

Impact of International Treaty on Canadian Domestic Policy



Since becoming a nation, Canada has sought a role on the international stage; coming out of World War II, as one of the few developed nations that was not physically scarred by the War, we were in a unique position to leverage ourselves into a prominent player in international affairs. Since the War, we have grown socially, politically, and economically, all the while we have cultivated a certain prestige at the international level where we are one of the world's powers (at least in some respects). Part of this has grown from our work with nations and organizations around the world. We have come to hundreds of agreements with these nations and groups that outline our rights and responsibilities on the world stage - what we often fail to do, however, is investigate the impact that these treaties have on our own domestic policy.

Treaties can handcuff what you do in your home country and force a nation to abide by certain guidelines of the agreements. Our task today is to select one treaty and investigate how it impacts us here in Canada.

You will select a topic and deliver a video-recorded seminar about a treaty of your choice and how it impacts Canada's domestic policy. You will want to consider (and answer) the following questions:

- What is the purpose of the treaty?
- Who are the signatory nations of the treaty?
- How does the treaty impact Canadian domestic policy? (What does it say that we can or cannot do?)
- What, if any, are the successes of the treaty here in Canada?
- What, if any, are the negatives, or drawbacks, of the treaty here in Canada?
- What have critics and the media said about the impact of the treaty on Canada?

What do you need to do for your online seminar:

- Deliver an interesting, engaging and original seminar on your selected topic to your colleagues (about 5-8 minutes in length)
- Find and use one media piece that can help to give additional context and information on your issue
- You can record your video in the recorder below, or upload to YouTube and share the link from there
- You still need to submit a bibliography page, in Chicago Style formatting, to go along with your video seminar (can be submitted below)

You can use the following links to help you explore our treaties:

- Canadian Civil Liberties Association (<https://ccla.org/canada-the-un/>)
- Global Affairs Canada
(<http://www.treaty-accord.gc.ca/search-recherche.aspx?type=10&page=TLA&lang=eng>)
- List of Canadian Treaties (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Treaties_of_Canada)