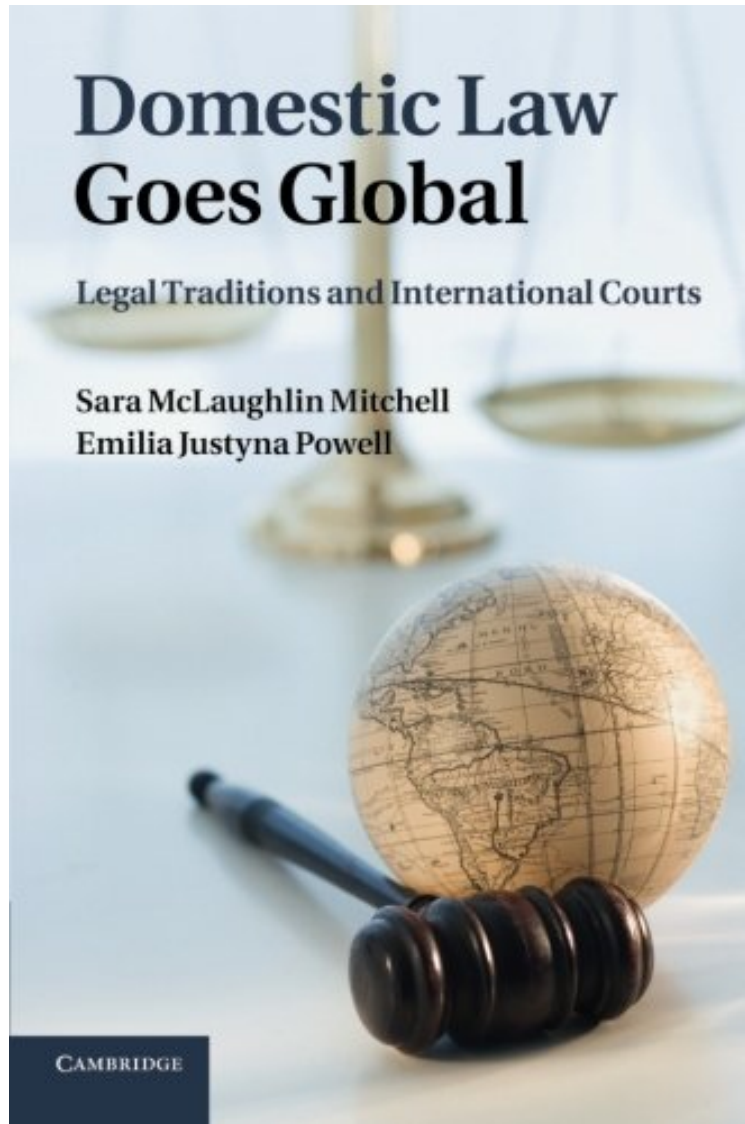


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# Domestic Law Goes Global: Legal Traditions and International Courts

*Professor Chair Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, Professor Emilia Justyna Powell*  
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International courts have proliferated in the international system, with over one hundred judicial or quasi-judicial bodies in existence today. This book develops a rational legal design theory of international adjudication in order to explain the variation in state support for international courts. Initial negotiators of new courts, 'originators', design international courts in ways that are politically and legally optimal. States joining existing international courts, 'joiners', look to the legal rules and procedures to assess the courts' ability to be capable, fair and unbiased. The authors demonstrate that the characteristics of civil law, common law and Islamic law influence states' acceptance of the jurisdiction of international courts, the durability of states' commitments to international courts, and the design of states' commitments to the courts. Furthermore, states strike cooperative agreements most effectively in the shadow of an international court that operates according to familiar legal principles and rules.

"Domestic Law Goes Global is highly recommended for those seeking a well-supported analysis of why international tribunals function the way they do." -- in the Journal of International Law and Politics

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