

Nikola R. Hajdin

Associate Professor — California Western School of Law

225 Cedar St, San Diego, CA 92101 (267) 314-0771 | nhajdin@cwsl.edu | [Personal Website](#)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

California Western School of Law, San Diego, CA

Associate Professor, 2026–present

Courses: Criminal Law, Evidence, Criminal Procedure

Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, 2023–2026

Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, Villanova, PA

Visiting Assistant Professor, 2025–2026

Courses: Criminal Law, Advanced Criminal Law Seminar

Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C.

Research Fellow, Georgetown Center for the Constitution, 2024–2026

Lectured (with Professor David Luban): International Criminal Law, Seminar on the Crime of Aggression

University of Oxford, Christ Church, Oxford, United Kingdom

Postdoctoral Fellow and Tutor in Law, 2022–2023

Course: Public International Law

Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden

Senior Fellow, 2021–present

Lecturer in Law, 2016–2022

Courses (all in English): Legal Writing, International Criminal Law, Public International Law, International Human Rights Law

BOOKS

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR AGGRESSION UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW (forthcoming in Hart Publishing, Oxford 2026)

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CRIME OF AGGRESSION (Stockholm University Press 2021)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

[*Who Should We Blame for Aggressive Wars?*](#), 101 TUL. L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2027)

[*Freedom of Speech and Criminal Solicitation*](#), 116 J. CRIM. L. & CRIMINOLOGY 659 (2026)

[*Neutral Business Assistance and the Limits of Complicity in International Criminal Law*](#), 45 MICH. J. INT'L L. 381 (2024)

[*Responsibility of Private Individuals for Complicity in a War of Aggression*](#), 116 AM. J. INT'L L. 788 (2022) (peer-reviewed)

[*Attributing Criminal Responsibility for the Crime of Aggression*](#), 51 GA. J. INT'L & COMP. L. 1 (2022)

[*The Actus Reus of the Crime of Aggression*](#), 34 LEIDEN J. INT'L L. 489 (2021) (peer-reviewed)

[*What is Hybrid War?—The Terminology Used to Describe of Modern Warfare and Current Authority under International Law*](#), 13 JURIDISK PUBLIKATION 226 (2021) (peer-reviewed)

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[*Leadership Nature of the Crime of Aggression: The ICC's New Concern?*](#), 17 INT'L CRIM. L. REV. 543 (2017) (peer-reviewed)

BOOK CHAPTERS

Mens Rea, in LITIGATING INTERNATIONAL CRIMES AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN US COURTS (Mark Klamberg et al. eds, Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2028)

The Responsibility of Desk Perpetrators (Schreibtischtäter) for Aggressive War, in SCHREIBTISCHTÄTER IN INTERNATIONAL LAW (Jens Meierhenrich ed., Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2027)

Article 25 – Individual Criminal Responsibility (with Kirsten Bowman), in COMMENTARY ON THE LAW OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (Mark Klamberg ed., Torkel Apsahl Academic Publisher, 2022)

Article 33 – Superior Orders and Prescription of Law, in COMMENTARY ON THE LAW OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT 321 (Mark Klamberg ed., Torkel Apsahl Academic Publisher, 2017)

SELECTED OP-EDS & OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[*How to Prosecute Ongoing Acts of Aggression Following the Initial Invasion*](#), LAWFARE, Oct. 27, 2023

[*Complicity in a War of Aggression: Private Individual's Criminal Responsibility*](#), JUST SECURITY, Apr. 1, 2022 (Ukrainian [translation](#))

[*Vem kan åtalas för aggressionsbrott?*](#), NORSTEDTS JURIDIK (Sweden), Mar. 22, 2022

[*The Leadership Clause in the Crime of Aggression and Its Customary International Law Statute*](#), JUST SECURITY, Mar. 17, 2022 (Ukrainian [translation](#))

[*"En skamlig handling" – om Rysslands militära invasion av Ukraina*](#), NORSTEDTS JURIDIK (SWEDEN), Mar. 8, 2022

[*Aggression and Criminal Responsibility \(for Whom?\)*](#), OPINIO JURIS, Apr. 9, 2018

[*Self-Representation before the International Criminal Court: Safeguarding the Interests of Justice and Protecting Human Rights*](#), RAOUL WALLENBERG INSTITUTE PUBLICATIONS (2016)

[*Prosecutor v. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo et al.*](#), OXFORD REPORTS ON INTERNATIONAL LAW, (2015) (commissioned commentary for case reporter)

[*Prosecutor v. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo et al \[Disqualification of the Prosecutor\]*](#), OXFORD REPORTS ON INTERNATIONAL LAW, (2015) (commissioned commentary for case reporter)

[*Understanding Aggression: Legal Status and Individual Criminal Responsibility before the 2010 Kampala Conference*](#), RAOUL WALLENBERG INSTITUTE PUBLICATIONS (2015)

[*Prosecutor v. Germain Katanga*](#), OXFORD REPORTS ON INTERNATIONAL LAW, (2014) (commissioned commentary for case reporter)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg, France

Law Clerk to Judge Helena Jäderblom of Sweden, 2016

International Criminal Court Office of the Prosecutor, The Hague, The Netherlands

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Clerkship, 2015-2016

Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights & Humanitarian Law, Lund, Sweden
Research Assistant, 2015

Bozilovic & Petrovic LLP, Belgrade, Serbia
Associate, 2010–2013

EDUCATION

Stockholm University, Sweden, Ph.D. degree in International Law, 2021

summa cum laude, opponent: Professor Claus Kress

Harvard Law School, Boston, MA, 2019-2020, carried out research and took courses as part of the Ph.D. program

Cambridge University, United Kingdom, 2020, carried out research as part of the Ph.D. program

Lund University, Sweden, LL.M., 2015

Belgrade University, Serbia, LL.M. and LL.B., 2012

SELECTED SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

Who Should We Blame for Aggressive Wars?, Markelloquium!, The George Washington University Law School, Washington, D.C., March, 2026

Criminalizing Emotional Harm, CrimFest!, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 2025

Freedom of Speech and Criminal Solicitation, Georgetown Center for the Constitution Workshop, Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C., March 2025

Freedom of Speech and Criminal Solicitation, Legal Research in Progress Workshop, Stanford Law School, Stanford, California, April 2025

Criminal Solicitation, Fellows' Workshop, Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C., January 2025

Who Should We Blame for Aggressive Wars?, ASIL Mid-Year Conference, Chicago Law School, Chicago, Illinois, November 2024

Crime-Soliciting Political Speech, CrimFest!, Cardozo Law School, New York, New York, July 2024

Neutral Business Assistance and the Limits of Complicity under International Criminal Law, Michigan Law School, Ann Arbor, April 2024

Complicity in International Law, American University Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C., April 2024

Groups and Criminal Law, SJD and Fellows' workshop, Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C., March 2024

Cross-Liability Theory and Organizational Criminality
Junior Scholar Conference, Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, Massachusetts, March 2024

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Legal Research in Progress Workshop, Stanford Law School, Stanford, California,
February 2024

Architects of Political Violence

New York University School of Law, January 2024

Stanford Law School, Stanford, California, October 2023

Prosecuting International Crimes in Ukraine, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy, June 2023

Complicity in a War of Aggression, Oxford University Faculty of Law, United Kingdom, November 2022

Attribution of Criminal Responsibility to State Leaders, Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, Cambridge University, United Kingdom, February 2020

Responsibility for Aggression, Stanford Law School, California, October 2019

Wrong in the Crime of Aggression, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts, October 2019

Principles of Attribution in International Law, Oxford University Institute of European & Comparative Law, United Kingdom, June 2019

Critical Approaches to Responsibility Theories in International Criminal Law, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands, October 2018

How to Succeed in Human Rights, Lund University, Sweden, April 2018

Socio-Legal Approaches towards International Criminal Justice, Critical Research in International Law (CRIL): An Intensive Doctoral Retreat, Gimo, Sweden, March 2018

Possibilities to Prosecute Individuals for a War of Aggression, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, [Amsterdam], November 2017

Methodological Misconceptions of International Legal Argument, Gothenburg University, Swedish International Law Day, October 2017

Attribution of Responsibility in International Criminal Law, Critical Research in International Law (CRIL): An Intensive Doctoral Retreat, Gimo, Sweden, March 2017

Hybrid Warfare (chaired panel discussion and presented paper with Professors Elies van Sliedregt and Iryna Marchuk), Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights, Lund University, Sweden, September 2015

RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS

Swedish Research Council, \$350,000

SJF (Stockholm University)

Article prizes: \$1,000 in 2026, \$5,000 in 2022, \$2,500 in 2021, \$1,000 in 2017

SVJT, visiting research scholarship, \$1,000, 2020

Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History & Antiquities, \$12,500, 2019

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Alfred Ossians Winroths minnesfond, \$4,000, 2019

Carolina Nordstedts donationsfond, \$1,000, 2019

Koch Lindbergs resetstipendium, \$2,100, 2019

Lindhagens a-fond, \$4,800, 2019

Stiftelsen Hans Thornstedts, \$3,200, 2019

Stockholm University, grant for visiting research, \$10,000, 2016

Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Full scholarship to pursue two-year LLM at Lund University, approx. \$55,000, 2013

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

16th European Society of International Law Annual Conference

Co-organizer of this 2021 conference, held at Stockholm University, Sweden

Critical Research in International Law (CRIL), Oxford University, United Kingdom

Co-organizer of this three-day conference in 2019

Stockholm University, Sweden

Convener of weekly seminars in Public International Law, 2018-2019

Doctoral Conference, Gimo, Sweden

Co-organizer of three-day conference and doctoral retreat

REFeree (PEER-REVIEWER)

THE JOURNAL OF CRIMINAL LAW

THE LAW AND PRACTICE OF INTERNATIONAL COURTS AND TRIBUNALS

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW REVIEW

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & AFFILIATIONS

Equality and Diversity Committee, Oxford University, United Kingdom

Selected Member, 2022-2023

Serbian Bar Association, Member, 2013-present

Open Inquiry, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Board Member for debate club, 2019-2020

International Criminal Moot Court Competition, The Hague, Netherlands

Moot Judge, 2016

Jus Humanis, Lund University, Sweden

Board Member for human rights nongovernmental organization, 2013-2014

ADDITIONAL TEACHING QUALIFICATIONS

Professional Development Courses, Stockholm University, Sweden

Completed Pedagogy 2 (exploring perspectives on higher education in field of law),

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2018, and Pedagogy 1 (examining student learning in higher education, teaching methods, use of technology, assessment methods, course planning, cultural diversity), 2017

Siracusa International Institute, Italy

Completed 17th Specialization Course in International Criminal Law, 2018

MISCELLANEOUS

Fully fluent in English, Serbian (first language), Swedish (conversational)