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International law

- Primacy of sovereignty- self rule
- By agreement only- no world police/enforcement department/court
 - A contract rather than a law
- Who is bound? - those at the table and who ratify it
- Law that is made between nations

American law that ties in internationally-

- Article 6 of const (supremacy clause)- treaties are supreme law of the land
- Article 2 of const (advise and consent clause)- president has the power to enter into treaties BUT doesn't bind the US bc Senate has to ratify it (2/3 majority)
- Congress can enable legislation to push forward international guidelines

Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

- June 13, 1992
- Sustainability;
- sovereign right to exploit resources without harming others; intergenerational development right;
- *common but differentiated responsibilities* (principle 7);
 - depending on your specific environment (Alaska vs. Caribbean)
- precautionary principle (15)

UN framework convention on climate change

- March 21, 1994

- Recognizing need for developed countries to take immediate action
- Developing countries need resources to progress to sustainable development
- “Framework Treaty”

www.unfccc.org - all docs

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UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

Baseline (current levels)e- 1990 (UNFCCC)

Target- 5% below 1990 levels

Timetable: 2008-2012

Kyoto Protocol:

- Concluded 1998
- Sets specific targets for annex II countries
- Ratified by 146 nations
- Entered into force Feb 16 2005
- Binding reduction goals for 2008 through 2012

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9/18 get country assignments

9/23 preparation

9/25 team/side meetings

9/30 negotiations

China, US, Europe, Bolivia, South Africa

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Target, Baseline, Timetable

Kyoto- no developing countries had targets to reduce emissions

The Bali roadmap:

- How to bind all nations (e.g. US)
- Aid for adaptation (sea walls, moving people inland, engineering rivers)
- Some others (deforestation and afforestation, role of island nations)

Dec 2007: Kyoto parties adopt a process for agreement up to and beyond 2012s

- Discussing what happens if your land mass disappears with regards to nation status/culture

Under 2 subsidiary bodies under the convention

- Ad Hoc working group- Kyoto protocol (AWG-KP)
 - o Everybody minus US
- Ad hoc working group on long term cooperative action under the convention (AWG-LCA)
 - o Everybody plus US