

## Principles of International Law, re-exam 23.05.2014

You have two hours to complete the following assignments. Please be brief and to the point (use max. 1 page per answer!) and remember to provide arguments. References to case-law, relevant treaty provisions and the like are appreciated, if and when appropriate. And for your information, all the facts mentioned below are invented by me.

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**Question 1.** In 2009 Finland and Sweden concluded a treaty on the protection of the Baltic Sea. The main aim of the treaty was to create new marine protection areas in Swedish and Finnish special economic zones. On the basis of the provisions of the treaty Sweden was to limit its fishing quota by 8% and Finland by 7%. The treaty worked well until 2013 when Sweden, due to difficult economic situation, decided to increase its fishing quota to 15%. In response to the decision of Swedish authorities Finland decided to unilaterally terminate the treaty. As a lawyer in the Finnish Foreign Ministry, it is your task to provide the legal justification for the unilateral termination.

**Question 2.** The lengthy civil war in Mali has been considered a biggest humanitarian catastrophe in modern history of the country. Thousands of civilians have been killed and nearly a million escaped to neighbouring countries - Senegal, Guinea and Ivory Coast. The Security Council fearing that such humanitarian crisis may threaten the peace in the region has adopted a resolution recommending the government of Mali to undertake a number of steps to stop the conflict, in particular to stop supporting the illegal weapon factories.

Senegal and Guinea, frustrated by the Mali's lack of response to the resolution decided to introduce a no-fly zone over Mali territory and sent their troops to provide assistance to the refugees in the border region of Mali. They claimed that the resolution of the Security Council, referring to the need to protect refugees, provided a basis for humanitarian intervention. You are a prominent international lawyer and you have been asked by one of the local newspapers to assess whether actions of Senegal and Guinea are in accordance with international law

**Question 3.** Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, Bolivia and Brazil have negotiated a treaty on economic cooperation aiming to decrease import taxes on food products. However, upon the signature of the treaty Brazil, the world's bigger producer of orange juice, has made a reservation aiming to exempt the orange juice from the treaty regulation. You are a lawyer in the Bolivian Ministry for Foreign Affairs and your task is to assess how your country can respond to the Brazil's reservation and how the response will affect the treaty relations between Brazil and Bolivia. You just found out that the treaty is silent on the question of reservations.

**Have fun and good luck!**