

Turkey, Ilascu and Others v. Moldova, and Issa and Others v. Turkey. The author provides a critical analysis of the ECHR's case law post *Bankovic* to examine the ECHR's approach on the extraterritoriality application of the Convention on Human Rights.

In the third and last chapter of the book, the author deals with the UN Convention Against Torture (CAT), including the legislative history of CAT and the practice of the Committee Against Torture, which is the monitoring body of CAT and in charge of assessing state compliance.

The author, in her concluding remarks, reiterates the main results of the research, which is that the three selected human rights treaties have extraterritorial application. This work is researched in-depth, well-reasoned, and analytically presented. It is designed for scholars, academics, and legal practitioners alike who are interested in this timely topic and would be an excellent addition to law libraries.

Theresa Papademetriou
Foreign Law Specialist
Law Library of Congress
Washington, D.C. USA

English/Spanish and Spanish/English Legal Dictionary. Steven M. Kaplan, editor. Alphen aan den Rijn: Kluwer Law International. 4th edition, 2013. Pp. 1278. ISBN 978-90-411-4565-9. \$155.00.

Spanish-English Dictionary of Law and Business. Thomas L. West III. Chattanooga, Tenn.: Intermark Language Publications. 2nd edition, 2012. Pp. 516. ISBN 978-1-929570-01-0. \$49.95.

These dictionaries embody very different approaches to lexicography, as the prefaces confirm. Mr. Kaplan tells us his dictionary's entries reflect a straightforward and intuitive format, which has removed the need for rules, indications and explanatory notes. Indeed, its only annotations are those identifying parts of speech, such as distinguishing words that function as both verb and noun.

Mr. West tells us how his dictionary differs from its competition, and about its annotation system, which is ample. The dictionary's salient feature is a country key indicating where a term is most often used. Mr. West also states that his is the first bilingual legal dictionary to incorporate the legal language of Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic.

I put these books to the test, applying their wisdom to my own translation projects. These varied from judicial opinions to hire-purchase agreements, and were from Spain, Mexico, Argentina, Peru and Panama.

Mr. West's dictionary was by far the more practical. I found many terms in the dictionary largely as they appeared in my source documents, and the country key was indispensable. As with English, many legal terms in Spanish are specific to a jurisdiction, and it is hard to envisage how to render them into English without a country key. Additionally, I used another feature of this dictionary, a key to some of the principal legislation in the different countries.

I didn't have occasion to translate from Puerto Rican or Dominican texts, but I gave the entries relating to those two lands special scrutiny, having lived some years in both places. Puerto Rico is one of the world's few mixed jurisdictions, and English has influenced its legal language since the island came into American hands in 1898. The Dominican Republic, by contrast, has had a French influence on its legal language, from France directly and from Haiti both directly and indirectly. I found Mr. West's translations respecting both jurisdictions sound.

Mr. Kaplan's dictionary was much less useful. Having no key, there was no way to determine the country where the term or phrase was most prevalent. In fact, I came to see Mr. Kaplan's book as more a glossary than a dictionary, one that seems to have originated in corpus linguistics rather than lexicography. Anyone who has worked with linguistic corpora will be familiar with the spare and methodical presentation employed.

This dictionary's strength is its vastness. Given its 185,000 equivalents, I nearly always found an entry for the term I sought. That alone was helpful, since we translators use dictionaries as much to jog our memories as to learn from scratch. Still, I had to rely on my accumulated knowledge of a term's commonness across jurisdictions, and on a few occasions had to resort to another dictionary to confirm my recollection. But few dictionaries can replace good editorial judgment.

Another of my cavils was that many of the dictionary's terms and phrases were rendered in a way that was wooden and overly literal. However, I ran some of the phrasing through search engines and found it in U.N. and E.U. documents, and in a few cases in Spanish legislation. So, any deficiency seems to lie with the drafters rather than with Mr. Kaplan and his subeditors.

Mr. Kaplan has native fluency in English and Spanish. He has spent his career in lexicography and language education, and this Kluwer edition is based on his earlier dictionaries appearing under the Wiley and Aspen imprints. The book is a well constructed large-format hardback.

Mr. West is an American lawyer, and a working translator with several language degrees to his credit. His book is softbound, though it seems sturdy enough for regular use. I noticed no misspellings or misprints in either dictionary.

Given the numerous jurisdictions, one wonders whether there will ever be a truly comprehensive Spanish and English legal dictionary. In truth, a law

school dean told me that attempting to compile one would be *una empresa quijotesca*. At first blush a fair appraisal, but I reminded him that both the Don and his creator in the end fulfilled their destinies.

Scott Rasmussen*
San Francisco, CA USA

International Criminal Procedure: The Interface of Civil Law and Common Law Legal Systems. Eds. Linda Carter and Fausto Pocar. Cheltenham, UK; Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2013. Pp. v, 246. ISBN: 978-0-85793-957-9. US\$125.00.

This book is described by its author as a “non-technical history of legal science” and is aimed at introducing Anglo-American lawyers to the fundamentals of European legal philosophy, which in the opinion of John Ecklund, serves as a foundation for strong legal analysis and is needed to understand the background shared by legal professionals. In the search for a common transatlantic ground of legal education and law making, Ecklund focuses on legal traditions that have roots in the ancient world and western continental Europe. Ecklund recognizes the significance of other legal cultures and does not deny their limited influence on the philosophy of law in Europe, but he justifies their exclusion from this book by the fact that Chinese, Jewish, and African law was not taught in the European law schools, although Maimonides is viewed as the figure who brought classic Greek works to European attention when Europe was conquered by the Muslims.

History of legal and political thought is one of the most important components of human culture. It combines the experience of many generations of thinkers who studied philosophy, politics, state, law, economics, and legislation. Ideas that developed throughout the centuries do not simply belong to the past. They continue to influence political processes, ideological movements, and the evolution of legal and political theory. Ideas developed more than 2,000 years ago in the ancient world affected the drafting of the Napoleonic Code in 1804, which continues to serve as the basis for private law in countries with a continental legal system.

The book is divided into two volumes and succeeds in bringing together ancient philosophers, early medieval religious scholars, the first European academics, Enlightenment thinkers, followers of varied legal schools (realists, nominalists, and naturalists) and French revolutionaries. The first volume covers the ancient world and goes through the middle ages. Starting with Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle, the book pays tribute to Roman law and evaluates the role

* Mr. Rasmussen is a litigation manager, and translator of Spanish and Dutch.