

# MICL — Master’s Degree Programme in International Law and Human Rights

## MANDATORY STUDIES (80 credits)

### *Governance Through International Law (20 credits)*

- [Sources and Principles of Public International Law](#) 10
- [International Protection of Human Rights](#) 10

### *Further studies in Public International Law (20 credits)*

Students can freely choose among the courses offered in public international law or choose to focus on courses in a narrower field, such as international human rights law, migration and refugee law, law on mobility and minorities, international law and armed conflicts, marine and environmental law, or general international law. See further the list of courses (below).

Courses organised by the Chair of Public International Law:

- [Actors of the International Legal System](#) 5
- [Comparative and Transnational Criminal Law](#) 5 (self-study course)
- [The Nordic Human Rights Moot Court Competition](#) (in Scandinavian languages) 15
- [Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](#) 5
- [Human Rights and the Environment](#) 5 (in the academic year 2024–25)
- [Human Rights in Europe](#) 5
- [International Criminal Law](#) 5 (in the academic year 2023–24)
- [International Environmental Law](#) 5
- Law of the Sea 5
- [Refugee Law](#) 5
- [Special Protection in Human Rights Law](#) 5 (in the academic year 2024–25 )
- The Business of Human Rights, 5–10
- [The Law of War and Armed Conflict](#) 10
- Use of Force in International Law 5

Relevant courses organised elsewhere at Åbo Akademi University:

- [Autonomy and Participation](#) 5 (public law)
- [Comparative Law in a Changing World](#) 5 (public law)
- [International Law in Context: Russia, ECHR, and the CIS](#) 5 (public law)
- [Religious Diversity, Minorities and the Law](#) 5 (minority profile)
- Freedom of religion and belief in the educational space 5 (minority profile)
- [Political Institutions in the European Union](#) 5 (political science)

### Master’s Seminars (10 credits)

- Master’s Paper 5
- [Advanced International Legal Approaches](#) 5

### Master's Thesis (30 credits)

- Master's Thesis in International Law and Human Rights: Part 1 10
- Master's Thesis in International Law and Human Rights: Part 2 10
- Master's Thesis in International Law and Human Rights: Part 3 10

### **ELECTIVE STUDIES (40 credits)**

Students can freely choose courses up to 40 credits. These need not be, but can be, courses in public international law or human rights. Students can choose a Minor, which requires 25 credits in the chosen thematic area. Examples of thematic areas which offer Minors (25 credits) in English are: Minority Studies, Intercultural Communication, and Sustainability in Development (offered by the UniPID Network). There are also thematic modules (20 credits) in English, such as: EU studies, The Sea, and Gender studies. Elective studies may include work experience/internships (5 or 10 credits, depending on the length of the work experience/internship).