INTERNATIONAL LAW:

100 WAYS IT SHAPES OUR LIVES

Many find international law abstract and static. Topics such as war and peace or relationships between countries are considered by some to be not so much questions of law, but of power and influence. Others question the existence of international law.

International Law: 100 Ways It Shapes Our Lives was conceived from the proposition that international law not only exists, but also penetrates more deeply and broadly into everyday life than is generally recognized. Some ways are of relatively recent vintage, while others are long-standing. 100 examples were identified by ASIL members, vetted by a smaller group of experts, and organized into seven chapters: 1) daily life; 2) leisure; 3) travel; 4) commerce 5) health and the environment; 6) personal liberty; 7) public safety and global security.

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- Visiting 100 Ways at www.asil.org/100ways
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- · Adding ways to the list; and
- Sharing your experiences using International Law: 100 Ways It Shapes Our Lives.

We hope that this creative and interactive project will help demonstrate the diversity and the centrality of international law to our lives today.

Always knowing what date and time it is anywhere on the planet.

By universal recognition of the prime meridian and

of creenwish Mean Time (via international agreement at the International Meridian Conference in 1884). The latter was updated to "universal time" in 1928, and subsequent technical agreements have refined the definition further.

2 Mailing a letter reliably and easily to anyone in

By ensuring a truly universal postal network and recognizing that specified postal rates in one country would satisfy delivery requirements in all countries (the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union, 1964).

- Priving cars with improved safety standards.

 By adopting global safety standards for automobiles, notably the Agreement Concerning the Establishing of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment, and Parts Which Can Be Fitted and/or
- 4 Being able to call Arkansas, Missouri, or most of

Montana home.

As the result of the bilateral treaty known as the Louisiana Purchase (1803).

Placing and receiving telephone calls worldwide. By creating an international communication network and by reaching an international agreement preventing national claims to the geostationary orbit. See the 1865 Constitution of what is now called the International Telecommunications Union, the oldest intergovernmental organization, and the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, Including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (UN Space Treaty, 6 Knowing that a second is the same length of time everywhere in the world.

By setting internationally recognized standards, particularly the Decision of the 13th General Conference on Weights and Measures (1967), under the auspices of the International Office of Weights and Measures (est. 1875).

American Society of International Law

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Using the same software on computers worldwide.

By providing rights of distribution, copyright, and rental to authors of computer programs via the World Intellectual Property Organization Copyright Treaty

(1996).

Getting an up-to-date weather forecast about your destination before you travel.

By benefiting from international rules for the collection and dissemination of worldwide weather data, as provided for by the Convention of the World Meteorological Organization (1947) and the International Telecommunication Convention (1932).

Watching news and events from around the world on television.

As a result of the international convention

As a result of the international convention providing equal access to the international satellite communications network, as stated in Resolution 1721 (XVI) of the General Assembly of the United Nations (1961).

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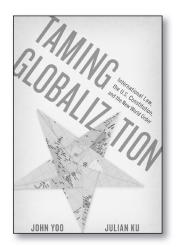


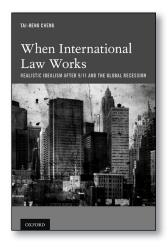


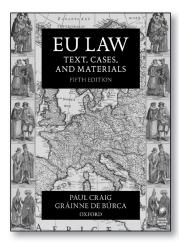
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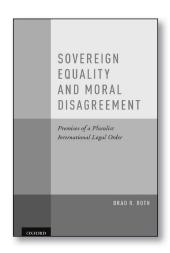


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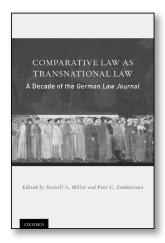
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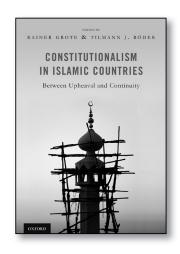


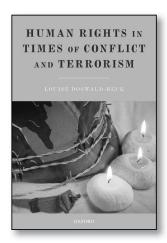
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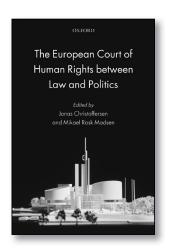


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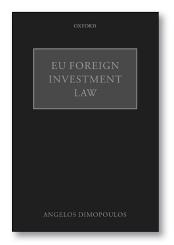
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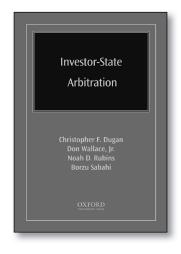
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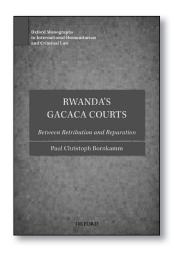


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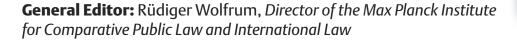


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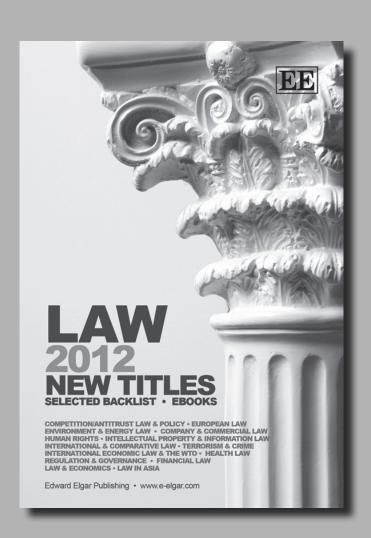






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What Future for the UN Treaty Body System and the Human Rights Council Procedures?

M. CHERIF BASSIOUNI and WILLIAM A. SCHABAS (eds.)

December 2011 | ISBN 978-1-78068-055-2 | xx + 480 pp. | 95 euro | 90 GB pound | 133 US dollar | paperback

With a foreword by Ms. Navi Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights



The authors are established scholars and practitioners in the field of human rights, many of whom are Treaty Body members or mandate holders of varied Human Rights Council Procedures.

With the growth of the Treaty Body System, harmonization and coordination of working methods between the treaty bodies became a pressing issue. Commentators spoke of a crisis of the system - victim of its own success. In 2002 the UN Secretary-General ('An agenda for future change') considered that the development of the system, among others, increased pressure on resources of both States and the secretariat and had implication on the ability of the States to continue to meet their reporting obligations, while the secretariat struggled to continue to provide quality service to all treaty bodies. The UN invited States to reflect on a number of reform initiatives that could help to modernize the system. The possibility of replacing the reporting obligations owed to each of the treaty bodies, with a single report was suggested. The UN also wished that strengthening and harmonization efforts could eventually lead to a single human rights Treaty Body, which was hoped, could enhance human rights protection at national level.

These suggestions were largely unacceptable to States parties, but the concept itself of having States submitting single reports to a single human rights mechanism was tried in the new Charter-based Universal Periodic Review mechanism of the new Human Rights Council set up in 2007. While the new procedure had little impact on the challenges to the separate Treaty Body System which continued to grow, increasing the need for its modernization; it certainly reinvigorated calls for a better coordination between the different elements of the UN Human Rights Machinery to avoid duplication of efforts that strains resources and lessens impact on the real situation of the rights holders at the national level.

This prompted the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay, in 2009, to give a new impetus to the discussions started almost a decade ago, by addressing a renewed call on relevant stakeholders (States, Treaty Body members, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations and academic entities) to initiate a process of reflection on ways of strengthening the Treaty Body System and by extension the UN Human Rights Protection System as a whole.

This impressive collection of essays is a response to the High Commissioner's call, which joins initiatives by other stakeholders, from an academic perspective. The book has two parts: one presents reflections on the Treaty Body System and the second on the Human Rights Council Procedures

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