

Buenos Aires, 20th December 2017.

**To the Admission Committee
of the Graduate Institute of International
and Development Studies**

Dear Sir or Madam,

I have the honor to write to you in order to apply to the Master in International Law.

I am convinced that international law is one of the most powerful tools for the development and protection of the human dignity and attending the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies can provide me with the necessary skills to have a constructive role for that purpose.

My decision first to have a law degree and then my academic activities has been driven by that concern. My last two years at the Law School of the University of Buenos Aires were really intense as I was engaged in teaching assistantship in the field of Public International Law (in the chair of Professor Hortensia Gutierrez Posse) and the edition of the renowned law journal *Lecciones y Ensayos* (published under the auspices of the Law School and directed by students exclusively). Both activities were *ad honorem* and taught me about the value of working in group and allowed me to begin contributing to the education of Argentina and the dissemination of Public International Law.

After graduating with honors, I continued to actively engage in academia as Lecturer in the general courses of "Public International Law", "International Criminal Law" and "International Humanitarian Law" and as a member of research groups on several issues (such as "just war" theories, international legal personality of new actors and the law applicable by international criminal tribunals). These activities represented an outstanding opportunity to interact with many professors and researchers, to participate in seminars in Argentina and to publish the results of my researches in book chapters. In this context, I was able to confirm my interest on the importance of respecting human dignity at all times and at all places and how prosecution of those responsible of international crimes dignifies the victims.

In this regard I am a judicial law clerk at a Federal Criminal Court with jurisdiction over international offences. Due to my professional experience I am curious about how international smuggling, money laundering and drug trafficking have supplied warring factions with financial means to continue fighting in armed conflicts and carrying out war

crimes. The prosecution of those engaged in the mentioned economic illegal activities perhaps it could contribute to the protection of civilian population and the end of hostilities.

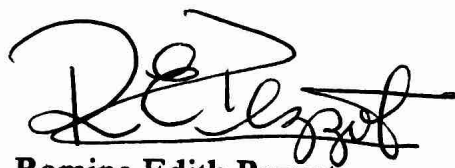
For that reason I am particularly interested in attending the Master in International Law because I would like to get new theoretical tools (from distinguished professors) necessary to better comprehend the complexity of contemporary debates around the main areas of international law such as international personality and responsibility for wrongful acts. For example, question regarding if companies and industries have international legal personality can influence the legal scope of International Criminal Law. If I were admitted to attend the Master I would like to do my research dissertation on this topic being helpful for that purpose the courses of the specialized areas related with International Criminal Law and international protection of human rights. I believe that academic research can contribute to generate new knowledge with the aim of positively influencing States in the adoption of public policies. Owing to its commitment with research the Graduate Institute is the right institution to deep a future investigation on that subject through the research centres.

Moreover, the Graduate Institute is also well known for providing the opportunity to do an internship. So I would like to complement my studies doing one at the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, to gain professional and practical expertise in humanitarian issues as I considerer that academic career cannot be divorced from active involvement in policy making.

Furthermore, I believe a master degree from the Graduate Institute will allow me to lecturer for postgraduate students and also to conduct research projects so I would like to resume my academic activities in Argentina after finishing my studies. My desire is to contribute in the protection of human dignity through teaching and doing research. Finally, the rigorous and academic excellence of the Graduate Institute would prepare me to pursue a PhD degree in the near future.

It would be a privilege to be accepted for the 2018/19 Master in International Law. I thank you in advance for the opportunity to be considered.

Sincerely yours,



Romina Edith Pezzot

◆◆◆◆ PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME: Romina Edith Pezzot.
DoB: 13 January 1979.
NATIONALITY: Argentine.
DOMICILE: Laprida No. 1898, 7° "I", (1425) Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina.
E-MAIL: rpezzot@gmail.com – rpezzot@derecho.uba.ar
LANGUAGES: Spanish (mother tongue), English (Intermediate level), French and Italian (passive knowledge).

◆◆◆◆ EDUCATION

GRADUATE: **Attorney at law–cum laude-: Major in Public International Law.** *University of Buenos Aires, School of Law* (2002). GPA: 8.

◆◆◆◆ PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF ARGENTINA:

- 2003-Present: National Court for Financial Crimes No. 1 (*Juzgado Nacional de Primera Instancia en lo Penal Económico N° 1*).

Current Position: Judicial Law Clerk (*Jefe de Despacho*): Assistance in the investigation and preparation of draft signature-ready interlocutory orders and final resolutions for Judge Ezequiel BERON DE ASTRADA related to white-collar crimes. Attend hearings. Administrative duties.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL PROSECUTOR:

- 2006-2008 (on secondment from the Judiciary): Special Prosecutor's Unit for the Investigation of Complex Offenses related to Drugs and Organized Crime (*Unidad de Apoyo Fiscal para la Investigación de Delitos Complejos en Materia de Drogas y Crimen Organizado -U.F.I.DRO.*).

Last Position held: Judicial Law Clerk (*Jefe de Despacho*): Prepared draft orders and resolutions for Prosecutor Alberto Adrián María GENTILI concerning drug trafficking and organized crimes cases. Administrative duties.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS, REGIONAL DELEGATION FOR ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, BRASIL, PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY

November 2002 (temporary assignment): Research and analysis of data and summaries of Argentine legislation on International Humanitarian Law.

◆◆◆◆ ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

DEPARTMENT OF TEACHING CAREER AND TRAINING

University of Buenos Aires, School of Law: pedagogical training completed (2007).

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR –INTERIM- (UNIVERSITY OF BUENOS AIRES)

- 2009-Present: *International Criminal Law* (Tenured Professors: Hortensia D.T. GUTIERREZ POSSE (PhD), and Frida ARMAS (PhD) –since 2015-).

- 2008-Present: *International Humanitarian Law* (Tenured Professors: Hortensia D.T. GUTIERREZ POSSE (PhD), and Frida ARMAS (PhD) –since 2015-).

- 2014-2015: *Public International Law* (Tenured Professor: Mónica PINTO, PhD).

- 2005-2007: *Public International Law* (Tenured Professor: Hortensia D.T. GUTIERREZ POSSE, PhD).

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR:

- 2010: Professor Silvina González Napolitano, course: *International Law of the Sea*, Naval War School of Argentina's Navy.

- 2014: Professor Silvina González Napolitano, course: *Public International Law*, career of International Studies, Di Tella University.

ACADEMIC RESEARCH

- Member of the law research project led by Natalia LUTERSTEIN titled “*International law as applied by international criminal tribunals and hybrid tribunals: dialogue between public international law and criminal law*” (2014-2016), funded by University of Buenos Aires, School of Law.
- Member of law research project led by Emiliano J. BUIS titled “*Origins and future evolution of the notion of ‘just war’ under international law: a historic and legal overview of jus ad bellum*” (2011-2012), funded by University of Buenos Aires, School of Law.
- Member of law research project led by Carolina S. ANELLO and María Eugenia CONTARINI titled “*Contributions for a construction of the notion of ‘subject’ in International Law*” (2010-2011) , funded by University of Buenos Aires, School of Law.

MOOT COURT AND COMPETITION

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC) MOOT COURT COMPETITION -Spanish version-:

- 2014-Present: Member of Panel Jurors responsible for reviewing the memorials submitted by participants. Competition organized by the Iberoamerican Institute of The Hague for Peace, Human Rights and International Justice.

JEAN PICTET COMPETITION –INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

- 2009-2011: Member of the panel responsible for selecting the members of the team that represented the University of Buenos Aires in the competition.

THE PHILIP C. JESSUP- INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION:

- 2009: Member of the panel responsible for selecting the members of the team that represented the University of Buenos Aires in the competition.

- LAW JOURNAL

2001-2002: Member of the Editorial Board of the Law Journal “*Lecciones y Ensayos*” (Publications Department of the School of Law of the University of Buenos Aires): is a sixty year-old-publication that is entirely run by law students. In addition to my editorial duties, I helped to organized seminars and debates on current issues related to various fields of law and also research prizes.

◆◆◆◆ DISTINCTIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2009: “José María Ruda” Scholarship granted by the Department of International Law, Community Law and International Affairs of Austral University to attend the 2010 Public International Law summer course at The Hague Academy of International Law (Netherlands).

2004: Honor Diploma awarded by the University of Buenos Aires’ School of Law.

◆◆◆◆ SELECT ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

CHAPTER OF BOOKS

- “**Settlement of disputes within the International Criminal Court**” in GONZALEZ NAPOLITANO, Silvina and PEZZOT, Romina Edith (ed.) *Liber Amicorum Alejandro Turyn*, Editorial Eudeba, (forthcoming).
- “**Crimes Against Humanity: Reflections on their possible occurrence under constitutional governments**”, in ZIFFER, Patricia (ed.), *Revista Jurisprudencia de Casación Penal*, Tomo 10, Editorial Hammurabi, August 2017, pp. 171-201.
- “**International Criminal Law**” in GONZALEZ NAPOLITANO, Silvina (ed.), *Lecciones de Derecho Internacional Público*, Editorial Errepar, Buenos Aires, June 2015, pp. 987-1006.
- “**The validity of effectiveness of the just war theory in the United Nations Collective Security System**”, in BUIS, Emiliano (ed.), *¿Justificar la Guerra? Discursos y Prácticas en torno a la legitimación del uso de la fuerza y su licitud en el derecho internacional*, Editorial Eudeba, Buenos Aires, April 2014, pp. 103-120.
- “**The ne bis in idem principle and how it can be used to prosecute drug-trafficking**”, in RUBINSKA, Ramiro M., SCHURJIN ALMENAR, Daniel (editors), *Derecho Penal Económico: a 50 años de la creación de los tribunales nacionales en lo Penal Económico*, Editorial Marcial Pons, Buenos Aires, October 2010, pp. 1397-1416.

JOURNALS

- Book Review, “**Unilateral acts of States. An analysis based on State practice and the work of the International Law Commission**” by María Isabel TORRES CAZORLA, in *Buenos Aires Law Review* (Publications Department of the School of Law of the University of Buenos Aires), 2012.
- “**Just wars. The justification of the use of force against States possessing weapons of mass destruction**” in BUIS, E. J. & GIOSA, L. M. (ed.) “LA GUERRA Y SUS LIMITACIONES”. (Actas del Segundo Coloquio de Derecho Internacional Humanitario y Derecho Internacional Penal); Centro de Estudios de Derechos Humanos de la UNICEN, Azul, Bs. As., 2011, pp. 93-99.-
- Book Review, “**Elements of International Criminal Law**” by Hortensia Gutierrez Posse, PhD: in *Buenos Aires Law Review* (Publications Department of the School of Law of the University of Buenos Aires), “Special Dossier on Human Rights”, 2007.
- “**The US National Security Strategy for 2002. Similarities and differences with the NSC-68**”: Journal *Mundo Contemporáneo* of CENALEEI (Centro de Altos Estudios Estratégicos Internacionales); Year 2- No. 2 (October 2007).
- “**GLOBALIZATION, TRANSNATIONAL CRIME: NEW AND OLD PARADIGMS IN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION. AN OVERVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGREED UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME**”, co-authored with Alberto Adrián María Gentili. *National Prosecutor’s Office Law Review*, No. 19 (May 2007).

CASE LAW REVIEWS AND SUMMARIES

- **Case concerning the “Armed Activities on the Territory of the Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Uganda)”**, International Court of Justice; Judgment of 19 December 2005. Published in the Academic Electronic Portal of the Elements of Public International Law course, lectured by Hortensia D.T. GUTIERREZ POSSE, PhD, University of Buenos Aires. Available at: <http://portalacademico.derecho.uba.ar/catedras/archivos/catedras/17/rdc%20v%20uganda.pdf>
- **Case “The Prosecutor v. Radislav Krstić”**, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, Case Nº IT- 98- 33- A, Judgement 19- IV- 2004. Published in the Academic Electronic Portal of the Elements of Public International Law course, lectured by Hortensia D.T. GUTIERREZ POSSE, PhD, University of Buenos Aires. Available at: <http://portalacademico.derecho.uba.ar/catedras/archivos/catedras/17/sumario%20krstic.pdf>
- **Case concerning “Oil Platforms (Islamic Republic of Iran v. United States of America)”**, International Court of Justice; Judgment of 6 November 2003. Published in the Academic Electronic Portal of the Elements of Public International Law course, lectured by Hortensia D.T. GUTIERREZ POSSE, PhD, University of Buenos Aires. Available at: <http://portalacademico.derecho.uba.ar/catedras/archivos/catedras/17/sumario%20petroleras.pdf>

CONTRIBUTIONS

- Book *Guide for understanding the elements of Public International Law* by Hortensia D.T. GUTIERREZ POSSE, Editorial La Ley, Buenos Aires, April 2003.
- Dossier on International Humanitarian Law, ‘*Lecciones y Ensayos*’ Law Review No. 78 (2003), published under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross; Publications Department of the School of Law of the University of Buenos Aires.

◆◆◆◆ SEMINARS AND COLLOQUIUMS

EXPONENT

- Ninth Colloquium on International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law: “*Forty years of the adoption of Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions*”, Centro de Estudios de Derechos

Humanos, Facultad de Derecho, Universidad Nacional del Centro de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, Azul, 17th and 18th November 2017. **Lecture:** “*International Custom: a taboo source for international criminal law. Its relationship with nullum crimen sine lege principle*”.

- Eighth Colloquium on International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law: “*Fifty years of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*”; Centro de Estudios de Derechos Humanos, Facultad de Derecho, Universidad Nacional del Centro de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, Azul, 18th and 19th November 2016. **Lecture:** “*Are crimes against humanity possible in democratic contexts? About the judgment in the Capilla del Rosario case*”.
- Second Colloquium on International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law: “*Thirty years of the adoption of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons*”, Centro de Estudios de Derechos Humanos, Facultad de Derecho, Universidad Nacional del Centro de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, Azul, 20th November 2010. **Lecture:** “*Just Wars. The justification and legitimation of the use of force against States possessing weapons of mass destruction through the Security Council of the United Nations*”.
- First Colloquium on International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law: “*Sixty years after the Geneva Conventions: protecting the victims of armed conflicts at the beginning of the 21 st Century*”, Centro de Estudios de Derechos Humanos, Facultad de Derecho, Universidad Nacional del Centro de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, Azul, 20 November 2010. **Lecture:** “*The economic aspects of war crimes. Is the Money-laundering of assets coming from the war crime of pillage an independent war-crime or another autonomous international offense?*”.

ASSISTANCE

INTERNATIONAL:

- **Advanced Seminar on IHL for University Lecturers and Researchers**, 25-29 September 2017, ICRC and Geneva Academy, Geneva, Switzerland.
- **Advanced Course on International Criminal Law. Special Focus: Gender Justice**, 24 August- 4 September 2015, The Hague Academy of International Law and The Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies, The Hague, Netherlands.
- **Summer Course on International Public Law**, 5-23 July 2010, The Hague Academy of International Law, The Hague, Netherlands.

NATIONAL:

- Dissertation by **Professor Hervé ASCENSIO** about “**Draft Convention of Crimes Against Humanity**”, 5th June 2017, University of Buenos Aires, School of Law.
- **First external session of teaching in Human Rights Law, International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law**, organized by Fondation René Cassin- International Institute of Human Rights, 7-17 march 2017, University of Buenos Aires, School of Law.
- **Conference “Cultural heritage and armed conflicts”**, organized by “Lecciones y Ensayos” Law Review, 17 October 2016, University of Buenos Aires, School of Law.
- Dissertation by **Professor Kai AMBOS** about “**Modes and standards for the prosecution of individual complicity in international crimes**”, 22nd September 2016, University of Buenos Aires, School of Law.
- **Intensive Seminar “Enforced Disappearance under International Law”** by Professor Olivier DE FROUVILLE; 19-23 September 2016, University of Buenos Aires, School of Law.