

# RYAN M. SCOVILLE

## TEACHING

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Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, WI  
*Professor of Law* 2021 –  
—Fields of research: U.S. foreign relations law, international law  
—Courses: Public International Law, The Foreign Affairs Constitution, Civil Procedure,  
Conflict of Laws  
*Associate Professor of Law (with tenure)* 2016 – 2021  
*Assistant Professor of Law* 2011 – 2016

## SCHOLARSHIP

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### Books

U.S. STATE COMMITMENTS WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS (W.S. Hein & Co., forthcoming 2023)  
(co-edited with Mitchell Knief)

### Law Review Articles

*The International Commitments of the Fifty States*, 70 UCLA L. Rev. 310 (2023)

*U.S. Foreign Relations Law from the Outside In*, 47 YALE J. INT'L L. 1 (2022)

*Unqualified Ambassadors*, 69 DUKE L.J. 71 (2019)

—Served as the basis for the Ambassador Oversight & Transparency Act, S.4849, 116th Cong. (2020)

—Discussed in the N.Y. Times, Washington Post, L.A. Times, The Atlantic, and Foreign Policy, and on MSNBC, NBC News, Yahoo, Fortune, Salon, Axios, Quartz, and The Monkey Cage

—Findings cited in Senator Elizabeth Warren's proposal to reform ambassadorial appointments

—Reviewed at Jotwell by Professor Anne Joseph O'Connell

*Who Studies International Law? Explaining Cross-National Variation in Compulsory International Legal Education*, 30 EUR. J. INT'L L. 481 (2019) (with Mark Berlin)

*Ad Hoc Diplomats*, 68 DUKE L.J. 907 (2019)

—Influenced the enactment of Section 5105 of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2022

*International Law in National Schools*, 92 IND. L.J. 1449 (2017)

*How Cosmopolitan Are International Law Professors?*, 38 MICH. J. INT'L L. 119 (2016) (with Milan Markovic)

*Finding Customary International Law*, 101 IOWA L. REV. 1893 (2016)

*Legislative Diplomacy*, 112 MICH. L. REV. 331 (2013)

*The New General Common Law of Severability*, 91 TEX. L. REV. 543 (2013)



*Should the Senate Give Advice and Consent on Special Envoys?*, LAWFARE (Aug. 31, 2017)

*The Appointments Clause as a Hurdle to the President's Trade Agenda*, LAWFARE (Apr. 24, 2017)

*A Closer Look at Congressional Foreign Travel*, LAWFARE (Mar. 2, 2017)

*A Legal Analysis of Rep. Tulsi Gabbard's Trip to Syria*, LAWFARE (Feb. 14, 2017)

*The South China Sea Arbitration: Implications for the Senkaku Islands*, LAWFARE (July 18, 2016)

*International Law from a Cuban Perspective*, LAWFARE (Feb. 8, 2016)

*How Do American Courts (And Scholars) Ascertain Customary International Law?*, LAWFARE (Oct. 29, 2015)

*Legislative Diplomacy After Zivotofsky*, LAWFARE (June 15, 2015)

*The Role of Foreign Perceptions in Zivotofsky v. Kerry*, LAWFARE (June 12, 2015)

*Why Teaching International Law in American Universities Matters*, JUST SECURITY (Mar. 6, 2015)

*Boehner Invites Bibi: A Closer Look at Historical Practice*, JUST SECURITY (Jan. 27, 2015)

*Sorry, China: Japan Has the Better Claim Over the Senkakus*, THE NATIONAL INTEREST (Jan. 11, 2015)

*Japan: "No Dispute" Over the Senkaku / Diaoyu*, THE DIPLOMAT (Dec. 24, 2014)

*De Jure and De Facto Recognition as a Framework for Zivotofsky*, OPINIO JURIS (April 30, 2014)

## **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**

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*Treaty Renvoi to Municipal Law*, Chicago-Virginia Foreign Relations Law Roundtable, University of Chicago Law School (May 2022)

*The International Commitments of the Fifty States*, National Conference of Constitutional Law Scholars, University of Arizona (February 2022)

*Official Knowledge of Foreign Relations Law in U.S.-Japan Relations*, Japanese Politics Online Seminar Series, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University (January 2022)

*U.S. Foreign Relations Law from the Outside In*, American Society of Comparative Law Annual Meeting, University of Wisconsin (October 2021)

*Legislative Diplomacy: Its Function and Value in Congress*, Congressional Office for International Leadership (November 2019)

*Unqualified Ambassadors*, Duke Law Journal Author Talk, Duke University (October 2019)

*Toward Meta-Knowledge of Foreign Relations Law in the U.S.-Japan Alliance*, Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University (March 2019)

*U.S. Foreign Relations Law from the Outside In*, American Case Law Research Group, Sophia University (Tokyo, Japan) (October 2018)

*Unqualified Ambassadors*, ASIL Mid-Year Meeting, Washington University in St. Louis (October 2017)

*Ad Hoc Diplomats*, Annual Workshop of the Junior International Law Scholars Association, University of Washington (January 2017)

*Empirical Research on International Legal Education*, International Law Weekend, Fordham University (October 2016)

*Anarchy is What Law Schools Make of it*, ASIL Mid-Year Meeting, Northwestern University (November 2014)

*Legislative Diplomacy*, Michigan Law Review Author Talk, University of Michigan (March 2014)

### **SELECTED MEDIA INTERVIEWS**

*Ryan Scoville on the Role of Subnational Diplomacy in China's Pursuit of U.S. Technology*, LAWFARE PODCAST (July 20, 2022)

*U.S. Ambassadorships Are Destination Tourism for the Mega-Rich*, THE MONKEY CAGE (Nov. 28, 2019) (written interview about ambassadorial appointments)

*The Legacy of Pay-to-Play Ambassador Appointments*, WNYC – THE TAKEAWAY (Nov. 21, 2019) (radio interview about ambassadorial appointments)

Robbie Gramer, *U.S. Diplomacy's 'Gordon Problem' Goes Way Beyond Gordon Sondland*, FOREIGN POLICY (Nov. 21, 2019) (quoted on ambassadorial appointments)

James Laporta, *Trump Administration Restricts Congressional Travel to Afghanistan, Prompting Some Democrats to Cry Foul*, NEWSWEEK (May 13, 2019) (quoted on legislative diplomacy)

*How Many Trump-Appointed Ambassadors Donated to His Campaign?*, MSNBC, VELSHI & RUHLE (April 3, 2019) (TV interview about ambassadorial appointments)

### **SERVICE**

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American Society of International Law:

International Law in Domestic Courts Interest Group (co-chair) (2020 – present)

Marquette University Law School:

Academic Programs Committee (Chair)

Teaching & Assessment Committee

Faculty Advisor to the International Law Society

**EDUCATION**

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Stanford Law School, J.D. 2006  
—*Stanford Law Review*: Executive Editor, Board of Editors Award  
—*Stanford Journal of International Law*: Senior Articles Editor  
—Class of 2002 Fellowship in Conflict Resolution

Brigham Young University, B.A., International Studies 2003  
—Valedictorian, Kennedy Center for International Studies  
—University Commencement Speaker

**OTHER EXPERIENCE**

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Idaho Attorney General, Boise, ID 2010 – 2011  
*Deputy Attorney General (Civil Litigation)*

Morrison & Foerster LLP, Denver, CO and Tokyo, JP 2008 – 2010  
*Litigation Associate*

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Pasadena, CA 2007 – 2008  
*Law Clerk to the Hon. Milan D. Smith, Jr.*

U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona, Phoenix, AZ 2006 – 2007  
*Law Clerk to the Hon. Neil V. Wake*

Department of Defense, Office of the General Counsel (Int'l Affairs) Fall 2006  
*Extern*

**OTHER**

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Bar Admissions: California (2006)  
Member, American Society of International Law  
Languages: Japanese (JLPT N2)