

The International Legal Principles Relating to Territorial Disputes: the Acquisition of Title to Territory

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1. The Importance of Rules Governing Territory

The role of territory in international law.

2. Territorial sovereignty, Title and General Comments

The nature of territorial sovereignty; the meaning of title.

3. The acquisition of additional territory

A discussion of boundary treaties; accretion; cession; conquest and the use of force and crucially, the exercise of effective control.

4. The Role of Subsequent Conduct

The impact of the behaviour of the parties and third states: Recognition, Acquiescence and Estoppel

5. Territorial Integrity and Self-Determination

The nature and importance of the principle of territorial integrity; the role and meaning of the right to self-determination; the relationship between the two concepts. The concept of uti possidetis.