

# American Journal of International Law

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# AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

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# An Imperial History of Race-Religion in International Law

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More than half a century after the UN's adoption of the International Convention on the Prohibition of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, a debate has emerged over whether to extend the Convention's protections to religious discrimination. This article uses history to intervene in the debate. It argues that racial and religious othering were mutually coconstitutive in the colonial encounter and foundational to the making of modern international law. Moreover, the contemporary proposal to address the interplay of racial and religious othering is hardly new; iterations of that demand surfaced in the earlier twentieth century, as well. By illuminating the centrality of race-religion othering to the colonial encounter and chronicling failed attempts by Europe's "others" to secure international legal protections, this article makes a case for crafting an attuned response in the present.

# Unlocking CEDAW's Transformative Potential: A Gender Lens on Asylum Jurisprudence

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One of the most important developments in international law for the protection of displaced women and girls—the implied *non-refoulement* obligation in the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women has received little scholarly or jurisprudential attention. This Article presents, for the first time, a doctrinal analysis of the full corpus of asylum complaints decided by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (Committee). It analyzes the early development of a prohibition on return to real, personal, and foreseeable risks of serious forms of discrimination against women; highlights critical shortcomings in the Committee's asylum practice; identifies key areas for improvement; and reflects on the Committee's as-yet-unrealized potential to contribute to international law in this area.

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