-Level Governance: Raising The Capacity of Local Judicial Organs" is sponsored by the Research Center for the Capability of Local Judicial of Sichuan Province and approved by the Ministry of Education of Sichuan Province.

"In October 2014, the Fourth Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee adopted the 'Decision on Some Major Issues in Comprehensively Advancing Governance According to the Law'. The Decision created a space to allow participation of domestic and foreign social organizations in the construction of a rule of law society and in social affairs.

Provincial level justice bureaus and civil affairs bureaus have defined the roles and functions NGOs can play in China's justice system in various policy documents issued since 2016. The research project is situated within this broader context, in a scenario which is seeing an increasing participation of not-for-profit entities to judicial system reform. According to [The Diplomat](#), as of March 4, 2016 there are a total of more than 7,000 NGOs in China, included 91 registered foreign NGOs.

The research will focus on three topics:

- 1) The practice in the US and EU where social organizations assist the local judiciary
- 2) The framework and contents of social organizations' participate in the local judiciary
- 3) The formative standards and models that social organizations assist with improving the capability of local judiciary

**四川省教育厅关于下达 2017 年度
四川省高校人文社会科学重点研究基地科研项目的通知**

法律与国际事务学院

根据你单位申报 2017 年度“四川省哲学社会科学重点研究基地”、“四川省高校人文社会科学重点研究基地”：“**基层司法能力研究中心**”的科研项目，经该研究中心学术委员会评审通过，现将该中心 2017 年度科研项目下达你们（具体项目附后），请按照相关管理办法要求，强化项目管理、经费管理及行为管理，将该中心划拨的科研经费安排到课题组，并将学校配套经费落实到位，专款专用，加强科研廉政风险防范，推进项目实施、项目验收等工作，确保顺利完成。

FLIA > Global Civics Education (China) > FLIA Global Civics Education | US Law



FLIA International Citizenship Education|"American Legal System"

Project Description

The theme of the FLIA International Citizenship Education's "American Legal System" training program is to enhance students' comprehensive understanding of the American legal system and legal education. The program includes courses, lectures, visits to the U.S. law school, field trips to Capitol Hill and the U.S. Supreme Court, and other cultural activities.

This program is tailor-made for students who want to enter a foreign law school or work in an international law firm, so that students can not only learn the basic issues of the American legal system in a short time, but also have the opportunity to be exposed to American law. The core element of education helps students prepare for their knowledge, skills, and psychological quality for applying to American law school, studying in the United States and employment.

Sign up

Deadline: May 1, 2019

Program features

schedule

Comprehensive content and rich schedule

(1) Main content: Learn the core content of the American legal system, including: Introduction to American legal education, comparison of Chinese and American legal systems, the meaning of American law, the American legal system and its subsystems, the role of courts in the application of law, The level of legal validity in the United States, legal English writing, visits to the Federal Supreme Court, etc.

(2) This project will also study the basic issues of American law education, including: the programs, courses, teaching methods included in American law school education, the employment destination of law majors and other characteristics, and how students should receive American law school education. Be prepared to wait.

Day 1	arrival; free time
Day 2	Welcome ceremony and project introduction; Lecture: What is the experience of studying law abroad



PROGRAM ON INCLUSIVE INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATION

Transforming Global Governance through Inclusive Efforts



What is "Inclusive International Negotiation"

Inclusive international negotiation is a process of role-based dialogues engaged by four major stakeholders in the contemporary societal structure intended to reach agreement on tensions or disputes involved in transnational projects. These four major roles include a government, an enterprise, a local NGO, and an IGO. The goals of inclusive international negotiation are to create a platform and a set of procedures for different actors to be able to negotiate at the same table and seek to limit or minimize existing tensions or potential disputes. It aims at transforming global governance that goes beyond the status quo among sovereignty power and intergovernmental power, empowers non-state actors, including enterprises and civil societies, and creates opportunities for interactive conversations among them.

What is so special about it

A better global governance model needs to take on a more inclusive approach by involving all relevant sectors, in order to rebuild people's trust in the merits of global governance by involving them in the decision-making process. Its key does not fall into the global level, but people's participation at local level, as most transnational projects happen in local societies and have a considerable impact among local societies. To empower people's participation, there are two dimensions. One is to design a mechanism through which all stakeholders' concerns and interests can be amplified both locally and globally. The other one is to enhance people's capability in decision-making in transnational affairs. The program on Inclusive International Negotiation serves not only as a research program but also an educational program.



International Education Week

This event aims to promote International Education Week (IEW), November 13-17, which is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. This joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education is part of our efforts to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences.



International Students Forum: Tell Your Story, Inspire The World

3pm-5pm, Friday, November 17, 2017
 Downsborough Community Room, Schlow Centre Region Library
 (211 S. Allen St., State College, PA 16801)

The United States has the world's largest international student population, with more than 1,000,000 students choosing to broaden their education and life experience in the United States. Many of them have very inspiring stories.

They have striven to understand the foreign culture, get involved in local conversations, and promote mutual understanding between their home countries and the US. They are also the pioneers that are putting the theory, knowledge, practice, experience, and reflection of all nations together to look for development opportunities and solutions to global challenges. Their efforts to promote international communication, education, and cooperation shall not be neglected.

The event invited international students and young international professionals from different disciplines, races, nationalities, and genders, to share their stories about studying or working abroad, present their thoughts and hopes for the global community, and amplify their voices as the rising generation.

In pursuance of inspiring current and prospective international students, we had five speakers sharing their stories, including Shaoming Zhu, Abdulrahman Ali Al-kaf, Miaoqiang Dai, Qingyu Ma and Muaitaer Abulaiti.

Shaoming Zhu started the nonprofit organization 'Foundation of Law and International Affairs' in order to help students and professionals in the fields of law, international affairs, and the intersection between the two. It also aims to yield a platform for international scholarly activities and conducting policy research and analysis of quality.

Abdulrahman Ali Al-kaf expressed how he transformed from an individual that belongs to the introverted group on the spectrum to a person that lives his life and connected to the society. He now reallocates how he spends his time and how he deals with challenges. He served as a coordinator in Penn State's international student orientation. Currently, he is one of the cofounders of the Students of Schizophrenia, which is an organization that focuses on empowering college students with schizophrenia through raising awareness and offering education.

Miaoqiang Dai gave some tips on how to not only survive but thrive as an international student. First, he suggests to have fun but stay safe. Second, he recommends international students to get involved in the local activities but do not lose yourself. Third, listen patiently, and be prepared to speak up at any time. Fourth, pay attention on what you are doing but also cherish the possibility of doing other things. Fifth, learn more about your homeland, since people regards you as a representative of your own country.

Qingyu Ma provided the audience with a story beginning with his ambitious move to present his master capstone at the ESRI User Conference. After that, he approached two other counterparts, one from US and another from Austria, who also share the same interest in Geography Information System (GIS) as himself. They launched their business in 2015 and have come up with three major GIS applicable products within two years.

Muaitaer Abulaiti shared her experience as an International student studying Law in Sweden and US. Her story resonated with Abdul's experience. Muaitaer experiences honeymoon stage, hostility stage, self-adjustment and home stage after she came to the US to pursue her LLM degree. Fresh off board, she was excited about everything. Yet, after a while, she started to feel homesick, encountered language barrier in her courses and mood swings. However, after adjusting her learning methods and being more welcoming to changes, she believes that these challenges have helped shaping her into the person she is today.

For More information about International Education Week and the event, please visit <http://iew.state.gov> and <https://flia.org>, or follow us on [FaceBook](#) and WeChat (ThinkTankFLIA).