



UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE

FACULTÉ DE DROIT

Département de droit international public  
et organisation internationale



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INSTITUT DE HAUTES  
ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES  
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT  
GRADUATE INSTITUTE  
OF INTERNATIONAL AND  
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

## RUSSIAN APPROACHES TO INTERNATIONAL LAW

### *A Roundtable Discussion at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies*

Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2, 1202 Genève – Room S8

**13 April 2016, 17:30-19:30**

The monograph *Russian Approaches to International Law* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015) published by professor Lauri Mälksoo (University of Tartu) is an impressively well-timed study. A record of recent international legal developments involving Russia in various areas of international law, be they human rights, international economic law or dispute settlement, highlights some of the most significant challenges and gives consideration to their legal nature. Are they only manifestations of power politics, or is there any special Russian school of international legal thought – a ‘Russian international law’? And if there is, may it serve as a plausible alternative to the West-centered contemporary international law? Lauri Mälksoo’s book is the first genuine response to these questions.

Lauri Mälksoo studied Russian academia from the inside in 2009-2014 by traveling to academic conferences in Russia and CIS countries, attending meetings of the Russian Association of International Law, debating international law with eminent Russian scholars, and studying their books and other writings. In his work Lauri Mälksoo provides a detailed analysis of how the understanding of international law has developed in Russia, and draws on historical, theoretical and practical perspectives to offer the reader the ‘big picture’ of the Russian doctrine’s engagement with international law. At the roundtable that will take place on 13 April 2016, Lauri Mälksoo will discuss his book with his colleagues – international legal academics and practitioners from Strasbourg, Geneva and Russia.

#### *Programme*

- 17:30 - **Laurence Boisson de Chazournes** (University of Geneva): Welcome and Introduction
- 17:40 - **Lauri Mälksoo** (University of Tartu): Russian Approaches to International Law
- 18:00 - Comments by **Olga Chernishova** (European Court of Human Rights), **Maria Issaeva** (Threefold Legal Advisors LLC, Moscow), **Nico Krisch** (Graduate Institute), and **Fuad Zarbiyev** (Graduate Institute)
- 18:45-19:30 - Discussion among the panelists, questions from the public

#### *Participants:*

**Laurence Boisson de Chazournes:** *Professor of International Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Geneva*

**Olga Chernishova:** *Head of Legal Division, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg*

**Maria Issaeva:** *Managing Partner, Threefold Legal Advisors LLC, Moscow*

**Nico Krisch:** *Professor at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva*

**Lauri Mälksoo:** *Professor of International Law at the University of Tartu*

**Fuad Zarbiyev:** *Assistant Professor at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva*