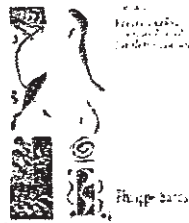


## B O O K R E V I E W

### **Principles of International Environmental Law Volume I: Frameworks, Standards, and Implementation**

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Principles of  
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environmental law



Alongside international human rights law, the development of the content and discipline of international environmental law is a remarkable phenomena of modern times, considering its development in the setting of global consciousness. Currently, environmental issues are increasingly in the mainstream of both municipal and international politics, and this is what the author captures in the book.

The *Principles of International Environmental Law Volume I* provides readers with a comprehension on environmental law and tools to analyse environmental issues from a legal perspective. It is divided into three parts, each focusing on different aspects of environmental law.

The first part, which consists of 5 chapters, is entitled 'The legal and institutional framework' and deals with constitutional, institutional, and administrative matters. It demonstrates the need of an understanding in the general public international law in order to study international environmental law.

Chapter 1 ('The environment and international society: issues, concepts and definitions') provides readers with the ground knowledge in international environmental law, including the concepts of environmental challenges, science and economics, and the international legal order.

Chapter 2 ('History') then identifies the historic development of international environmental law. The chapter begins with descriptions of the early fisheries conventions to the creation of United Nation. The author then continues with an elaboration on the Stockholm Declaration and the Rio Declaration, as well as the trends and directions of international environmental law thereafter.

Chapter 3 ('Governance: states, international organisations and non-governmental actors') describes to readers the main actors in international environmental law. It identifies states, international organisations, and non-governmental actors as the main actors of international environmental law. The international organisations in this chapter are explained further by making a distinction between global organisations and regional organisations. Moreover, the non-governmental actors in Chapter 3 includes the scientific community, environmental organisations, and the media.

Chapter 4 ('International law-making and regulation') identifies the sources of legal obligation and the different regulatory techniques available. In this chapter, explanations are made with regards to treaties, other international acts, customary international law, general principles of international law, subsidiary sources, and other regulatory instruments within the realm of environmental law.

Chapter 5 ('Compliance: implementation, enforcement, dispute settlement') describes the achievement of compliance, including implementations, enforcement, and dispute settlement. The implementation of environmental law is firstly described in a national level. The explanation on this matter then develops to an international perspective which includes an explanation on the international enforcement of international environmental law.

The second part of the book is entitled 'Principles and rules establishing standards' which consists of 9 chapters. This part describes the principles and rules which circumscribe the behaviour of states and other members of the international community. The author divides the principles and rules in international environmental law into two types: the first are principles and rules that are of general application, and the second are those that are specifically applicable to the protection of a particular environmental media, activity, or region.

The first chapter in Part II is Chapter 6, entitled 'General principles and rules.' This chapter considers the first type of principles and rules as described above. Mentioned in this chapter are, *inter alia*, the principle of sustainable development, the precautionary principle, the polluter-pays principle, and the principle of common but differentiated responsibility.

Chapter 7 to Chapter 14 then delve into the principles and rules in specific regimes in international environmental law. They relate to the atmosphere (Chapter 7), the marine environmental which consists of oceans and seas (Chapter 8), freshwater (Chapter 9), and biological diversity (Chapter

10). The next two chapters are bodies of international law which addresses particular activities because of their hazardous characteristics (Chapter 11) or due to the waste they generate (Chapter 12). The last two chapters in Part II contain well-developed rules of environmental law in two parts of the world, namely the Antarctic and the Arctic (Chapter 13) and the European Community (Chapter 14).

The third and last part of the book is entitled 'Techniques for implementing international principles and rules', and it consists of 5 chapters. It addresses the different techniques developed to assist in the implementation of the standards in international environmental law identified in Part II of the book.

The techniques described in Part III include obligations that are identified in separate chapters: Chapter 15 ('Environmental impact assessment') on the obligation to ensure that the environmental impact of activities is taken into account in planning and implementing development; Chapter 16 ('Environmental information') on the obligation to encourage the availability of information on the environment and on activities which affect the environment; Chapter 17 ('Liability and compensation for environmental damage') on the obligation to provide for civil and state liability for environmental damage; Chapter 18 ('International trade and competition') on the obligation to determine when international trade and anti-competition measures may be used; and Chapter 19 ('Financial resources, technology and intellectual property') on the obligation to make available financial resources, technology, and technical assistance, as well as to provide for appropriate rules on intellectual property.