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PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY

BENGALURU

Mid - Term Examinations – October 2025

Date: 11-10-2025

Time: 11.45am to 01.15pm

School: SOL	Program: BA/ BBA/ BCom LLB (Hons.)	
Course Code: LAW2055	Course Name: Public International Law- I	
Semester: V	Max Marks: 50	Weightage:25%

CO - Levels	C01	C02	C03	C04	C05
Marks	24	26			

Instructions:

- (i) Read all questions carefully and answer accordingly.
- (ii) Do not write anything on the question paper other than roll number.

Part A

Answer ALL the Questions. Each question carries 2marks.

5Q x 2M=10M

1	Define International Law as per Oppenheim.	2 Marks	L1	C01
2	Discuss the significance of the Peace of Westphalia (1648) in the development of international law?	2 Marks	L2	C01
3	Identify two atypical subjects of international law other than states and international organizations.	2 Marks	L1	C02
4	Define objective international personality in the context of international law.	2 Marks	L1	C02
5	Describe the criteria for statehood under the Montevideo Convention (1933)?	2 Marks	L1	C02

Part B

Answer the Questions.

Total Marks 40M

6.	Trace the historical development of international law from ancient agreements to the establishment of the United Nations in 1945. State how did global conflicts shape its evolution?	5+5 Marks	L2	C01
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Or				
7.	Critically analyze the impact of colonialism and European expansion on the spread and formation of international law. Do you think international law today still reflects those origins?	7+3 Marks	L4	CO1

8.	The Government of India has recently ratified the Convention on Prevention of Marine Pollution in 2024, which mandates strict penalties for oil spills and requires immediate compensation to affected coastal communities. However, the Indian Parliament has not yet enacted any domestic legislation to implement this treaty. In March 2024, a major oil tanker owned by Oceanic Shipping Ltd. causes a massive oil spill off the coast of Kerala, severely damaging the livelihood of 5,000 fishing families. The affected families file a petition in the Kerala High Court seeking compensation under the provisions of the newly ratified convention. Oceanic Shipping Ltd. argues that since no domestic legislation exists to implement the treaty, the court cannot enforce its provisions against them. Decide and justify your conclusion with reference to relevant case law.	7+3 Marks	L3	CO1
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Or				
9.	In 2024, the Indian Parliament passes the "National Security Enhancement Act" which permits indefinite detention of suspected terrorists without judicial review for up to 180 days. This legislation directly conflicts with Article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), to which India is a party, which prohibits arbitrary detention and mandates that anyone deprived of liberty must be brought before a judge within 48 hours. A group of civil rights activists challenges this Act before the Supreme Court, arguing that it violates India's international obligations. Analyze how the tension between Hans Kelsen's monist theory and Heinrich Triepel's dualist approach would resolve this conflict.	10 Marks	L4	CO1

10.	The Republic of Zenithia emerged after a violent revolution against its former government in 2023. While it controls 75% of its claimed territory, maintains a functioning government, and has a permanent population, the remaining 25% is controlled by loyalist forces of the previous regime. The European Union has extended de facto recognition, but the United States refuses any recognition citing the violent origins. China has established full diplomatic relations. Evaluate whether Zenithia qualifies as a state under international law, and determine what legal effects would follow from the varying recognition positions taken by different states.	7+3 Marks	L2	CO2
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Or				
11.	The indigenous Makara people, inhabiting a resource-rich region across three recognized states, have declared independence citing	6+4	L4	CO2

	<p>their right to self-determination under Article 3 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. They control several key cities, have established governmental institutions, and maintain a distinct cultural identity spanning 5,000 years. However, no UN member state has recognized their independence. Apply the relevant principles of international legal personality to assess whether the Makara can claim statehood, and critique the tension between self-determination and territorial integrity in this context.</p>	Marks		
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12.	<p>Following a major earthquake, the UN Security Council established UNTERA (UN Transitional Emergency Recovery Administration) to govern the island nation of Crystalia for five years. UNTERA has entered into trade agreements with neighboring states, issued currency, and established courts that prosecute both civil and criminal matters. A multinational corporation is now suing UNTERA in the International Court of Justice for breach of contract. Analyze UNTERA's international legal personality and determine its capacity to be sued.</p>	10 Marks	L3	CO2
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Or

13.	<p>State A and State B both claim sovereignty over the Emerald Islands. State A discovered the islands in 1875 and planted its flag, but never established permanent settlement. State B began fishing operations there in 1920 and built a lighthouse in 1935, which State A never protested until 1990 when oil was discovered. State B has maintained a small military garrison since 1940. Apply the principles of occupation, prescription, and acquiescence to determine which state has the stronger claim.</p>	10 Marks	L4	CO2
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