

## Economic Globalisation and Human Rights

EDITED BY WOLFGANG BENEDEK,
KOEN DE FEYTER AND
FABRIZIO MARRELLA



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## ECONOMIC GLOBALISATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Economic globalisation is one of the guiding paradigms of the twenty-first century. The challenge it implies for human rights is fundamental, and key questions have up to now received no satisfying answers. How can human rights protect human dignity when economic globalisation has an adverse impact on local living conditions? How should human rights evolve in response to a global economy in which non-statal actors are decisive forces? Economic Globalisation and Human Rights sets out to assess these and other questions to ensure that, as economic globalisation intensifies, human rights take up the central and crucial position that they deserve. Using a multidisciplinary methodology, leading scholars reflect on issues such as the need for global ethics, the localisation of human rights, the role of human rights in WTO law, and efforts to make international economic organisations more accountable and multinational corporations more socially responsible.

WOLFGANG BENEDEK is Professor of International Law at the Institute of International Law and International Relations, University of Graz.

KOEN DE FEYTER is Professor of International Law at the University of Antwerp.

FABRIZIO MARRELLA is Professor of International Law at the University "Cà Foscari" of Venice.

### CONTRIBUTORS

Wolfgang Benedek is professor of international law and international organisations at the University of Graz, Austria. After having graduated from the University of Graz in law and in political economy he has worked at the Austrian Foreign Ministry and the Max-Planck-Institute for International Law in Heidelberg and taught at American and German universities as well as in international Master programmes in Venice and Sarajevo. He is also director of the European Training and Research Center for Human Rights and Democracy in Graz. His research priorities are international human rights law, law of international economic organisations, human security etc. Recent publications include 'Global Governance of the World Economy' (in P. Koller (ed.), Die globale Frage, Empirische Befunde und ethische Herausforderungen [The Global Question, Empirical Findings and Ethical Challenges (Vienna: Passagen-Verlag, 2006), pp. 257–274, in German), The European Union and the Dispute Settlement Procedure of the WTO (Vienna/Graz: NWV/Schulthess/BWV, 2005, in German), 'Democratisation of International Economic Organisations, the Example of the WTO' (in H. Kopetz et. al. (eds.), Sozio-kultureller Wandel im Verfassungsstaat, Phänomene Politischer Transformation [Sociocultural Change and the Constitutional State, Phenomena of Political Transformation] (Vienna/Graz: Böhlau, 2004), pp. 225–238, in German), and, with A. Yotopoulos-Marangopoulos (eds.), Anti-terrorist Measures and Human Rights (Leiden: Martinus Nijhoff, 2003).

Laurence Boisson de Chazournes is professor of international law and head of the Department of Public International Law and International Organization at the faculty of law of the University of Geneva (Switzerland). She is also Visiting Professor at the Graduate Institute of International Studies (Geneva) and the University of Aix-Marseille III (France). She holds a Ph.D. in international law from the Graduate Institute of International Studies (Geneva, Switzerland), a Masters Degree in private law and a Diploma in political science from the

University of Lyon II and Lyon III (Lyon, France). Between 1995 and 1999, she was senior counsel with the legal department of the World Bank. A consultant and a member of groups of experts with various international organisations, including the World Bank, WHO, UNDP and ILO, she is the author of a large number of publications dealing with international law, international organisations and international environmental law. Recent publications include: with E. Brown Weiss and N. Bernasconi-Osterwalder (eds.), Freshwater and International Economic Law (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005); with R. Mehdi, Une société internationale en mutation: quels acteurs pour une nouvelle gouvernance? (Bruxelles: Bruylant, 2004); 'Taking the International Rule of Law Seriously: Economic Instruments and Collective Security', in Policy Papers, October 2005, International Peace Academy, New York, USA.

**Koen De Feyter** is professor of international law at the law faculty of the University of Antwerp. He holds a Ph.D degree from the same university. He has worked at the University of Maastricht and at the European Interuniversity Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation (Venice). His research priorities include international development law and human rights. He is the author of *Human Rights*. Social Justice in the Age of the Market (London: Zed Publications, 2005) and World Development Law (Antwerp: Intersentia, 2001).

Francesco Francioni is professor of international law at the European University Institute of Florence (Italy) and at the University of Siena (Italy). He is a graduate in law of the University of Florence and holds an LL.M. from Harvard Law School. He has been a visiting professor at the University of Oxford, Cornell and the Texas Law School. His research priorities are in the field of public international law, especially in the area of environmental law, human rights and cultural heritage. He is general editor of the Italian Yearbook of International Law and a frequent member of Italian delegations to international negotiations and diplomatic conferences.

Fabrizio Marrella is professor of international law at the University of Venice 'Cà Foscari' (Italy) where he teaches international law, international investment law, international business law and maritime law. A member of the Board of Administrators of the European Interuniversity Center for Human Rights & Democratisation, he lectures in the European Master program on Human Rights and Democratisation with particular

emphasis on Corporate Social Responsibility. He holds the highest Doctorates in Law with top grades (summa cum laude) from the University of Paris I-Sorbonne and Bologna Law Schools. He also holds the Diploma from The Hague Academy of International Law. He participates at international conferences and has given invited lectures at a range of universities both in Europe and abroad. His main research interests centre on arbitration and international economic law, also in connection with human rights issues. Prof. Marrella is the author of books and several articles published in English, French, Italian and Spanish.

Davinia Ovett was (at the time of writing) Programme Officer on Intellectual Property and Human Rights at 3D -> Trade - Human Rights - Equitable Economy and now is an independent consultant on trade and human rights. She graduated with an LLB in European Law from the University of Warwick, has an LLM in International Business Law from London School of Economics and a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice (LPC) from the College of Law, UK. She has worked on human rights issues at Article 19 – the Global Campaign for Free Expression, Interights, the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) and the International Labour Organization (ILO). Her areas of expertise include international human rights law and mechanisms, international economic law and World Trade Organization Law and processes. Recent publications include a Policy Brief on Intellectual Property, Development and Human Rights, 'How Human Rights Can Support Proposals for a World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Development Agenda,' 3D -> Trade – Human Rights – Equitable Economy, February 2006.

Adalberto Perulli graduated in law from the University of Bologna. He is chair ('professore ordinario') of Labour Law at Cà Foscari University of Venice (Italy). In November 2000 he was elected head of the Law Department of the University of Venice. He is visiting professor at the University of Paris X-Nanterre. His research interests center on the situation of economically dependent workers, self employment, outsourcing and transfer of undertakings, social rights and the global market, social clauses and codes of conduct. He has published widely on a variety of topics in civil law, labour law and comparative labour law.

Jernej Pikalo is lecturer in political theory at the faculty of social sciences, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. He graduated from the University of Ljubljana and holds a PhD from the same university. In

2001 he was a Marie Curie Visiting Research Fellow at the Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation, University of Warwick, UK. His main research interests include theories of globalisation, political concepts, human rights, theory of the state, and interpretative methodology. He is author of *Neoliberal Globalisation and the State* (Ljubljana: ZPS, 2003) and Assistant Editor of the *Journal of International Relations and Development*.

George Ulrich has, since 2003, been Secretary-General of the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation, where he has also served for three years as the Academic Coordinator and Acting Programme Director of the E.MA programme. Prior to this, he was Senior Researcher at the Danish Centre for Human Rights and Research Fellow at the University of Copenhagen's Institute of Anthropology. He has published widely on issues of ethics and human rights, and lectured throughout Europe and Africa. He holds a Cand. Mag. degree in social anthropology and history of ideas from Aarhus University and an MA and PhD in philosophy from the University of Toronto.

### SERIES EDITORS' PREFACE

The present book is the first in the new series of EIUC Studies in Human Rights and Democratisation. The European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation in Venice, Italy is the principal European Human Rights and Democratisation Centre supported by almost 40 renowned European universities, the European Union, the Region of Veneto, the City of Venice and other strategic partners. Professors, researchers, teachers and experts from all over Europe and from different scientific disciplines and partner organisations are active in the Centre's programmes and teaching activities. One of the main objectives of the EIUC is to create a fertile environment for research and research cooperation and the transformation of the results of that cooperation into realistic policies. The EIUC studies aim to publish the best scholarly work on Human Rights and Democratisation resulting from that process of academic cooperation in the Venice Centre and its member universities. The series is not limited to lawyers' discourse alone. It encompasses the scientific disciplinary and interdisciplinary dialogue on Human Rights and Democratisation as practiced in research and teaching in the Centre's activities.

The first book reflects in approach and outcome the overall aim of the EIUC series to enrich the academic discourse on Human Rights and Democratisation with innovative contributions which also facilitate the transfer of academic and institutional expertise into the public sphere. By means of a multidisciplinary methodology the authors identify the relevance of human rights for economic globalisation. The contributions as well as the introduction and conclusions provide a comprehensive and original guidance on the interrelation between areas of international commercial activities and institutional responsibilities as well as the normative environment in which such activities are embedded. EIUC owes gratitude to the volume editors and the authors of the present volume. Wolfgang Benedek, Koen de Feyter, Fabrizio Marrella have been able together with the other EIUC professors to collaborate successfully in the

process of multidisciplinary research on a new, fragmented and everchanging subject setting a significant example for future project cooperation in the field. We would also like to express our thanks to the EIUC Board and the EIUC Assembly members who have been supporting the project of a new series with dedication and patience.

The series would not exist without the support of Finola O'Sullivan from Cambridge University Press. We would like to thank her for her guidance, encouragement and assistance.

Horst Fischer Fabrizio Marrella Florence Benoit-Rohmer Michael O'Flaherty

#### PREFACE

The challenge that economic globalisation as one of the 21st century's guiding paradigms implies for human rights is fundamental. While the scientific discourse on globalisation has intensified and an ever growing body of research in economic globalisation can be ascertained, key questions have up to now found no satisfying answers.

Economic Globalisation and Human Rights sets out to address this gap. Questions that delimitate the multifaceted impact of globalisation on the very conception of human rights, and on their future, include: How can human rights protect human dignity when economic globalisation has adverse impacts on local living conditions? To what extent and into which direction should human rights evolve in response to a global economy in which non-statal actors are decisive forces? In this collection leading scholars assess these and other questions. Using a multidisciplinary methodology the contributors aim at ensuring that, as economic globalisation intensifies, human rights take up the central position that they deserve as a global value system. Reflecting on issues ranging from the need for a global ethic to the localisation of human rights, from the role of human rights in the WTO and the World Bank to efforts to make international economic organisations more accountable and multinational corporations more socially responsible, the contributors show that economic globalisation cannot be an end in itself, but is shaped and enriched by the globalisation of human rights.

We are proud that this volume is the first in a series initiated by the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation in Venice, Italy, and coordinated by Horst Fischer, to whom we are grateful for his tireless efforts. We would also like to extend our thanks to Finola O'Sullivan of Cambridge University Press for her support and assistance. Gratitude is further owed to Julie Self for her thorough and thoughtful copy-editing. We also gratefully acknowledge the valuable contribution of our editorial assistant, xiv PREFACE

Matthias C. Kettemann of the University of Graz, for the completion of this book.

October 2006

Wolfgang Benedek Koen De Feyter Fabrizio Marrella

### ABBREVIATIONS

3D → Trade – Human Rights – Equitable Economy

(NGO)

AB Appellate Body of the WTO

ACHR American Convention on Human Rights

ACOMHPR African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights
ACRWC African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child

ACtHPR African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights
ADI American Declaration of Independence

ADRDM American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man

AI Amnesty International

AU African Union

BIICL British Institute of International and Comparative Law

BTA Bilateral Trade Agreements

CA Appeal Court (several jurisdictions)
CAAU Constitutive Act of the African Union

CAS Council of Arab States

CAT Committee Against Torture/Convention against

Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading

Treatment or Punishment

CCRF Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
CDES Centro de Derechos Económicos y sociales

CEDAW Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination

Against Women/Convention on the Elimination of All

Forms of Discrimination against Women

CERD Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

CESCR Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CETS Council of Europe Treaty Series

CHR Commission on Human Rights
CLAS Council of the League of Arab States
CMW Committee on Migrant Workers

CoE Council of Europe

CP-Tech Consumer Project on Technology

CRC Committee on the Rights of the Child/Convention on

the Rights of the Child

CS Civil Society

C-SAFE Consortium for Southern Africa Food Security

Emergency

CUP Cambridge University Press

DFID Department for International Development
DPPED Declaration on the Protection of all Persons from

Enforced Disappearance

DSB Dispute Settlement Body

DSU Dispute Settlement Understanding

ECHR European Convention on Human Rights and

Fundamental Freedoms

ECJ European Court of Justice

EComHR (former) European Commission of Human Rights

ECtHR European Court of Human Rights
EEC European Economic Community
EFTA European Free Trade Association

EIUC European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights

and Democratisation

EPO European Patent Office

ETC European Training and Research Centre for Human

Rights and Democracy, Graz

ETS European Treaty Series
EU European Union
FTA Free Trade Agreement

GA (United Nations) General Assembly
GATS General Agreement on Trade in Services
GATT General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

GEO Global Environmental Outlook
HAI Health Action International
HIV Human Immunodeficiency Viruses
HIPC Heavily Indebted Poor Countries

HRC Human Rights Committee/Human Rights Council

HRW Human Rights Watch

HURIST Human Rights Strengthening: UNDP/OHCHR IAComHR Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

IACtHR Inter-American Court of Human Rights

ICC International Criminal Court

ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICEDAW	International Convention against all forms of
	discrimination against women
ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All
	Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and
	Cultural Rights
ICISS	International Commission on Intervention and State
	Sovereignty
ICJ	International Court of Justice/International
	Commission of Jurists
ICPD	International Conference on Population and
	Development, Cairo, 1994
ICPD+5	International Conference on Population and
	Development Five-year review, 1999
ICPD+10	International Conference on Population and
	Development Ten-year review, 2004
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the
	Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their
	Families
ICSID	International Center for Settlement of Investment
	Disputes
ICTR	International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
ICTSD	International Centre for Trade and Sustainable
	Development
ICTY	International Criminal Tribunal for the former
	Yugoslavia
IDLO	International Development Law Organisation
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent
	Societies
IGBC	Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee of UNESCO
IGO	Intergovernmental Organisation
IHRR	International Human Rights Reports
ILA	International Law Association
ILM	International Legal Materials
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund

INGO International Non-Governmental Organisation IO International Organisation

IP Intellectual Property

IPRs Intellectual Property Rights

IRIN Integrated Regional Information Networks (part of

OCHA)

ITO International Trade Organisation

LDC Least/less developed country/countries

MDCs Millennium Development Cools

MDGs Millennium Development Goals

MIGA Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency

MNC Multinational corporation
MSN Médecins sans Frontières

NALEDI National Labour and Economic Development Institute

NGO Non-Governmental Organisation NIEO New International Economic Order OAU (former) Organisation of African Unity

OCHA UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian

Affairs

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and

Development

OHCHR High Commissioner for Human Rights
OIC Organisation of the Islamic Conference
PTO Patent and Trademark Office (United States)

SACC South African Constitutional Court SACU Southern African Customs Union SARS Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome SC (United Nations) Security Council

SCC Supreme Court of Canada SCI Supreme Court of India

SCR Supreme Court Reports (Canada)
SG (United Nations) Secretary-General
SIPCs Severely indebted poor countries
TAC Treatment Action Campaign
TPRM Trade Policy Review Mechanism
TRALAC Trade Law Centre for Southern Africa

TRIPS Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights

UDHR Universal Declaration of Human Rights

UK United Kingdom UN United Nations

UNAIDS United Nations Joint AIDS Programme
UNAMIR United Nations Mission to Rwanda

UNCTAD United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNDHA United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs

UNDP United Nations Development Programme
UNEP United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO United Nations Economic, Social and Cultural

Organisation

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund UNPR United Nations Press Release

UNRISD United Nations Research Institute for Social

Development

UNTS United Nations Treaty Series
UNUP United Nations University Press

UNW UN Wire

USA United States of America

USAID United States Agency for International Development

USIP United States Institute of Peace USSC United States Supreme Court

VCCR Vienna Convention on Consular Relations VCLT Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties

VDPA Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the

World Conference on Human Rights

WB World Bank

WCHR World Conference on Human Rights

WHO World Health Organisation

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organisation

WTO World Trade Organization