



OTTAWA CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE

MARCH 7-8, 2024

Leah West, SJD

Associate Professor, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University

Leah West, SJD, is an Associate Professor at the Norman Patterson School of International Affairs where she teaches graduate courses on national security law, international law, counterterrorism and ethics. Dr. West is the co-author, along with Craig Forcese of *National Security Law* (Irwin, 2021, 2 ed), and a co-editor of *Stress Tested: The COVID-19 Pandemic and Canadian National Security* (UCP, 2021). She is also the author of several peer-reviewed articles on legal issues concerning national security, cyber operations and the law of armed conflict, a regular commentator on national security matters for Canadian and international media outlets, and has testified before both the House of Commons and the Senate, and the European Parliament. Dr. West serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of National Security Law and Policy* and *Terrorism and Political Violence*.



Additionally, Dr. West is a practicing lawyer with Friedman Mansour LLP, supporting the firm's criminal, quasi-criminal and administrative law practice. She has appeared before the Ontario Superior Court, the Federal Court of Canada, the Security Intelligence Review Committee, and the Supreme Court of Canada. Her academic literature has also been cited by the Supreme Court. Dr. West previously served as counsel with the Department of Justice National Security Litigation and Advisory Branch (NSLAG). Before being called to the Ontario Bar in 2016, Leah clerked for the Honourable Justice Mosley of the Federal Court of Canada. She also served as an armoured officer in the Canadian Armed Forces for ten years; she deployed to Afghanistan in 2010.