Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law

Volume 17 Issue 1 <i>Winter 1984</i>	Article 12
---	------------

1984

Book Received

Law Library Staff

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarship.law.vanderbilt.edu/vjtl

Part of the Banking and Finance Law Commons, European Law Commons, Human Rights Law Commons, International Law Commons, and the Property Law and Real Estate Commons

Recommended Citation

Law Library Staff, Book Received, 17 *Vanderbilt Law Review* 195 (2021) Available at: https://scholarship.law.vanderbilt.edu/vjtl/vol17/iss1/12

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by Scholarship@Vanderbilt Law. It has been accepted for inclusion in Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law by an authorized editor of Scholarship@Vanderbilt Law. For more information, please contact mark.j.williams@vanderbilt.edu.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Aspects of the International Banking Safety Net. By G.G. Johnson, with Richard K. Abrams. Washington, D.C.: International Monetary Fund, 1983. Pp. v, 36. \$5.00.

Do the Penn Square National Bank failure and the rescheduling of Mexico's international borrowings foreshadow the collapse of the international banking system? In responding to this concern, the authors investigate and evaluate the effectiveness of the safeguards used by banks to keep financial systems operating in the face of unexpected economic losses, including defaults on international loans. Risks inherent in international banking are discussed: "sovereign risk"—the possibility that a government will default or repudiate its external debt; "transfer risk"—the possibility that private borrowers will have restricted access to foreign currency exchanges; "interest rate fluctuation risk"; and "commercial risk" of the individual loss. Johnson then assesses prudential standards currently in force to protect bank solvency during periods of international economic instability.

The Soviet Viewpoint. By Georgi Arbatov and Willem Oltmans. New York: Dodd, Mead, 1983. Pp. xviii, 219. \$13.95.

Strained relations between the Soviet Union and the United States increase the need for United States citizens to understand Soviet perceptions on current world issues. The Honorable J. William Fulbright states in his introduction that this book "presents an in depth analysis of Soviet-American relations by an important official of the Soviet government." The book republishes interviews between Oltmans, a Dutch journalist, and Arbatov, a Soviet specialist on United States affairs, who discuss detente, the history of United States-Soviet relations, the arms race, human rights, the responsibilities of the superpowers, and the future of relations between the Soviet Union and the United States.

The Law of Corporate Groups: Procedural Problems in the Law of Parent and Subsidiary Corporations. By Phillip I. Blumberg. Boston and Toronto: Little, Brown and Company, 1983. Pp. xxxii, 527. \$65.00.

The axiom that a corporation has a separate legal identity is becoming increasingly difficult to apply to constituents of corporate groups operating as a unitary business. This author examines the procedural law that governs the legal status of related corporations. The author analyzes the entity concept, the structure of multinational enterprises, jurisdiction of the corporate groups, jurisdiction under state law, federal venue statutes, service of process, corporate citizenship, discovery, res judicata, statute of limitations, counterclaims, joinder of parties, injunctions, standing to sue, inspection of books and records, the nationality of corporations, and foreign subsidiaries. The author concludes that courts should analyze the objectives and policies underlying each procedural doctrine while considering the economic realities of complex corporate groups in resolving jurisdictional and procedural questions relating to affiliated corporations.

Iraq & Iran: Roots of Conflict. By Tareq Y. Ismael. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1982. Pp. xii, 226. \$24.00 cloth; \$12.95 paper.

The present border dispute between Iraq and Iran is of critical importance to a world which increasingly depends upon oil from the Middle East. The book reprints the legal, historical, ideological, and political documents that chronicle stormy relations between Iraq and Iran. Two examples are the "Algiers Declaration of March 6th, 1975. Joint Communiqué Between Iraq and Iran," and the "Statement of Dr. Saadoun Hamadi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, Before the Security Council of the United Nations, October 15, 1980." Ismael characterizes the conflict as an ideological dispute "between the secular, nationalist ideology of Iraq's Arab Ba'ath socialism and the religious, universalist ideology of Khomeini's Islamic revolution." The introduction contains a summary review of the conflict, a collection of maps showing the changing boundary between the countries, and a synopsis of the legal dimensions of the conflict from the Second Erzerum Treaty of 1847 until the present.

European Banking Law. By Stanley Crossick and Margie Lindsay. London: Financial Times Business Information, 1983.

Winter 1984]

Pp. xvi, 228. \$175.00.

Recent scandals, like those engulfing the Banco Ambrosiano, demonstrate that the European Communities must act to reduce the risk of similar international banking failures. This report details and assesses the efforts of the European Economic Community (EEC) to solve problems in banking, credit, capital movements, and securities that may contribute to bank failures. After an introduction describing the EEC and its operation, the authors outline the banking and credit legislation of Belgium, Denmark, Germany, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Ireland, United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Gilbraltar, Portugal, and Spain. The report includes a summary of the EEC's decisions, directives, other documents about banking, and reviews capital movements and securities legislation of EEC member states.

The European Monetary System: The Experience, 1979-82. By Hoist Ungerer, with Owen Evans and Peter Nyberg. Washington, D.C.: International Monetary Fund, 1983. Pp. v, 41. \$5.00.

The European Monetary System (EMS) was founded to instill a greater measure of monetary stability in the European Economic Community. The study describes the origins and evolution of the EMS, evaluates its performance, and investigates the relationship between the EMS and the International Monetary Fund.

Alternatives to the Central Bank in the Developing World. By Charles Collyns. Washington, D.C.: International Monetary Fund, 1983. Pp. v, 23. \$5.00.

Central banks typically issue currency, manage foreign reserves, provide bank deposit and borrowing facilities for the government, regulate domestic financial institutions, and manipulate monetary and credit policy instruments in order to achieve governmental objectives. Collyns explains the monetary policy in small, specialized economies, the connections between monetary operations and the local financial structure, and the social and political constraints on central banking institutions in developing countries. Using this as his analytical background, Collyns discusses the alternative institutional forms of central banking institutions that have arisen in developing nations: the transnational central banking institution, the supranational central bank, the central banking institution in a currency enclave, and the central banking institution in an extremely open economy.

German Industrial Property, Copyright and Antitrust Laws. Vol. 6. Edited by Friedrich-Karl Beier, Gerhard Schricker, and Eugen Ulmer. Munich: Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Patent, Copyright, and Competition Law, 1983. Pp. 222. \$38.00.

Industrial property law encompasses the protection of technical inventions, aesthetic creations, trade names, and fair competition. This text reproduces in English the major German statutes governing industrial property, copyright, and antitrust laws. The editors provide a concise introduction for each of these three fields, explaining the historical development, practical significance, and main sections of the relevant statutes. Legal texts governing industrial property law include the Patent Act, the Act on Employees' Inventions, the Utility Model Act, the Design Act, the Trademark Act, and the Act Against Unfair Competition. The primary legal texts governing copyright and publication law are the Copyright Law and the Publishing Act. The Act Against Restraints of Competition and Articles 85 and 86 of the Treaty of Rome regulate antitrust law. Each section concludes with a select bibliography, including a section listing articles which have been printed in English.

Government Employment and Pay: Some International Comparisons. By Peter S. Heller and Alan A. Tait. Washington, D.C.: International Monetary Fund, 1983. Pp. vii, 64. \$5.00.

The authors weigh the evidence that wages in the public sector are too high, and consider other issues related to employment in the public sectors of various countries. The study reaches several broad conclusions. For example, wages paid to public sector employees in developing countries greatly influence salaries paid there by private companies, and public sector employees generally receive lower salaries than do central government employees.

Hague Conference on Private International Law: Collection of Conventions (1951-1980). Edited by the Permanent Bureau of the Conference. Boston: Butterworth, 1983. Pp. 313.

This pamphlet collects thirty-nine international treaties. Texts of treaties made since 1961 appear officially in both French and English. The most recent treaties reproduced are the Convention on International Access to Justice, the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, the Convention on the Law Applicable to Agency, and the Convention on Celebration and Recognition of the Validity of Marriages. Other treaties included are the Convention on the Law Applicable to Products Liability, the Convention Concerning the International Administration of the Estates of Deceased Persons, the Convention on the Law Applicable to Traffic Accidents, and the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters.

International Business Transactions; A Guide to Research Sources. By Igor I. Kavass. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 1983. Pp. 88.

Igor I. Kavass, Professor of Law and Director of the Alyne Queener Massey Law Library and Legal Information Center at Vanderbilt University, describes the law governing international business transactions as an "amorphous area of law frequently ravaged by swift and massive changes." Kavass has compiled a selective bibliographic guide to international business law publications, listing treatises, compendia, collections of laws, and periodicals on chosen topics of current importance. These topics include international contracts of sale, insurance of goods in transport, letters of credit, export financing, international commercial arbitration, foreign bankruptcy laws as they affect United States creditors, and transfer of technology.

International Capital Markets: Developments and Prospects, 1983. By Richard Williams, Peter Keller, John Lipsky, and Donald Mathieson. Washington, D.C.: International Monetary Fund, 1983. Pp. vii, 79. \$5.00.

Several banks are reexamining the risks inherent in making international loans to developing countries. The authors examine these risks from several perspectives and describe recent developments in international capital markets for bank lending and corporate bond issuance. Interest Rate Policies in Developing Countries. A Study by the Research Department. Washington, D.C.: International Monetary Fund, 1983. Pp. v, 31. \$5.00.

Most developing countries closely regulate and often repress interest rates, fearing that high interest rates curtail the country's economic growth. The study focuses on the impact that the interest rates of a developing country have on its level of savings, investment and economic growth. In addition, the study explores how the level and structure of interest rates influence other governmental economic policies.

Contracts at Work. By Erich Suter. Bath, Great Britain: The Institute of Personnel Management, 1982. Pp. x, 276. \$33.50.

Knowledge of labor law and industrial realities is essential to draft beneficial employment contracts. In *Contracts at Work* the author summarizes the English law governing the relationships between employers and their employees or independent contractors. Suter begins his book by discussing in general the formation of employment contracts between an employer and an employee. In the chapter entitled "Parties to a Contract" the author examines the authority, duties, and rights of agents, particularly as they pertain to promoter contracts under section 9(2) of the 1972 European Communities Act. Other chapters contain discussions of express and implied terms of employment contracts, legal requirements for independent contractor status, sex and racial discrimination, payment under contract, the right to work, vacation pay, employer's duty of good faith, and discipline and dismissal of employees.

Oil Exporters' Economic Development in an Interdependent World. By Jahangir Amuzegar. Washington, D.C.: International Monetary Fund, 1983. Pp. vii, 99. \$5.00.

During the past decade much attention has been focused on the increasing cost and the diminishing availability of energy resources. This study characterizes energy management as a global problem and provides a framework for centralized governmental management. The author discusses the policy options and the experiences of several countries since the oil shock of 1973. The study concludes with a discussion of world payment imbalances, the international adjustment process, and methods for handling worldwide energy shortages in the future. Human Rights, The Helsinki Accords, and the United States. Edited by Igor I. Kavass and Jacqueline P. Granier. Buffalo, New York: William S. Hein & Co., 1982. Series I, book 1, pp. vi, 426; book 2, pp. ix, 706; book 3, pp. ix, 854; series II, books 1 & 2; series III, books 1, 2, & 3. \$360.00.

The 1975 Helsinki Accords contain provisions mandating governmental respect for human rights and the exercise of fundamental freedoms. This eight volume set reprints selected executive and congressional documents reviewing the protection of human rights behind the Iron Curtain and in the Soviet Union. Reports submitted to Congress by the United States State Department are reprinted in the first series. The second and third reproduce semiannual reports by the President to the United States Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe and contain transcripts of hearings before the United States Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

International Handbook of Contemporary Developments in Criminology. Edited by Elmer H. Johnson. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1983. Vol. 1, pp. xvi, 319; vol. 2, pp. xx, 696. \$95.00 (set).

Criminology is the study of the prevention, detection, control, and treatment of crime and delinquency. This two volume set is a comparative study of the different models of criminology that exist throughout the world. The first volume discusses general issues of criminology including international organizations, radical criminology, the feminist movement, and white collar crime. The volume also contains articles by foreign scholars on the current status of criminological research in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, and the United States. Volume 2 compiles studies of criminology in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, the Pacific, and Western Europe. Following each chapter is a bibliography enabling further study of related aspects of criminology.

Protecting Human Rights in the Americas. By Thomas Buergenthal, Robert Norris, and Dinah Shelton. Arlington, Virginia: N.P. Engel, 1982. Pp. xvii, 337. \$19.00.

The Secretary-General of the International Institute of Human Rights describes this book as a complete collection of the principal Inter-American texts on human rights and a study of their application in South and Central America. Among the topics covered are the human rights obligations of the Organization of American States (OAS), the OAS's petition system, responses to widespread violations of human rights, restrictions permitted on certain rights in exceptional situations, maintenance of the independence of protective organs, and the effectiveness of the protection of human rights in Central and South America. Specific case studies include the practice of forced labor in Panama, the secret torture chambers in El Salvador, and the disappearance of persons in Argentina. This textbook uses a problem approach, with representative cases and other materials followed by questions and hypotheticals.

Transnational Aspects of Criminal Procedure. Prepared by Michigan Yearbook of International Legal Studies. New York: Clark Boardman, 1983. Pp. x, 406. \$55.00.

In recent years the number of crimes implicating individuals from different countries or concerning an incident that crosses national boundaries has increased dramatically. *Transnational Aspects of Criminal Procedure* is a collection of articles discussing the complex issues that arise in criminal litigation involving transnational elements. The book opens with articles addressing basic jurisdictional problems in international law. Subsequent articles discuss transfers of evidence, extradition from the United States and other nations, the possibility of greater international cooperation in the suppression of crime, and the creation of a unified criminal law. The appendix contains a review of foreign laws, an annotated bibliography, and a summary of recent French extradition cases.

Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. By Henry S. Bradsher. Durham, North Carolina: Duke University Press, 1983. Pp. viii, 324. \$32.50 cloth; \$12.75 paper.

Bradsher describes the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 as "important and tragic for everyone who respects the right of the proud, diverse, and formerly free Afghan people to determine their own fate." Afghanistan and the Soviet Union examines the internal forces which prompted the Afghan communist party coup, the Soviet Union's attempts to consolidate communist power in Afghanistan, and the strategic problems facing the Soviets. One chapter compares the Bolshevik Revolution to the Saur Winter 1984]

Revolution in Afghanistan. Other chapters provide insights into the ensuing reign of terror in Afghanistan, the view from the Kremlin, and European indifference and Muslim outrage at the invasion. •