

This book is particularly interesting for those who want to have a general picture of the way the WHO works, but will also prove stimulating reading for all those with an interest in the law of international organisations.

PAOLO GALIZZI

*Treaty-Making and Australia: Globalisation versus Sovereignty*. Edited by PHILIP ALSTON and MADELAINE CHIAM. [Sydney: The Federation Press. 1995. x + 309 pp. ISBN 186287-1957. Price not stated]

As a junior policy officer in the Whitlam administration in Australia, this reviewer was initiated into the significance of treaty-making in Australia when he was set the task of scrutinising every maritime convention to establish whether by adherence or ratification (and then legislation) the federal government might acquire additional domestic jurisdiction.

This issue (a running sore in Australian federal politics) forms the broad subject of *Treaty-Making and Australia*, a series of excellent essays which consider the legal, constitutional, political and certain socio-economic implications for Australia of the exercise of the power which effectively resides solely with the Commonwealth not merely to make treaties but to incorporate them into domestic law. This book (consisting largely of papers delivered at a conference in May 1995 in Canberra) is divided into six parts. Philip Alston's introductory paper is succeeded by 24 papers organised respectively under the following titles: Law and Politics of International Standards within Australia, Some Economic Dimensions of Globalisation, Australian Responses to International Standards, Political Perspectives, Sectoral Perspectives, and Comparative Perspectives.

However, as the papers make clear, the issues are not merely those of a central government (with defined powers) seeking to acquire additional jurisdiction. Rather, the debate, as the subtitle of the book indicates, concerns the impact of globalisation upon national sovereignty. To what extent does the "globalisation" of concern about "domestic" issues entitle (indeed oblige) governments to legislate? In what way does this process threaten a nation's sovereignty, and what impact does this process have upon industrial, environmental and even human rights matters? And to what extent can (should?) the democratic deficit which can be observed in the process be reversed?

This book is not just about Australia, although that is its focus; Christine Chinkin's paper on the implications of these processes for the United Kingdom is a timely and particularly valuable contribution to the British debate. Along with Parts II to V it deserves to be closely considered by the British readers.

On the whole this is a smartly produced *libellum* whose value is masked by its size; it is remarkably free from typographical and other errors, clearly printed, a pleasure to read and to recommend.

PAUL BICK

*Sustainable Development and International Law*. Edited by WINFRIED LANG. [London/Dordrecht/Boston: Graham and Trotman/Martinus Nijhoff. 1995. xxi + 319 pp. ISBN 1-85966-179-3. DM 210/£70]

THE simplicity of the concept of "sustainable development" neither provides any clue as to its content nor facilitates its implementation and enforcement, as this admirable work points out. Its contributors provide many insights into the related problems and offer a variety of suggestions for their resolution, though without reaching any clear consensus, as the succinct summary provided by the editor in its final chapter and the conclusions he draws make clear.

The volume consists of 32 papers given at an International Symposium on Sustainable Development and International Law held in Baden bei Wien in April 1994. These take the