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# ***‘Jus ad bellum’, ‘jus in bello’ . . . ‘jus post bellum’? –Rethinking the Conception of the Law of Armed Force*** FREE

Carsten Stahn

*European Journal of International Law*, Volume 17, Issue 5, 1 November 2006, Pages 921–943, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ejil/chl037>

**Published:** 01 November 2006

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The law of armed force is traditionally conceptualized in the categories of *jus ad bellum* and *jus in bello*. This dualist conception of armed force has its origin in the legal tradition of the inter-war period. This essay revisits this approach. It argues that the increasing interweaving of the concepts of intervention, armed conflict and peace-making in contemporary practice make it necessary to complement the classical rules of *jus ad bellum* and *in jus in bello* with a third branch of the law, namely rules and principles governing peace-making after conflict. The idea of a tripartite conception of armed force, including the concept of justice after war (*'jus post bellum'*) has a long-established tradition in moral philosophy and legal theory. This article argues that this historical concept deserves fresh attention from a legal perspective at a time when the contemporary rules of *jus ad bellum* and *jus in bello* are increasingly shaped by a normative conception of law and justice and a broadening notion of human security. Moreover, it identifies some of the legal rules and principles underlying a modern conception of *'just post bellum'*.

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*The European Journal of International Law* Vol. 17 no.5 © EJIL 2007; all rights reserved

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