

Faculti Summary

<https://staging.faculti.net/they-called-it-peace/>

This video video discusses a research project focused on the history of law within European empires and its impact on global legal history, particularly concerning the regulation of violence. The author argues that historical narratives have often separated the discussions of legal frameworks and the violence enacted by empires, predominantly focusing on Eurocentric perspectives and the evolution of laws of war during the late 19th and mid-20th centuries.

The research aims to explore how violence was regulated in European empires from 1500 to 1900. It notes that legal frameworks often justified violence, leading to atrocities despite attempts to limit warfare. The author highlights the pattern of "perpetual war," where conflicts were ongoing but occasionally punctuated by unstable truces, which, when broken, resulted in increased violence.

This video video also reflects on how these historical insights shed light on contemporary conflicts, linking past imperial justifications for violence to current geopolitical situations, such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and ongoing conflicts in Gaza, emphasizing the tragic continuity of these patterns of violence and the challenges of regulating warfare effectively. Ultimately, the author expresses a desire for relevance in research to lead to better outcomes in understanding and managing these conflicts, highlighting the persistent difficulties in keeping small wars from escalating into greater violence and atrocities.