

A Comparative Study of Pharmaceutical Sanctions in International Law and Islamic Norms

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The mention of protests and social discontent is significant. However, this link between sanctions and sociopolitical unrest needs references to avoid appearing speculative. Add sociological studies or data sets showing causation or correlation.

The research gap is stated broadly as “few have focused on a comparative analysis of international law and Islamic norms.” To make it more convincing, cite the most relevant existing works and explicitly show what they lack compared to your study.

The section lists three theories but provides minimal analytical discussion. Add a critical comparison explaining how each theory conceptualizes state responsibility vis-à-vis human rights, as this will better anchor the legal analysis.

While the paper mentions “shortages of 50 to 90 items” and “fatalities due to scarcity,” the data source and year are missing. Include explicit statistical tables or appendices to give empirical weight.

The paper says “In Iraq... in Syria...” but offers no references or data. Consider adding mortality figures from WHO/UNICEF reports to strengthen the cross-country comparison.

The argument that sanctions are “legally binding even if legally contentious” needs clarification. Distinguish between binding (under United Nations Security Council) and non-binding (unilateral) sanctions, as conflating them weakens legal precision.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The reference to Christian Wolff and Emer de Vattel is accurate, but their arguments are only briefly summarized. Include specific quotations or paraphrased principles from their works to show depth.

The sentence “Unilateral sanctions conflict with the right to development...” should be directly linked to United Nations General Assembly resolutions condemning unilateral coercive measures. Add resolution numbers and dates for rigor.

The claim that “The United Nations also opposes secondary sanctions...” is strong. Please cite a specific UN resolution or legal advisory opinion where this opposition is stated, as this will substantiate the argument.

This paragraph gives a general definition but does not explicitly connect it to state responsibility under Article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Include explicit text or authoritative commentary (e.g., Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights General Comment No. 14).

The paper cites several hadiths but lacks systematic organization. Group these religious sources thematically (physical health, prevention, emergency care) to improve clarity.

The discussion on Islamic duties mentions “specific rules to preserve and enhance the health of individuals and society” but does not name these rules. Specify the fiqh principles (e.g., حفظ النفس, دفع ضرر محتمل) and their sources.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.