

# Commentary in International Law

**Date:** 26 February 2025

**Time:** 15:00-16:30 CET

**Location:** In-person event at the T.M.C. Asser Instituut, R.J. Schimmelpennincklaan 20-22, 2517 JN, Den Haag

**Registration:** This seminar is invite-only. Should you wish to join, please send an email with your name, affiliation and a few lines expressing your interest to [f.bensadon@asser.nl](mailto:f.bensadon@asser.nl).

## Speakers:

- **Dr. Lianne Boer** – Associate Professor, VU Amsterdam
- **drs. Eveline van Trigt** – Foreign, comparative and international law librarian, Peace Palace Library

## Overview:

Commentaries in international law are more than just legal texts; they are monumental books that carry with them a sensory experience of the law itself. Yet, the materiality of these works—whether in print or digital form—shapes our knowledge of the law in ways we often overlook. How does the physicality of these commentaries—but also other literary forms in international law—influence our reading and perception of international law? In this seminar, we will explore how the materiality of these books – their size, their layout, their weight—does not just convey legal meaning but also engages an experience of being part of something monumental, something bigger than ourselves. As we navigate this exploration, we will also turn our attention to the evolving nature of international law resources. With the rapid expansion of digital collections, the way legal scholars, judges, and students interact with books is changing. Do eBooks, databases, and eJournals alter the perception of these monumental texts, or does the physicality of print entail a different kind of experience? How do digital tools affect the way we access and consume international law materials? Join us as we delve into the sensations produced by international law's books and explore how this shapes our understanding of international law in an increasingly connected world.

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## Speaker bios



**Dr LJM Boer** is Associate Professor of International Law at VU Amsterdam. Her research deals with the construction of knowledge in international law; her core question is, how do we know what we know about international law? She is also co-director of the multidisciplinary LLB Law in Society, and has extensive experience teaching (the politics of) international law at both graduate and undergraduate level.



**drs. Eveline van Trigt** has a background in Public International Law and Philosophy of Law. She obtained an MA in Public International Law and an MA in the Philosophy of a Specific Discipline (Law) from the University of Leiden, The Netherlands. She has worked for the Peace Palace Library as a foreign, comparative, and international law librarian since 2005. She has been responsible for collection development and management from publishers from the Anglophone world since 2015. One of the other tasks of Ms. Van Trigt is the compilation of selective bibliographies about international law for the Centre for Studies and Research in International Law and International Relations of the Hague Academy of International Law.