

**Faculty of Business, Law and Social Sciences**

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| **Proposed Title:**  The effect of international disputes on international energy contracts and resources in Palestine |
| **School:**  Law |
| **Proposed Supervisory Team:**  Dr Ozlem Ulgen (Principal supervisor)  Dr Haydn Davies |
| **Abstract:**  As a result of international disputes, especially with neighbouring countries such as Israel, the Palestinian government is prevented from investing in Palestinian energy resources to supply electricity and exploit resources, and cannot establish ownership or control over energy resources. Deficiencies in the existing legal framework relate to the lack of specific energy law and non-application of private international law in Palestine. The lack of state recognition of Palestine by the international community also means it is unable to enter into international treaties. The research explores how international disputes affect international energy contracts and provision of energy resources in Palestine. It maps out the energy resources in Palestine and considers whether these are sustainably exploited. It analyses the precariousness and unsustainability of the existing imports-model of energy provision from Israel, Jordan, and Egypt, despite energy resources existing in Palestine. The imports-model is susceptible to exploitation and unfair practices of expropriation of Palestinian energy resources, uncompetitive pricing, and re-sell of expropriated resources. |
| **Research Environment:**  The designated supervisors have expertise to provide PhD supervision in this area. The School of Law provides research support and opportunities for collaboration through the Centre for Human Rights, and the Centre for Law, Science and Policy. There are opportunities for cross-faculty and departmental collaboration through the Centre for Brexit Studies. There is access to electronic and hard copy library resources, and partnership arrangements with other academic institutions for reference use of materials. The School supports PhD candidate research development and involvement in research activities through the Postgraduate Research Forum, BLSS Research Conference, and BLSS Small Development Grants. |
| **Applicant Requirements:**   * 1st class or 2:1 LLB (the equivalent for overseas students) * Masters level degree in international business law * High level proficiency in written and spoken English and Arabic in order to analyse documents relevant to Palestine * Knowledge and legal experience in the Palestinian legal system, civil law, and civil sector |
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