



# Ukraine Beyond Aggression: Legal Responses to Russia's Invasion in 2022 and its Consequences

Human Rights Law Centre | Nottingham International Law and Security Centre

21 February 2024 | 14:00 – 17:30 (GMT)

A30 Lecture Theatre, Nottingham Lakeside Arts, University Park

Registration Link: <https://ukraine-beyond-aggression.eventbrite.co.uk>

## PROGRAMME

---

14:00 – 14:05: Welcome & Introduction (**Dino Kritsiotis**)

14:05 – 14:30: Keynote address by **Judge Mykola Gnatovskyy** (Introduction by **Andrea Pelliconi**)

14:30 – 14:40: Ukraine War Archive presentation – **Maksym Demydenko**

14:40 – 15:10: Panel 1 [online] (**Chair - Jakub Ciesielczuk**)

- **Lauri Mälksoo** – *The Historical Roots of Russia's War against Ukraine in the Context of International Law*
- **Maciej Grześkowiak** – *Polish Special Law for Ukraine as a Particular Case of Implementation of the Principle of Temporary Refuge*

15:10 – 15:20: Q&A / discussion

15:20 – 15:35: **Coffee/tea break (15mins)**

15:35 – 16:20: Panel 2 (**Chair – Olympia Bekou**)

- **Victor Kattan** – *Deterring NATO: A Critical Analysis of Russian President Vladimir Putin's Legal Justifications for Russia's Preventive War in Ukraine*
- **Luigi Daniele** – *Incidentally Capsized: Incidentalities of the Civilian Harm in International Humanitarian Law and its Contra Legem Antonyms in Recent Discourses on the Laws of War.*
- **Yulia Ioffe** – *Accountability Measures for Forcible Transfer of Ukrainian Children to Russia*

16:20 – 16:30: Q&A / discussion

16:30 – 17:15: Panel 3 (**Chair – Paul Torremans**)

- **Klara Polackova Van der Ploeg and Izabela Gawor** – *Business Corporations in the Context of the Russia-Ukraine Conflict: International Law Perspective*
- **Magdalena Zabrocka** – *The European Union's Response to Russia's Invasion in Light of Investment Migration: Balancing on the Verge of Lawfulness in Cases of Legal Status' Deprivation*
- **Scarlett McArdle** – *Limitations of Legal Responsibility: Questions of Redress in the Context of Ukraine*

17:15 – 17:25: Q&A / discussion

17:25 – 17:30: Closing remarks (**Mando Rachovitsa**)



---

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

---

**Judge Mykola Gnatovskyy** is a Judge of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) in respect of Ukraine since 27 June 2022. He holds an LL.M and a Ph.D. in International Law from Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. From 2002 until joining the ECtHR, he taught Public International Law at the Institute of International Relations of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, specialising in International Human Rights Law, International Humanitarian Law, and International Criminal Law. Between 2009 and 2021, he was a member of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT), serving as its second Vice-President from 2013-2015, and President from 2015-2021.



Dr Gnatovskyy is 1st Vice-President of the Ukrainian Association of International Law since 2017. He has been a member of editorial boards of international law journals published in Ukraine and other European countries, as well as a long-standing expert on human rights and humanitarian law in various projects implemented by the Council of Europe, OSCE, European Union, and the United Nations. He also served as a member of Ukraine's Interdepartmental Commission for the Implementation of International Humanitarian Law and has cooperated with Democracy Reporting International as a senior legal advisor for its project on Ukraine. From 2021-2022, Dr Gnatovskyy was a member of the International Expert Board on Crimes Committed during Armed Conflict at the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine.

---

GUEST SPEAKERS

---

**Luigi Daniele (Ph.D. Nottingham Trent University and University of the Studies of Naples Federico II)** is Senior Lecturer and Module Leader in Laws of Armed Conflict (LLB), Public International and Humanitarian Law (LLM), and International, European and Comparative Law (DL) at Nottingham Law School. He is a member of the NLS Centre for Rights and Justice, and of the ESIL (European Society of International Law).



**Izabela Gawor is a Litigation Caseworker at the UK Home Office.** In 2023, she completed an LL.M in International Law at the University of Nottingham with distinction. Her LL.M dissertation examined corporate responses to the Russian aggression on Ukraine in light of the 'Heightened Human Rights Due Diligence for Business in Conflict-Affected Context (2022).' This research addressed the tension between the 'mainstream' exit narrative and the requirements under the Business & Human Rights framework. Izabela holds an LLB in Human Rights Law from Aberystwyth University.

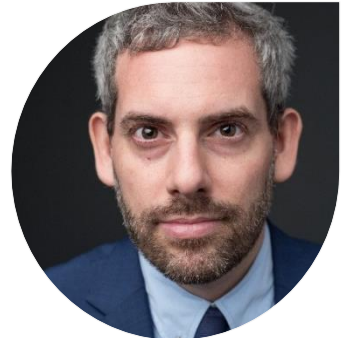




**Maciej Grześkowiak is a PhD candidate at the University of Warsaw** and the Principal Investigator in the 3-year research project 'The Gap Between the Principle of Temporary Refuge and Refugee Status in the International Refugee Protection Framework: Scope, Consequences, Remedies,' funded by the National Science Centre, Poland. His research revolves around the rights of refugees and the functioning of the global and European refugee protection frameworks. He also serves as the Chief Coordinator at the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights (Polish ombudsperson) where he took part in the response to the influx of Ukrainian war refugees. He was formerly involved in the humanitarian response to the Syrian refugee situation in Lebanon.



**Victor Kattan is Assistant Professor in Public International Law at the University of Nottingham School of Law.** He is a member of the Editorial Board of the Asian Journal of International Law and is Area Editor for the Middle East and Islam for Oxford Bibliographies of International Law. Victor's publications include 'Self-determination in the Third World: The Role of the Soviet Union (1917-1960)' *Jus Gentium: Journal of International Legal History* 8(1), 87-144; 'The persistence of partition: Boundary-making, imperialism, and international law' *Political Geography* 94 (2022); and 'The Destiny of a Great Power: Russian Messianism and the Quest for a Balance of Power in International Law and Relations', Review Essay of Bill Bowring. *Law, Rights and Ideology in Russia: Landmarks in the Destiny of a Great Power* (Routledge 2013). *Social and Legal Studies*. 23(3), 457-467.



**Yulia Ioffe is a Lecturer in Law at University College London (UCL)** and an expert on child rights and migration, which was also the topic of her doctoral research at the University of Oxford. Previously, she clerked for H.E. Judge James R. Crawford at the International Court of Justice and worked at the UNHCR Representation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the UNHCR Regional Representation for Belarus, Moldova, and Ukraine, and the Ukrainian Red Cross Society.



**Lauri Mälksoo is Professor of International Law at the University of Tartu in Estonia.** He is member of the Institut de Droit International and of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe. He has written several publications on Russia, the Soviet Union and international law, including the monograph 'Russian Approaches to International Law' (OUP, 2015). During this academic year, he is fellow at the Institut d'études avancées in Paris.





**Scarlett McArdle is an Assistant Professor in Law at the University of Nottingham.** Before this she held posts at the University of Lincoln and Birmingham City University. Her research specialisms focus on the law of International Responsibility, International Organisations, non-state actors at the global level, and EU External Relations. Scarlett has published widely in this area of accountability and responsibility, for example in relation to non-state humanitarian actors, the EU, and the WHO. More recently she has explored the role and status of non-state actors and questions of inter-institutional relationships in international law.



**Klara Polackova Van der Ploeg** is Assistant Professor at the University of Nottingham School of Law, specializing in international law and international dispute settlement. She is the Head of the Business, Trade and Human Rights Unit of the Human Rights Law Centre and a member of the Nottingham International Law and Security Centre and the University of Nottingham Commercial Law Centre. She also serves on the Scientific Advisory Board of the 3DI: the Data-Driven Discovery Initiative. Dr Van der Ploeg's work focuses on transformations of international law with respect to collective non-state entities; international legal regulation and dispute settlement of global coordination problems; interface between private law and international law; international investment law; business and human rights; and international law in domestic courts. Her research includes both basic theoretical and empirical research and policy-oriented work.



**Magdalena Zabrocka is a doctoral researcher at the University of Aberdeen, a faculty member at the University of Nottingham,** and a visiting lecturer at the School of International and Advanced Problems of Public Law, University of Gdańsk where she recently delivered guest lectures on the subject of 'EU Passport Trade'. Magdalena's core research concerns citizenship by investment ('CBI') in the EU while her expertise includes EU law, human rights and selected areas of public law. Most of Magdalena's broader research is policy-oriented and related to 'SLAPPs'. Magdalena is a member of the Anti-SLAPP Hub, and the Human Rights Law Centre (HRLC), among others. She is a former PGR Associate Director of the Aberdeen Centre for Constitutional and Public International Law ('ACCPIIL').

