



GAETANO MORELLI LECTURES



4TH EDITION



Gaetano Morelli Lectures

“Sapienza” University of Rome

Department of Legal Sciences

Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185 Rome

The idea to convene in Rome on a yearly basis to discuss key issues of contemporary international law is naturally connected with the glorious Institute of International Law of “Sapienza” University. The story of this institution has accompanied the development of international law in the XX Century, to which the members of the Institute have considerably contributed. Naming the Lectures after Gaetano Morelli is thus more than an individual tribute; it is a collective acknowledgement to a legal tradition, which we intend to renew and to innovate every year, brick after brick.

The Lectures are mainly addressed to young scholars from all over the world. They aim to offer conceptual tools for appraising controversial knots of international law in its continuing development. There is a lot of sense, in our view, for doing this. International law is one of the branches of legal science where the pressing need for change goes hand in hand with the persistence of its basic legal paradigms. It is this unique blend of theory and practice, of tradition and innovation, which makes international law so challenging and ultimately explains its on-going intellectual fascination.

It is our hope that this series of lectures will promote a model of learning international law: offering diverse, if not even antithetical, perspectives among which everyone can find its way; a dialectical approach to legal studies which will hopefully become the distinctive feature of this initiative.

The fourth edition of the Gaetano Morelli Lectures will focus on the process of formation and identification of customary international law. It aims at inviting the participants to embark on a journey touching upon diverse conceptions, doctrines and practices, in search of the foundational bases of the international legal experience.

Professor Enzo Cannizzaro