

Today's Emergencies and Wars: a Challenge to International Law and Constitutional Frameworks

Jointly organized by Uppsala University and the Swedish Defence University, together with the IACL

Venue: Uppsala University, Main University Building
Dates: May 4-5, 2026

Legal systems frequently regulate peacetime emergencies and wars in separate ways. Peace is often viewed as the normal situation, whereby war sorts under a separate legal framework with distinct differences in for instance mandates for use of force and delegations in levels for decision making. This compartmentalized view on peace and war emphasizes a need to define under what regulatory framework each crisis is to be handled. Although many states share the view that peace and war are regulated in different and distinct ways, they tend to differ when it comes to defining how peace-time emergencies and war respectively are regulated.

This round table aims to explore constitutional challenges emanating from hybrid warfare threats like influence operations, lawfare, sabotage and cyberattacks. Are there differences and similarities as to how states view, handle and regulate peacetime emergencies and war in the current security environment?

Program

Monday May 4th 2026

09.30-09.45 Welcome and introduction

Professor Carl Fredrik Bergström, Vice Dean, Faculty of Law, Uppsala University

Senior Lecturer Marika Ericson, Head of Department of International and Operational Law, Swedish Defence University

Professor Helle Krunke, President of the IACL

09.45-10.30 Keynote speech

For every complex problem there is a legal answer that is clear, simple, and wrong: regulating today's wars and emergencies by international and domestic law

Professor Jann Kleffner, Swedish Defence University

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-13.00 Panel 1 – The relationship between public and private actors in emergencies and war: voluntary agreements or legal regulation?

Chairs: Professor Selin Esen and Professor Marek Zubik

Senior Lecturer Marika Ericson, *Public procurement, voluntary agreement or legal requirements – is there a new Swedish approach to public private partnerships for emergencies and war?*

Jur Dr Anni Carlsson, *Regulation of public service media in emergencies and wars – European and comparative law perspectives*

Doctoral student, Francesco Pipicella, *Assessing mandatory corporate responsibility in emergencies through constitutional theory*

13.00-14.30 **Lunch**

14.30-16.30 **Panel 2 – New types of security threats as vectors for change in constitutional frameworks**

Chairs: Professor Tania Groppi and Professor Uwe Kischel

Professor Wen Chen-Chang, *Political extremism: can constitutionalism deal with it?*

Professor Akiko Ejima, *Beyond the shield: Constitutional constraints and the reconstruction of International order in the era of “Economic Security”*

Docent Olof Wilske, *Peacetime disasters as catalysts for constitutional change: The case of Sweden*

Senior Lecturer Milka Sormunen and Professor Tuomas Ojanen, *A typology of human rights justifications: changing the criteria for limiting rights*

Professor Anna Młynarska-Sobaczewska, *New types of security threats and the inadequacy of constitutional emergency states: the CEE states’ case of “subthreshold warfare”*

LL M Isabela Soares Bicalho, *Climate principles as interpretative tools in times of emergency: the advisory opinion OC – 32/25 and the reconfiguration of rights and duties under international human rights law*

19.00 **Dinner for invited guests**
Norrlands Nation

Tuesday May 5th, 2026

**09.15-11.00 Panel 3 – Junior scholars – New technology and rule of law
in times of emergency and war**

Chairs: professor Francesco Biagi and professor Iris Nguyen Duy

Doctoral student Kristina Borodina, *Preventive technologies, public–private responsibility and rule-of-law tensions in risk-driven security governance*

Doctoral student Emma Schunke, *Ban or tolerate? The effect of constitutional strategies regarding anti-democratic political parties in Sweden and Germany*

LL M Mirza Chiragov, *Emergency AI Governance and the exposure of the individual: Constitutional risks of state technological monopoly in times of crisis*

Jur Dr Barbara Stępień, *Autonomous sea drones and the evolving concept of combatancy in naval warfare*

Doctoral student Sonja Karlsson, *Repealing, updating or reinventing obsolete legislation for emergencies and war*

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

**11.30-13.00 Panel 4 - Rules or no rules? Possible Concepts for a World
Order in the Future**

Chair: Professor Xavier Philippe

Professor and Justice Iurii Barabash, *"War"-constitutionalism: does the constitution work during a full-scale war? The case of Ukraine*

Professor Angelika Nussberger, *Constitutional control over government's compliance with international law? The case of Germany*

Professor Jose Maria Serna, *Constitutional aspects of ending domestic armed conflicts through peace accords: the cases of El Salvador, Guatemala and Colombia*

Professor Iain Cameron, *Some differences and similarities between the rule of law in constitutional law and in public international law*

Professor George Katrogalous, *Multilateralism in the new multipolar world*



13.00-13.30 Closing keynote speech

International law in turbulent times

Docent Ola Engdahl, Principal Legal Adviser of International Law, Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs

13.30-13.45 Closing remarks

Professor Iain Cameron, Swedish Member of the Venice Commission
Professor Selin Esen, First Vice-President of the IACL

14.00-15.00 Lunch

15.00-18.00 EC Meeting

Fakultetsrummet, Trädgårdsgatan 1