

The Cambridge International Law Journal
and
The Lauterpacht Centre for International Law
present

The 2016 Young Scholars' Lecture

'Territorial Sovereignty by Treaty: A Study of the
Agreements between Colonial Powers and Local
Political Entities'

Dr Mamadou Hébié

Friday 14 October 2016 13:00

(with sandwiches from 12.30)

Finley Library, Lauterpacht Centre, 5 Cranmer Rd, Cambridge



This year's lecture will be delivered by Dr Mamadou Hébié from the University of Leiden on the topic of 'Territorial sovereignty by Treaty: A study of the Agreements between Colonial Powers and Local Political Entities'.

Lecture summary: This lecture will examine, on the one hand, the legal nature and effects of the agreements concluded between local political entities and colonial powers from the 15th to the 20th century, and their relevance in current

territorial disputes, on the other hand. Drawing from international colonial practice, I argue that these agreements were often treaties whose validity and terms conditioned their legal effects. Among other questions, I will discuss colonial institutions such as papal bulls, protectorates, and the doctrine of occupation. I will also examine foundational topics of international law, such as statehood and international legal subjectivity, Eurocentrism and the sources of international law, as well the methodological challenges inherent in historical research in international law.

Dr Mamadou Hébié is Assistant Professor of International Law at the Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies of Leiden University and a Visiting Professor at the University of Lille where he lectures a course on International litigation. His areas of interests include general international law, territorial and maritime disputes, international humanitarian law and human rights, and the history of international law.

Before joining Leiden University, Dr Hébié was Lecturer at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, in the Master in International Dispute Settlement Programme. He holds a Ph.D. *summa cum laude*, with the examining board's utmost praise, from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, an LL.M. from Harvard Law School, and The Hague Academy Diploma of International law. In February 2016, Dr Hébié was awarded the Paul Guggenheim Prize in International Law for his Ph.D. thesis published under the title *Souveraineté territoriale par traité: une étude des accords conclus entre puissances coloniales et entités politiques locales* (Paris, PUF, 2015). Dr Hébié acted as adviser to the Argentine Republic in the *ARA Libertad* case before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea.