

Revisiting the Geneva Conventions: 1949–2019

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This interdisciplinary book aims to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Geneva Conventions and features a collection of articles written by Asian scholars, which examine contemporary issues in international humanitarian law. The focus is on the challenges and prospects of this body of law, with particular emphasis on the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their three Additional Protocols. These articles encompass various approaches to critically evaluate the applicability and adequacy of the conventions and explore the complexities and changing dynamics of present-day warfare. It highlights the need for further regulations and better compliance with international humanitarian law by states and non-state actors engaged in armed conflicts.

Two contradictory trends are observed in the book: the universal ratification of the Geneva Conventions, which demonstrates international solidarity to apply the provisions contained therein, and the alarming increase in gross violations of these conventions. The editors identify the lack of political will among parties involved in armed conflicts, the absence of effective prevention and control mechanisms, and the dearth of accountability as the core reasons for the substandard compliance with humanitarian law.

The book is well-structured, with contributors offering intriguing analyses from diverse perspectives. Key themes covered include the development of the Geneva Conventions, the legal status and protection of prisoners of war, the prohibition of deportation and forcible transfer of civilian populations, the treatment of persons aboard medical aircraft under the control of a neutral power, forced transfer of aliens during armed conflicts, non-international armed conflicts, a third world view on the Geneva Conventions, Bangladeshi international criminal trials, core principles of humanitarian law from an Islamic law perspective, and current challenges in enforcement and implementation of humanitarian law. The editors conclude that while the achievement of universal ratification of the Geneva Conventions is a cause for celebration, non-observance of humanitarian law persists.

The issues discussed in the book encompass matters unique to Asia and other parts of the world. The book's strength lies in exploring the role and accountability of international organizations, states, and non-state actors in effectively implementing humanitarian law in modern-day warfare. It urges stakeholders to uphold respect for this body of law. The discussions offer valuable insights into addressing contemporary challenges and propose necessary reforms, regulations, and steps to invoke the prospects of Geneva law in the future.

Readers are encouraged to pay attention to the changing dynamics that have unfolded throughout the lifespan of the Geneva Conventions and the need to adapt them effectively to achieve the intentions of their drafters. The editors' commendable attempt to provide an insightful examination of the past, present, and future applicability of the Geneva law from an Asian perspective is evident. Despite the comprehensive nature of the subject matter, the authors employ a user-friendly writing style. This anthology is certain to

reach a wider audience and serve as an invaluable resource for scholars, policymakers, and anyone passionate about the role of humanitarian law in the contemporary world.

Competing interests. The author declares none.

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Recognition of Foreign Bank Resolution Actions

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The global financial crisis of 2008 outlined the need to reform the banking system because it was the centre of the global financial system and because taxpayers' funds were often used to bail out banks caught in financial crises. This book provides insights into understanding foreign bank resolutions and ways for their effective use in cross-border bank resolution.

This book defines a bank resolution as the set of procedures and measures taken by the authorities to solve the situation of an unviable bank. It forms part of the supervision conducted by banking supervisory authorities (p. 24) and looks closely into the legal system of the United States, the European Union, and China, investigating their contemporary legal instruments that recognize foreign bank resolutions. A bank resolution occurs when authorities determine that a failing bank cannot go through normal proceedings without harming the public interest and causing financial instability. These jurisdictions are chosen because of the high number of global systemically important banks (G-SIB). The author analyses the method of foreign bank resolution in each of these jurisdictions, highlights the need to formulate uniform policies across borders for such resolutions, and argues that since most banks operate globally, global cooperation can bring about greater economic stability. Further, he includes an analysis of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency.

The book is divided into four parts. Part I deals with the introduction and explanation of the topic. Part II conducts a comparative study among the different jurisdictions: the European Union, the United States, and China. Part III analyses the standard benchmark for recognizing financial resolutions and its overall effectiveness in attaining the end objective, financial stability. A chapter is dedicated to studying the creditors' positions in adopting the financial resolution. The author then gives a detailed description of the national laws available in each jurisdiction to recognize these resolutions. In conclusion, Part IV deals with how the future framework of cross-border recognition of foreign resolution action should ideally be framed, including domestic law instruments, international agreements, model law, customary international law, and soft law.

The author studies the reports presented by international financial bodies such as the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, the International Monetary Fund, and the Financial Stability Board, together with the formation of globally functioning banks and institutions such as the G-SIB and other banks operating internationally. The banking