

might ask, will process accountability be enough to confer the authority that supports legal order over the long run?

3. There can be multiple sources of accountability, including possible blended sources in which accountability is shared by actors at different levels (international, transnational (including private actors), and domestic (including subnational actors)). The combination of actors establishing accountability may differ from situation to situation, depending on the strength of institutions and local conditions. For international law, the challenge will be to accept as authoritative the actions of those who are carrying out the functions of traditional public authorities, but who may be private or subnational authorities. That said, such authoritative-ness can be maintained only if the actions in question actually enhance, rather than undercut, the overall effectiveness of the international legal system.
4. Finally, accountability will have to be monitored and observed over time, since changes are likely to occur as interests and issues change. Technology can be of assistance here. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, new institutionalized forms of international cooperation arose in order to address emerging cross-border needs. Likewise, today, new ways of organizing and capturing information are enabling individuals, scholars, and public servants to evaluate and understand the aggregate impact of actions undertaken in an increasingly complex globalized environment. International law has an important role to play here, but as the editors of this volume note, international law must be reconceptualized to include managerial and facilitative functions that supplement its existing normative structure. These additional functions are crucial if informal international lawmaking is to be woven effectively into the existing international legal system. Although informal lawmaking has emerged in response to new demands and therefore needs to be understood in that context as valuable and important, it does not replace the core functions of international law.

In conclusion, *Informal International Lawmaking* is a valuable addition to the growing body of work engaged with understanding how various

sub- and transnational behaviors not directed by states are affecting international law and international cooperation. Though the volume leaves many questions unanswered, that in itself is a reflection of this particular moment in time and its wide-ranging uncertainties. With the further passage of time and the availability of empirical material such as that provided by this project, additional theorizing will begin to offer answers to the questions already raised and will help scholars formulate new ones.

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