

Foundations of International Law

International Law · Practice Test · 20 Questions

1. What is the primary source of international law that involves agreements between states?

- A) Customary international law
- B) Treaties
- C) General principles of law
- D) Judicial decisions

2. The principle that a state has supreme authority within its territory is known as:

- A) International jurisdiction
- B) Diplomatic immunity
- C) State sovereignty
- D) Extraterritoriality

3. Which international organization was established after World War II to promote peace and security?

- A) The World Trade Organization (WTO)
- B) The International Criminal Court (ICC)
- C) The United Nations (UN)
- D) The International Monetary Fund (IMF)

4. What is the term for the recognition by one state of the existence of another state?

- A) Recognition of government
- B) Recognition of belligerency
- C) Recognition of statehood
- D) Diplomatic recognition

5. Which of the following is considered a 'peremptory norm' of international law, from which no derogation is permitted?

- A) The right to free speech
- B) The prohibition of genocide
- C) The freedom of navigation
- D) The right to private property

6. The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969) primarily governs:

- A) The use of force by states
- B) The conduct of international trade
- C) The creation and interpretation of treaties
- D) The immunity of diplomats

7. What is the legal status of a diplomat in a foreign country, which often protects them from prosecution?

- A) Sovereign immunity
- B) Territorial immunity
- C) Diplomatic immunity
- D) Personal immunity

8. Customary international law arises from:

- A) Formal declarations by international organizations
- B) Consistent and general practice of states followed by a belief that it is legally required
- C) Decisions of national courts
- D) Unilateral statements by leaders

9. The principle of 'pacta sunt servanda' means that:

- A) Agreements must be kept
- B) States can withdraw from treaties at will
- C) Treaties are only binding on signatory states
- D) Treaties are subordinate to national law

10. Which of the following is NOT a principal organ of the United Nations?

- A) General Assembly
- B) Security Council
- C) International Court of Justice
- D) World Health Organization

11. The concept of universal jurisdiction allows national courts to prosecute individuals for certain international crimes regardless of where the crime occurred or the nationality of the perpetrator/victim. An example of such a crime is:

- A) Tax evasion
- B) Piracy
- C) Traffic violations
- D) Copyright infringement

12. The Geneva Conventions are a key part of international humanitarian law, focusing on:

- A) International trade disputes
- B) Environmental protection
- C) The treatment of prisoners of war and protection of civilians during armed conflict
- D) The regulation of cyberspace

13. The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations and primarily deals with:

- A) Criminal prosecutions of individuals
- B) Disputes between states
- C) Labor disputes between countries
- D) Intellectual property rights

14. When a state acknowledges the legitimacy of a new government that has come to power in another state, it is called:

- A) Recognition of statehood
- B) Recognition of government
- C) Recognition of belligerency
- D) Recognition of sovereignty

15. What does the principle of 'non-intervention' in international law prohibit?

- A) States from entering into treaties
- B) States from trading with each other
- C) States from interfering in the internal affairs of other states
- D) States from joining international organizations

16. The concept of 'jus cogens' refers to:

- A) Treaties between two states
- B) Rules derived from judicial decisions
- C) Fundamental principles of international law that cannot be set aside by treaties or custom
- D) Agreements made by international organizations

17. Which treaty established the framework for the peaceful use of outer space?

- A) The Kyoto Protocol
- B) The Outer Space Treaty
- C) The Paris Agreement
- D) The Rome Statute

18. The International Criminal Court (ICC) has jurisdiction over:

- A) All international disputes
- B) Individuals accused of the most serious international crimes
- C) Disputes between international organizations
- D) Breaches of international trade agreements

19. What is the term for the legal right of a state to claim jurisdiction over crimes committed outside its territory by its nationals?

- A) Sovereign immunity
- B) Extraterritorial jurisdiction
- C) Diplomatic immunity
- D) Universal jurisdiction

20. The doctrine of 'state responsibility' deals with:

- A) How states should conduct elections
- B) The legal consequences for a state when it commits an internationally wrongful act
- C) The formation of new states
- D) The rights of citizens within a state