

divides the use of differential treatment in international law into two categories. The first section sets out areas of international law in which differential treatment favours developing countries, that is, international development law, international human rights law, international economic law and international resource allocation, in particular, law of the sea. The second section outlines areas of international law which contain examples of differential treatment that favours developed countries, namely, international arms control and disarmament law and international institutional law.

Chapter 3 examines the discordance in international environmental dialogue beginning with the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment and finishing with the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, and highlights conflicting ideologies between developed and developing States which resulted in the development of the concept of differential treatment.

The legal character of the norms embodying differential treatment is investigated in Chapter 4. Three categories of differential treatment in international environmental agreements are identified, namely, provisions that differentiate between countries with respect to the central obligations of the treaty, and provisions that grant assistance.

The principle of common but differentiated responsibility, which is the doctrinal basis for differential treatment in international environmental law, is examined in Chapter 5 together with the boundaries of differential treatment in international environmental law.

Chapters 6 and 7 together form a comprehensive case study of the use of differential treatment and the application of the principle of common but differentiated responsibility under the climate change regime. The author is particularly well positioned to focus on the climate change regime as a case study due to her experience as a consultant to the Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The book concludes succinctly in Chapter 8 by answering the initial two questions posed. The author concludes that differential treatment has been a very effective and valuable tool in engaging States in international environmental treaties and is a fundamental ingredient in environmental agreements between developed and developing countries. Further, the author identifies three boundaries to differential treatment: differential treatment should not detract from the general purpose of the treaty, it should recognize and respond to differences across political and other categories, and lastly, it should cease to exist when the differences cease to exist.

Throughout the book, there is a clear and consistent development of the argument together with thoughtful analysis leading to a well-supported conclusion. This book is a valuable and authoritative contribution on the topic of differential treatment in international environmental law.

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International Law: Contemporary Principles and Practices by GILLIAN TRIGGS [LexisNexis, Butterworths, Australia, 2006, ISBN 9780409317947, lxvii + 1081pp AUS\$135, P/bk]

There ought to be—but apparently there is not—an equivalent to ‘Transatlantic’ to signify the complex of cultural, personal, professional and sporting relations between Australia and Great Britain. (Anglo-Australian is the nearest candidate but evidently will not do—any more than Hiberno-American would do. Antipodean leaves out all the Brits and not just some of them). Gillian Triggs’ professional career has spanned the world of this non-existent word, or at least that corner of it concerned with international law teaching and practice. In her current position as Director of the British Institute for International and Comparative Law she will be able to influence the course of public debate and the study of key issues at the British end. In her interrupted position as a professor of law at Melbourne, she has influenced generations of Australian students, attracting them in many cases to the further study and practice of the subject. Her book, primarily designed for Australian student audiences, provides a useful perspective on what might be covered, and how, in a one-year course.

Gillian Triggs describes it as ‘a general text on international law’ but it is more than that

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because it also contains summaries and extracts from primary sources so that students can, so to speak, see what they are reading about. In general it is a judicious combination, in a ratio of about four parts text to one part materials (more in some chapters than others).

There are 14 chapters. The first 11 are for the most part conventionally arranged: the 'nature' of international law (as if it should have a nature), sources and methodology, the relationship between international and national law, personality and recognition, territory, law of the sea, jurisdiction and immunities, responsibility, treaties, use of force and collective security, and dispute resolution. Then there are three chapters on the WTO, international environmental law and human rights (in which is included a substantial discussion of international criminal law). The last three look, it must be said, a bit tacked-on, though the treatment under each heading is substantial enough, the three chapters occupying 315 pages, more than 30 per cent of the whole. In fact these are among the best chapters in the book—the WTO chapter in particular would provide an advanced undergraduate student with an excellent introduction to the subject and with an understanding of current issues that general texts rarely provide.

There are occasional slips, as is inevitable in a work of this length. The Articles on State Responsibility are attributed to the ILA on page xi but to the ILC on page 417. On page 56 the student is told that a diplomatic conference to consider the ILC's Articles on State Immunity has not yet been convened, but things move on and by page 385 the student is—appropriately—asked to consider the terms of the resulting UN Convention. On page 22 we are introduced to 'civilian society'. On page 94 it is said (correctly) that the ICJ did not refer to a single author in its opinion in the *Wall* case—but since the ICJ never refers to individual authors this is misleading.

In each chapter the strategy is to provide an overview and coverage of the field as a whole, though occasionally items are selected for somewhat more extensive treatment. Discussion is organized under numbered paragraphs without ordinal numbering of headings (though the order of headings can be inferred from different fonts and typefaces). A conscious effort has been made to cover new as well as traditional issues. This is evidently desirable, although a more traditional order within chapters might aid understanding. For example the chapter on 'Dispute resolution by international tribunals' discusses at an early stage 'New judicial and quasi-judicial bodies' and 'Risks posed by new tribunals' but only later deals with ITLOS and other specific tribunals. The student would better understand the risks posed by new tribunals who understood first the range of tribunals—and, some would say, the risks posed by the old ones.

To speak of a thousand-page compilation of our subject as 'introductory' raises serious pedagogical issues. How much can students be expected to absorb, and how much to understand? Because the International Court has spent so much time on jurisdiction and admissibility—producing a complex, minute jurisprudence—there is a tendency for texts to pay similar amounts of attention to these issues. No doubt it would be misleading to discuss judicial settlement without some mention of jurisdictional problems—and the principle of consensual jurisdiction and its limits remains important. But in many dispute settlement bodies—for example, the WTO DSB, the European Court of Human Rights—jurisdictional issues only emerge peripherally and occasionally. Maintaining a balance between old and new in the current situation is very difficult.

Unlike some texts emanating from a single jurisdiction, the treatment of issues is balanced. Decisions of Australian courts and Australian practice are given decent but by no means excessive coverage and there is a range of comparative material. A student of whatever nationality who mastered this work would have learnt a great deal, would inevitably have found much of interest and would have a great many questions to ask. Inspiring such interest and such questions is the mark of the teacher, and this is a fine book to do it with.

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