International and regional courts are among the signature achievements in global justice of the last 70 years. Their rapid growth, however, has outstripped opportunities for judges to engage in the shared inquiry and reasoning that is so critical to the success of this work.

Our Programs in International Justice and Society cultivate new ideas and practical strategies for advancing the work of international courts. We bridge the distance between colleagues dispersed across diverse jurisdictions, contribute to intellectual inquiry and ethical practice in global justice, and disseminate information to the wider public about the field. Shared ideas and personal networks lead to better, stronger judicial institutions.

The next generation also benefits from our programs. Young people who will support and contribute to international justice in the future need opportunities to learn about its institutions, achievements and challenges now. We introduce students to the world of international justice, build their understanding and help them identify career paths in this rapidly expanding field.

Around the world we
- convene the Brandeis Institute for International Judges, the only regular gathering of judges who serve on international courts and tribunals.
- organize judicial colloquia that bring together domestic judges with their international counterparts in regions spanning four continents.
- disseminate knowledge and information about the field of international justice through scholarly and popular media.

At Brandeis we
- organize innovative conferences and symposia that cross intellectual, disciplinary and sectoral boundaries.
- ensure that students explore and analyze international justice through both coursework and experiential learning.
- support the students of the Brandeis in the Hague study abroad program by facilitating internships and other connections with international justice practitioners.

Fausto Pocar of Italy, judge and former president of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, and Nina Vajić of Croatia, judge of the European Court of Human Rights, with Brandeis undergraduate interns at the eighth Brandeis Institute for International Judges, in Carmona, Spain.
2017 highlights

- We publish and distribute globally “The Authority of International courts and Tribunals: Challenges and Prospects,” a report based on the proceedings of the 11th Brandeis Institute for International Judges, which was convened in Copenhagen in partnership with iCourts, the Danish National Research Foundation’s Centre of Excellence for International Courts at the University of Copenhagen Faculty of Law.
- We host events at Brandeis University about a broad range of issues and challenges in the international justice sphere.
- All of the interviews conducted to date for the Ad Hoc Tribunals Oral History Project are made available to the public, along with video clips from the interviews, on the expanded website for this oral history project on the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. These interviews with prosecutors, judges, defense counsel, legal assistants, and interpreters who shaped the early years of these institutions are archived and fully searchable online.
- Leigh Swigart, Director of Programs in International Justice and Society, conducts research on the International Criminal Court and how it address the challenges of multilingualism, and presents her findings in the United States and abroad.

Selected resources

- Summaries and reports of the Brandeis Institute for International Judges, judicial colloquia and other meetings.
- Oral history interviews with figures from the field of international criminal justice available online in collaboration with the Brandeis Institutional Repository.

How to connect

- Sign up for our monthly International Justice in the News e-newsletter.
- Follow us on Twitter: @BrandeisIntJust
- Join our mailing list.
- Attend lectures and discussions hosted at Brandeis University.
- Join Brandeis University’s on-campus international justice interest group.

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The International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life develops effective responses to conflict and injustice by offering innovative approaches to coexistence, strengthening the work of international courts, and encouraging ethical practice in civic and professional life.

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