



# RULE OF LAW FOR DEVELOPMENT

## Empowering Rule of Law Leaders

### » **Mission**

To empower legal and development professionals to be catalysts for social justice, through innovative education and hands-on experience, equipping them with innovative skills to strengthen laws and institutions, and advance sustainable development worldwide.

### » **About Us**

Loyola's Rule of Law for Development Program (PROLAW) is a U.S. graduate degree dedicated to experiential training in rule of law advisory work. We empower professionals with the skills to design, structure, manage, and implement legal reforms in their home countries and abroad—tackling global challenges in governance, security, economic growth, and sustainable development.

Rooted in Loyola's mission of social justice, PROLAW advances the rule of law as the foundation for thriving societies worldwide.

## » Application Process

- Free online application form
- Official transcripts
- Two letters of recommendation
- Statement of purpose
- Resume or CV
- Official TOEFL, IELTS, Duolingo or PTE score report (international applicants)
- Transcript evaluation from any of the NACES.org member companies (international applicants)

## » Program Highlights

### • Two Graduate Degree Offerings

LLM degree for law graduates, and a Master of Jurisprudence (MJ) for professionals with degrees in other fields.

### • Practical & Specialized Curriculum

Courses are led by distinguished practitioners with extensive multijurisdictional experience in advancing rule of law initiatives worldwide. The final capstone requirement has been designed to be customizable to individual interests and career goals.

### • Blended Delivery

Dynamic online learning with an immersive term at Loyola's Rome Center in Italy. Students benefit from the best of both worlds: the convenience of online education and the transformative experience of studying in the heart of Rome, a pivotal global hub for international collaboration. Flexible one- or two-year completion options available.

### • Career Prospects & Network

A global network of alumni from 65+ countries and practitioner-faculty whose experience and connections in the field provide students with invaluable networking opportunities and mentorship. 94% of graduates are employed in roles that drive legal, policy, and development initiatives.

## » Alumni



**Anurag Devkota  
(LLM '14) Nepal**  
Human Rights Lawyer,  
Law and Policy Forum For  
Social Justice (LAPSOJ)

*PROLAW helped shape my career in the rule of law field. The needs-assessment, international development architecture theories and comparative lawyering skills obtained in the program were central to my work.*



**Yuliia Melnyk  
(MJ '25) Ukraine**  
Director & Co-Founder,  
NGO Ekoltava;  
National Expert, World  
Bank Green and Resilient  
Cities and Regions

*For over 10 years, I've worked in environmental protection and rights, but was missing the legal foundation needed to support my work. PROLAW provided me with the legal expertise and skills needed to drive reform in Ukraine, ensuring transparent decision-making, resource distribution, and public participation for environmental justice.*

## » Faculty



**Juliet S. Sorensen**  
Director, Rule of Law Institute & Rule of Law for Development Program (PROLAW)

Expertise: international criminal law, human rights law, public corruption, global health and development, and federal criminal law.



**William T. Loris**  
Founding Director Emeritus, Rule of Law for Development Program (PROLAW)

Expertise: rule of law and development, international development law, institutional capacity building, anti-corruption strategies, global justice and development, and grievance mechanisms design.



**Dr. Karen A. Shaw**  
Expertise: health law, legal writing, international development law and policy research, and socio-legal studies.



**Dr. Thomas F. McInerney**  
Expertise: international and corporate law, global governance systems, regulation and compliance, and sustainable development.



**Courtenay Morris**  
Expertise: criminal justice reform, rule of law development, free speech and media freedom laws, public international law, and human rights law.



**Joseph Saba**  
Expertise: international affairs and development, rule of law and governance reforms, conflict resolution and peacebuilding, public sector reforms, policy and program evaluation, and international transactions law.



**Dr. Karen Ann Widess**  
Expertise: international rule of law and legal reform, democracy promotion, civil society strengthening, economic development, and post-conflict stabilization and reconstruction.



**Alev Erhan**  
Expertise: human rights law, international criminal law, business and human rights, and conflict resolution.

# Have an idea for advancing rule of law together? Let's connect!

Juliet S. Sorensen  
Director, Rule of Law  
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Development (PROLAW)  
Program

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## » **Partnership**

PROLAW's strategic partnerships are essential for enhancing educational opportunities and outcomes in rule of law and development. By uniting faculty and students across institutions, we build robust professional networks that spark joint research, collaborative projects, and student fellowships—equipping participants with the connections and expertise to lead global change. We welcome inquiries about partnering to expand these vital initiatives.

## » **Recognition & Support**

We are grateful for transformative support from philanthropic foundations, government partners, corporate innovators, committed individuals, and leading institutional thought partners. These strategic collaborations enable PROLAW to leverage legal education as a catalyst for sustainable development.

- United Nations: Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute / World Food Programme
- United States Department of State
- African Union Commission
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT)
- World Bank Global Forum on Law, Justice & Development