

## **Elena Baylis**

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## **Experience**

### **University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Pittsburgh, PA (2003 – present)**

*Associate Dean of Experiential Learning (as of February 1, 2026)*

*Professor of Law*

*Affiliate Faculty, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs*

Teaching: Legislation and Regulation; Administrative law; Cultural Heritage law;  
International and Comparative law

Research: Repatriation of art and cultural objects; Transitional justice; Post-conflict justice;  
International criminal law; U.S. public policy

Service: JD/MPA Faculty Advisor; Public Policy Concentration Faculty Advisor; Semester in  
DC Program Director (2009-21); Externship Program Co-Director (2017-19)

### **George Washington University School of Law, Washington, DC (Spring 2023)**

*Visiting Professor*

### **Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC (Spring 2008)**

*Visiting Scholar*

### **University of Connecticut School of Law, Hartford, CT (Spring 2007)**

*Visiting Professor*

### **University of Alabama School of Law (2002-03)**

#### **Visiting at Mekelle University Law Faculty, Mekelle, Ethiopia**

*Visiting Assistant Professor*

One-year visiting appointment in Mekelle through a Mekelle-Alabama linkage program

### **Shea & Gardner, Washington, DC (2000-02)**

*Attorney*

Practice areas: Civil litigation, national security, and foreign policy

### **U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Los Angeles, CA (1998-99)**

*Law Clerk for Judge Mariana R. Pfaelzer*

## **Education**

### **Yale Law School, J.D., 1998**

Raphael Lemkin Prize for the best paper on international human rights; Senior Editor, Yale Law Journal; Submissions Editor, Yale Journal of International Law; Director, Immigration Clinic

### **University of Oregon, B.A., *summa cum laude*, 1993**

Phi Beta Kappa; Russian Department Honors; Honors College graduate; Award of Distinction for Honors Thesis; Russian and East European Studies Certificate

## Publications

- Repatriation as Reparations*, 119 AJIL Unbound 165 (2025) (peer-reviewed)
- Regionalized Hybrid Courts*, in *Hybrid Justice: Innovation and Impact* (Oxford University Press, Kirsten Ainley & Mark Kersten, eds., 2025)
- Looted Cultural Objects*, 124 Columbia Law Review Forum 183 (2024)
- Introductory Note to Cassirer et al. v. Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection Foundation (9th Cir.)*, 63 International Legal Materials 1079 (2024)
- Post-Conflict Reconciliation in Ukraine*, 5 Revue européenne du droit 71 (2023)
- White Supremacy, Police Brutality, and Family Separation: Preventing Crimes Against Humanity Within the United States*, 2022 University of Illinois Law Review 1475 (2022)
- Transnational Collaborations in Transitional Justice*, in *International Law as Behavior* (Cambridge University Press, Harlan Grant Cohen & Timothy Meyer, eds., 2021)
- Extreme Cases in Hybrid Criminal Courts*, 35 Temple International and Comparative Law Journal 95 (2021) (invited symposium article)
- Cosmopolitan Pluralist Hybrid Tribunals*, in *Oxford Research Handbook on Global Legal Pluralism* (Oxford University Press, Paul Schiff Berman, ed., 2020)
- The International Law Commission's Soft Law Influence*, 13 FIU Law Review 1007 (2019) (invited symposium article)
- Dakar Guidelines on the Establishment of Hybrid Courts* (London School of Economics Institute of Global Affairs 2019) (primary drafter, with Kirsten Ainley, Philipp Ambach, Fidelma Donlon, Mark Kersten, Tiya Maluwa, & Angela Mudukuti)
- Transitional Justice and Development Aid to Fragile and Conflict-Affected States*, in *Justice Mosaics: How Context Shapes Transitional Justice in Fractured Societies* (International Center for Transitional Justice, Roger Duthie & Paul Seils, eds., 2017)
- The Persuasive Authority of Internationalized Criminal Tribunals*, 32 American University International Law Review 611 (2017) (invited symposium article)
- Declining Controversial Cases: How Marriage Equality Changed the Paradigm*, New York University Journal of Legislation and Public Policy Quorum 110 (2015)
- What Internationals Know: Improving the Effectiveness of Post-Conflict Justice Initiatives*, 14 Washington University Global Studies Law Review 243 (2015)

*Function and Dysfunction in Post-Conflict Justice Networks and Communities*, 47 Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law 625 (2014)

*Promoting Contractor Accountability in Conflict Zones*, 9 Journal of International Law and International Relations 70 (2012) (book review) (peer reviewed)

*Reassessing the Role of International Criminal Law: Rebuilding National Courts Through Transnational Networks*, 50 Boston College Law Review 1 (2009)

*Outsourcing Investigations*, 14 UCLA Journal of International Law and Foreign Affairs 121 (2009)

*Tribunal-Hopping with the Post-Conflict Justice Junkies*, 10 Oregon Review of International Law 361 (2008) (invited symposium article)

*National Security and Political Asylum*, in *Immigration, Integration and Security: Europe and America in Comparative Perspective* (Ariana d'Appollonia & Simon Reich, eds., University of Pittsburgh Press 2008)

*Parallel Courts in Post-Conflict Kosovo*, 32 Yale Journal of International Law 1 (2007) (selected for American Society of Comparative Law Work in Progress Workshop)

*Sending the Bureaucracy to War*, 92 Iowa Law Review 1359 (2007) (with David Zaring) (reprinted in *Economic Sanctions* (Edward Elgar Press, Michael Malloy, ed., 2014))

*The Inevitable Impunity of Suicide Terrorists*, in *Evil, Law and the State: Issues in State Power and Violence* (Rodopi Press, John Parry, ed., 2006)

*Suicidal Impunity*, in *Evil, Law and the State* (e-book), Istar Gozaydin & Jody Madeira, eds. (2006)

*Should God and Caesar Litigate?*, 8 Green Bag 431 (2005) (book review)

*Minority Rights, Minority Wrongs*, 10 UCLA Journal of International Law and Foreign Affairs 66 (2005) (selected for American Society of International Law New Voices panel)

*Beyond Rights: Legal Process and Ethnic Conflict*, 25 Michigan Journal of International Law 529 (2004) (reprinted in *The United Nations System for Protecting Human Rights*, Vol. IV (Ashgate Press, Dinah Shelton, ed., 2014) and *International Conflict Resolution: Consensual ADR Processes* by Nolan-Haley, Abramson, and Chew (West Publishing 2005))

*Simple Justice: Judicial Philosophy in the Kingdom of Bhutan*, 6 Green Bag 131 (2003) (with Donald Munro)

*General Comment 24: Confronting the Problem of Reservations to Human Rights Treaties*, 17 Berkeley Journal of International Law 277 (1999)

*The Oregon Model: Education Reform by Public Mandate*, 26 Journal of Law & Education 47 (1997)

## Work in Progress

*Protection and Repatriation of Cultural Objects*, in Elgar Concise Encyclopedia of Law and Peace (Edward Elgar Publishing, Louise Mallinder, Rachel Killeen, & Lauren Dempster, eds.)

*The Absence of U.S. Penalization of Crimes Against Humanity*, in Litigating International Crimes and Human Rights Violations in U.S. Courts (Mark Klamberg, Milena Sterio, Douglas Irvin-Erickson, eds.)

*Returning Cultural Loot* (selected for presentation at Changing Approaches Towards Restitution and Return of Colonial Heritage, Leiden University; American Society of International Law Research Forum; American Association of Law Schools Annual Meeting)

## Selected Commentary

*The Complementarity Turn: Accountability Between International and Domestic Courts*, Peace and Security Podcast, European Society of International Law Interest Group on Peace and Security, <https://open.spotify.com/show/0LnMOeK3Upi96oOud0pfOL> (April 25, 2024)

*Mobilizing International Networks for Domestic Accountability*, Völkerrechtsblog (Jan. 22, 2024), <https://voelkerrechtsblog.org/21281-2/>, doi:10.17176/20240123-004207-0.

*Reconciliation*, Options for a Peace Settlement for Ukraine: Option Paper XI, Ukraine Peace Settlement Project, Lauterpach Centre for International Law, University of Cambridge and Opinio Juris, <https://cambridgepeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Baylis-Reconciliation.pdf>

*Empower National and Regional Courts*, New York Times, <http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2014/12/11/do-we-need-the-international-criminal-court/empower-national-and-regional-courts>

Founding member and regular contributor, IntLawGrrls, <https://ilg2.org/> (2007-10)

## Selected Presentations

Panelist, “How Might a Peace Settlement in the War against Ukraine Affect International Criminal Accountability?,” Ukrainian Week of International Criminal Justice, Ukraine Center for Civil Liberties (July 2025)

“Repatriation as Reparations,” Law and Society Annual Meeting (May 2025)

Participant, Potomac Foreign Relations Law Roundtable, George Washington University Law School (April 2025)

“Regionalized Hybrid Courts,” Hybrid Approaches to International Criminal Justice, International Studies Association 2025 Annual Convention (March 2025)

“Dialogue in Restitution Processes,” New Frontiers in Comparative Law, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting (January 2025) (paper competitively selected)

"Dialogue in Restitution Processes," American Society of International Law Research Forum (November 2024) (paper competitively selected)

"International Criminal Law Professionals in Ukraine," Professionals and Professionalism(s) in International Criminal Justice Symposium, University of Copenhagen (June 2024)

"Dialogue in Restitution Processes," Changing Approaches Towards Restitution and Return of Colonial Heritage: Tracing Experiences and Identifying Shared Decolonial Practices Workshop, University of Leiden (May 2024)

Discussant, American Society of International Law Midwest Interest Group Works-in-Progress Workshop (May 2024)

Participant, Potomac Foreign Relations Law Roundtable, George Washington University Law School (March 2024)

"Looted Cultural Objects," George Washington University Law School Faculty Workshop (January 2024)

"Enabling the Return of Looted Foreign Cultural Objects," American Society of International Law Research Forum (November 2023) (paper competitively selected)

"Returning Looted Foreign Cultural Objects," American Society of Comparative Law Annual Meeting (October 2023)

"International Criminal Law Professionals in the Ukraine Conflict," Professionals and Professionalism(s) in International Criminal Justice Workshop, University of Leeds (July 2023)

"Promoting Return of Cultural Artifacts by U.S. Institutions," Law and Society Association Annual Meeting (June 2023)

Speaker, "Contours, Place, and the Role of Communities in International Law and Participatory Governance" panel, American Society of International Law Annual Meeting (March 2022)

Speaker, "1951 Convention Safeguards in the Evolving Context of Mixed Migration" panel, Expert Legal Forum: 70th Anniversary of the 1951 Refugee Convention, UNHCR and University of Pristina (December 2021)

Discussant, "New Approaches to Justice and Human Rights" panel, American Society of International Law Research Forum and Midyear Meeting (November 2021)

"Preventing Crimes Against Humanity Within the United States," Law and Society Association Annual Meeting (May 2021)

"Systemic Racism in the United States as an International Crime," Temple Law School, Institute for International Law and Public Policy (November 2020)

"Preventing Crimes Against Humanity Within the United States," American Society of International Law Research Forum (October 2020) (paper competitively selected)

### **Selected Professional Roles**

Board Member, Women in International Law Interest Group, American Society of International Law (2025)

International Repatriation Network, Association of Critical Heritage Studies (2025)

Research Forum Committee, American Society of International Law (2022)

Director, Advisory Director, and Secretary, Brothers Brother Foundation (2004-2022)

Secretary, International Criminal Law Interest Group, American Society of International Law (2017-20)

Project Expert, Hybrid Justice Project, co-sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation, the Wayamo Foundation and the London School of Economics Institute of Global Affairs (2017-19)

Vice Chair of the International Law Section, American Bar Association (2016-17)

Consultant, International Center for Transitional Justice (2015-16)

Annual Grant recipient, U.S. Institute of Peace (2009-11)

Reviewer, Dutch Research Council, Oxford University Press, Stanford University Press, University of Michigan Press, Cambridge University Press, Routledge Press, U.S. Institute of Peace