

HUMR5140 – Human Rights in International and National Law Autumn 2018

FINAL ESSAY 26 November – 6 December 13:00 (1:00p.m.)

Assignment:

Respond to **one** of the questions below.

- 1) In light of a more globalized world, the territorial scope of human rights treaties is one of the most debated topics of contemporary international law. The extraterritorial application of human rights law has become an increasingly controversial and pressing legal issue. What are the legal and practical challenges of extending states' human rights obligations beyond their national territories? Are there situations where such an extraterritorial approach is more justified than in others? Use court cases and current legal scholarship to discuss the possible added value, and potential disadvantages, of an extraterritorial application of human rights law. Please remember to justify your arguments.

- 2) Human Rights Day is observed every year on 10 December – the day the United Nations General Assembly adopted, in 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This year, Human Rights Day marks the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. What is the legacy of the UDHR in contemporary international law? Does its formally non-binding nature adequately reflect its status in international human rights law? And can one single document truly represent every human being across the globe, when our experiences are so different? Discuss the achievements, shortcomings and prospects of the UDHR. Please remember to justify your arguments.



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