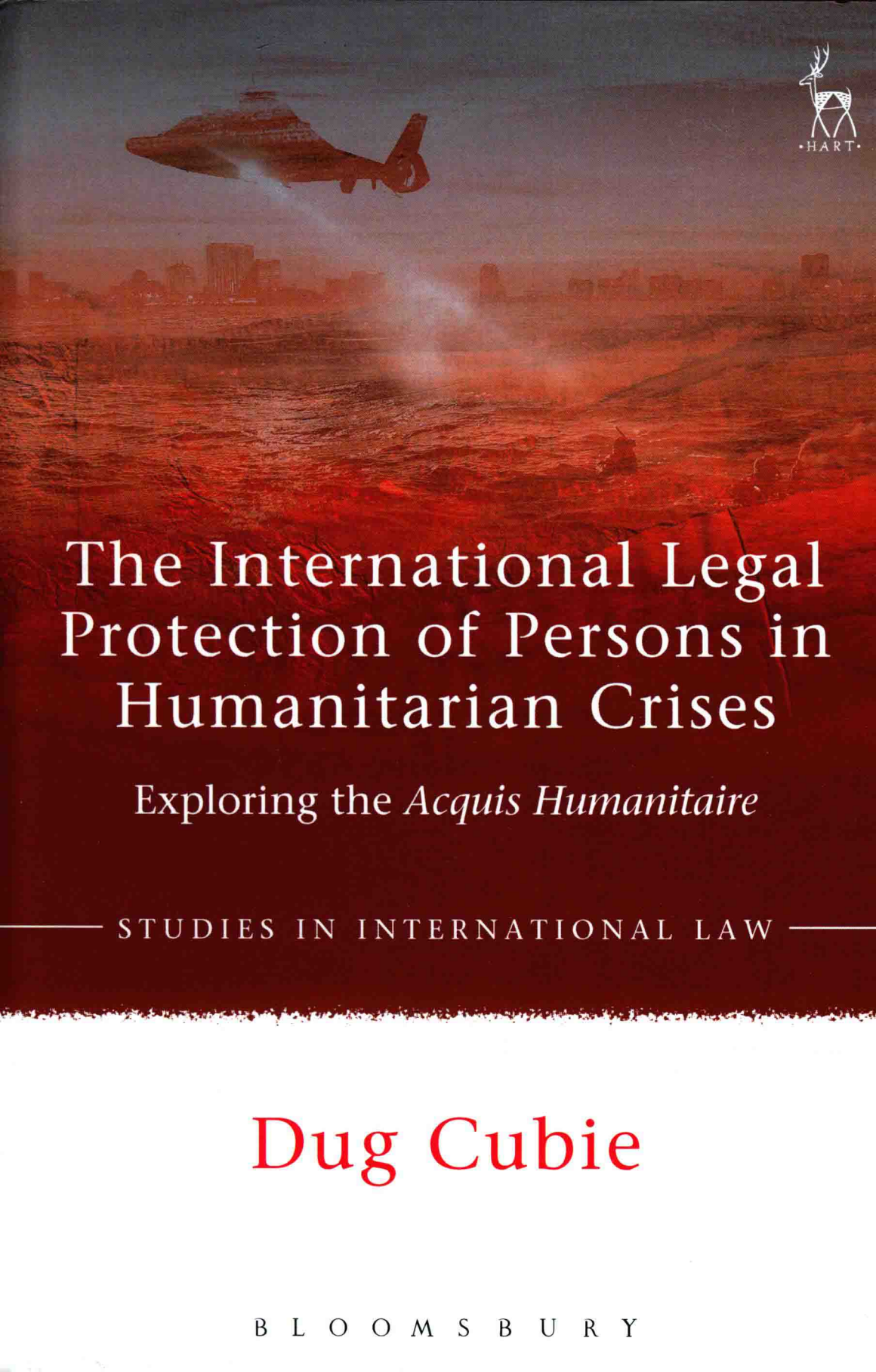




The International Legal Protection of Persons in Humanitarian Crises

Exploring the *Acquis Humanitaire*

— STUDIES IN INTERNATIONAL LAW —

Dug Cubie

B L O O M S B U R Y

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THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL PROTECTION OF PERSONS IN HUMANITARIAN CRISES

The instinctual desire to support those in need, irrespective of geographic, cultural or religious links, is both facilitated and overwhelmed by the extent of information now available about the multiple humanitarian crises which occur on a daily basis around the world. Behind the images of devastating floods and earthquakes, or massive forced displacements resulting from armed conflicts, is the all-too-real suffering faced by individuals and families. From the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami to the ongoing conflict in Syria, recent years have seen an increasing debate regarding the international legal mechanisms to protect persons in such humanitarian crises.

This book argues that an *acquis humanitaire* is identifiable through the interconnected web of existing and emerging international, regional and national laws, policies and practices for the protection of persons caught up in humanitarian crises. Indeed, the humanitarian imperative to alleviate suffering, wherever it may be found, permeates various branches of international law, and is reflected in the extensive humanitarian activities undertaken by states and other actors in times of armed conflict, population displacement and disaster. This book argues that by clarifying the conceptual framework and normative content of the *acquis humanitaire*, gaps and lacunae can be identified and the overall protection of persons strengthened.

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For Niamh, Aoibhe and Elsie

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¹ D Caron, M Kelly and A Telesetsky (eds), *The International Law of Disaster Relief* (Cambridge University Press, 2014).

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List of Acronyms

ALNAP	Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action
AU	African Union
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
CESCR	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (UN)
CIL	Customary International Law
CPA	Coalition Provisional Authority (Iraq)
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
DRR	Disaster risk reduction, prevention and preparedness
ECHR	European Convention on Human Rights
ECtHR	European Court of Human Rights
ESCR	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015
HRC	Human Rights Council (UN)
IACHR	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICDO	International Civil Defence Organisation
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDLO	International Development Law Organisation
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IDRL	International Disaster Response Laws
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IHL	International Humanitarian Law
IIHL	International Institute of Humanitarian Law

ILC	International Law Commission
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MNF-I	Multi-National Forces-Iraq
MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UNDRO	Office of the UN Disaster Relief Co-ordinator
UNGA	UN General Assembly
UNHCHR	UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
UNHCR	Un High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
UNISDR	UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNITAR	UN Institute for Training and Research
UNOCHA	UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNSC	UN Security Council
WFP	World Food Programme

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