

Accordingly, the Author tackles the problem of breach of obligations and State responsibility for environmental damage.

The second part analyses Spanish practice in environmental negotiations, both in a bilateral and in a multilateral context. It presents some thirty multilateral treaties concluded by Spain in the field of the marine environment, transfrontier air pollution, the atmosphere and the global commons, conservation and preservation of natural resources and cultural heritage. On the bilateral level, the author laments the lack of agreements with neighbouring countries on transfrontier cooperation in the environmental sphere, with the exception of the agreement with Portugal on the security of nuclear installations in border areas. Despite this lack however, the most relevant areas of transfrontier environmental cooperation are covered either by international agreements to which both Spain and its neighbours are party, or by Community law, which is presented in a separate section.

Finally, particular focus is placed on the Spanish legal order, which gives constitutional and penal relevance to environmental protection. The aim of this section is twofold: first, to verify how the norms of the international and Community legal orders have been incorporated and integrated in the Spanish legislation and secondly, to explore how these norms interact with the body of constitutional, administrative and penal norms in Spain.

The distinct sources of international environmental law are presented and discussed in the book with remarkable clarity. Detailed information is given on treaty and customary law, State practice, international jurisprudence and doctrine. All the sources referred to in the text are listed in the annex, which furnishes a helpful documentation source for international lawyers involved in environment-related research.

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L. Campiglio, L. Pineschi, D. Siniscalco, T. Treves (eds), *The Environment After Rio. International Law and Economics* on behalf of the Istituto per l'Ambiente, Graham & Trotman/Martinus Nijhoff (1994) 275 pages plus Index.

Following the publication of their informative volumes on the documents adopted at UNCED, the International Environmental and Policy series, directed by Günther Handl, has renewed its interest in the Rio era, focusing now on the interdependence of environmental targets and economic growth in the post-UNCED debate. The topic, which at present occupies an important place in the international environmental debate among economists, policy-makers and international lawyers on the implementation of Agenda 21 and sustainability, was discussed in the Congress 'Environment After Rio' organized by the Istituto per l'Ambiente and Fondazione Enrico Mattei in Courmayeur, in February 1993, whose contributions have been collected and edited in the homonymous book.

The book explores the main political, economic and legal implications of the environmental issues discussed at Rio. Focusing on the crucial and controversial concept of sustainability, three different aspects of the debate are combined. The first part deals with legal and political issues of the negotiation process prior to the Rio Conference, focusing on the objectives and the roles played by respectively, the European Communities, the United States, and developing countries in the negotiation. The second part analyses the documents adopted at Rio and includes comments on the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the Declaration of the Protection of Forests, the framework texts on Climate Change and Biological diversity. Finally, the prospective evolution of general principles of international environmental law in the light of the implementation of Agenda 21

is assessed to conclude the analysis of the legal and political dialogue.

However it is in Part IV where the economic debate is dealt with, that the concept of sustainable growth and North-South relationships is critically examined. If substantive consensus exists on the Bruntland view that 'unsustainable' economic policies must be abandoned on grounds of fairness, in so far as they endanger the welfare of future generations, there is as yet no agreement between the economists and policy makers of industrialized and developing countries on the choice of viable instruments to achieve sustainable growth. The debate approaches delicate themes such as population growth, the inadequacy of current international institutions to address emerging environmental concerns and the role of industry in promoting sustainability. The discussion clearly shows the interdependence of environmental issues and current international trade systems. One of the sources of disagreement among the two blocks of developing and industrialized economies is the question of qualification and management of tropical forests. The question triggers the thorny issue of the retainment of sovereignty by nation states over natural resources and financial aids, identified by some authors as the major impediment to collective action to achieve responsible use and management of natural resources and pursue the long-term aim of sustainable growth.

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Hazel Fox and Michael A. Meyer (eds), *Armed Conflict and the New Law. Effecting Compliance* (Vol. II), London: The British Institute of International and Comparative Law (1993) 246 + xvii pages + Index.

The discrepancy between the norms of international law and their enforcement and implementation in practice plagues international law. It is a recurrent theme in debates concerning the nature and relevance of international law as a legal system. Yet, the issue of ensuring compliance with international law seemed, until recently, to draw less attention than the substantive and even procedural aspects of the international legal system. In this respect, Hazel Fox and Michael Meyer's book serves an important purpose by highlighting and bringing to centre stage the issue of compliance with the international law of armed conflict.

This book originated in papers submitted to the Discussion Group on the Law of Armed Conflict organized by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. The first volume, published in 1989, dealt with law-making in the area of the laws of war (more specifically, with the two Additional Protocols of 1977 and the UN Weapons Convention). The thematic line pursued in the current volume emphasizes the need to foster compliance with existing legal norms of international humanitarian law rather than moving ahead in search of new substantive norms and standards.

The book is divided into six parts, each composed of two articles (chapters). Part I deals with general aspects of compliance with the international law of armed conflict. Chapter 1 identifies three factors – ignorance of the law; scepticism as to the possibility of enforcing compliance on others; and absence of effective monitoring, fact-finding, and dispute settlement mechanisms – which are considered as contributing to most failures of compliance with the law. The chapter goes on to examine their effect on compliance with the international law of