

What constitutes an adequate antidote to racial discrimination? Should it be solely punishment or a carefully weighted combination of punishment and education? The author favours the former option, without however addressing the latter. Be that as it may, Mr Guyaz's thesis is well structured and well documented. The range of his analysis, which touches Swiss law as well as international and European law, makes it a valuable work not only for Swiss lawyers but also for foreign lawyers willing to learn about — and meditate on — racial discrimination.

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Martin, Pierre-Marie. *Les échecs du droit international*. Paris: Presses universitaires de France, 1996. Pp. 128.

Pierre-Marie Martin, Professor at the University of Toulouse 1 (France) has written a short book on the setbacks of public international law. After a brief introduction — containing judicious remarks on the oft misused concept of *international community* — the first part of the essay deals with the failure of the international law-making process. Exclusively centred around treaties and resolutions of international organizations, the study is well conducted, though one may be disappointed to find that the analysis does not cover important topics such as custom, general principles, unilateral acts of states and judicial decisions.

The second part of the book tackles the failure of the implementation of international law. The first chapter in this part studies the obstacles erected by the sovereignty of states. This is followed by an analysis of the difficulties — to say the least — relating to the efforts to suppress the use of force in international relations. Finally, a third chapter explores the uncertain implementation of the so-called international law of development. The topics examined in these first two chapters, although well chosen, do not provide a comprehensive coverage of the issue. They do, however, offer an acceptable overview. The chapter on the

international law of development, on the other hand, deals with an area of law that is far from being universally accepted and determined. Therefore, one may question whether it was worth occupying nearly a quarter of the book with this subject at the cost of other essential matters, such as the debate on the efficiency of international justice.

Published in a series intended for the general public, this essay does not provide particularly useful material for the experienced international lawyer. A sound — though incomplete — criticism of public international law, it does not particularly stand out among similar — and often more stimulating — works. Still, the law student already familiar with the basics of public international law may find in this accessible volume some interesting, albeit not original, thoughts on the imperfect generation and implementation of the rules of the 'international judicial order'.

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Paye, Olivier. *Sauve qui veut? Le droit international face aux crises humanitaires*. Brussels: Bruylant and Éditions de l'université de Bruxelles, 1996. Pp. 313.

In this interesting volume Olivier Paye, assistant professor at the University of Brussels, examines the present state of international humanitarian law.

The author begins by exploring the international law of humanitarian *assistance* in the first two chapters. The presentation is structured around the rights and duties of the *assistant states* and the *assistees* (i.e. the territorial sovereigns that benefit from humanitarian assistance). The primacy of the state — a 'classical' postulate — is the cornerstone on which Mr Paye bases his analysis. This is particularly obvious in the first section of the second chapter, where it is emphasized that no assistance is possible without the express consent of the *assistee*. One may question this rather drastic thesis. Yet it is probably the view which best reflects the current rules of