

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

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Contemporary Issues in International Environmental Law

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Published by Edward Elgar Publishing Limited The Lypiatts 15 Lansdown Road Cheltenham Glos GL50 2JA UK

Edward Elgar Publishing, Inc. William Pratt House 9 Dewey Court Northampton Massachusetts 01060 USA

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Control Number: 2009921517



ISBN 978 1 84542 283 7

Printed and bound by MPG Books Group, UK

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Abbreviations

AJIL American Journal of International Law
ALARP As Low as Reasonably Practicable

Art. Article

BA British Airways

BASREC Baltic Sea Region Energy Co-operation

BATBEP Best Available Technology/Best

Environmental Practice

BLA21F Baltic Local Agenda 21 Forum
BPO Baltic Ports Organization

BSPC Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference
BSSSC Baltic Sea States Sub-regional Cooperation

CAS Condition Assessment Scheme

CBA Cost-Benefit Analysis

CBDR Common but Differentiated Responsibilities

CBSS Council of the Baltic Sea States

CCB Coalition Clean Baltic

CITES Convention on International Trade in

Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

CO₂ Carbon Dioxide

Colo. J. Int'l. Entvt'lL&Pol'y Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy

CSD UN Commission on Sustainable

Development

CZM Baltic Sea Region Coastal Integrated

Management Zone

DDT Dichloro-Diphenyl-Trichloroethane

Den. J. Int'l L. & Pol'y

Denver Journal of International Law and

Policy

DENR Department of Environment and Natural

Resources

Duke J. Comp. & Int'l L. Duke Journal of Comparative and

International Law

DWT Dead Weight Tonns

EBRD European Bank for Reconstruction and

Development

EC European Community

ECHR European Convention on Human Rights

ECOSOC Economic and Social Council
ECtHR European Court of Human Rights
EEOICPA Energy Employees Occupational Illness

Compensation Programme

EFP Experimental Fishing Programme
EIA Environmental Impact Assessment

EIB European Investment Bank

EJIL European Journal of International Law ENGOs Environmental non-Governmental

Organizations

Envtl. L. Rev. Environmental Law Review Envtl. Liability Environmental Liability

EU European Union

EHRR European Human Rights Reports
FAO Food and Agriculture Organization
FFMP Fiscal and Financial Management

Programme

GA General Assembly

GAOR General Assembly Official Records
GATT General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

GEF Global Environmental Facility

Geo. Int'l Envtl. L. Rev. Georgetown International Environmental

Law Review

GMOs Genetically Modified Organisms

HACAN Heathrow Association for the Control of

Aircraft Noise

HELCOM Helsinki Commission HGO Heavy Grade Oil HRA Human Rights Act

HRC Human Rights Commission
HRLJ Human Rights Law Journal

HQ Headquarters

IAEA International Atomic Energy Agency
IBSFC International Baltic Sea Fishery

Commission

ICJ International Court of Justice

ICLR International Community Law Review ICLQ International and Comparative Law

Quarterly

IFIs International Financial Institutions

IJGLS Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies
IJMGR International Journal on Minority and Group

Rights

ILAInternational Law AssociationILCInternational Law CommissionILMInternational Legal Materials

IMOInternational Maritime OrganizationIOPPInternational Oil Pollution PreventionIOSCInternational Oil Spill ConferenceISM CodeInternational Safety Management CodeITLOSInternational Tribunal for the Law of the

Sea

JEL Journal of Environmental Law

JIBL Journal of International Biotechnology Law

LDAs Local Distribution Authorities

LJIL Leiden Journal of International law

LOS Law of the Sea

LOSC Law of the Sea Convention

MARPOL 73/38 1973/78 Convention on the Prevention of

Pollution from Ships

Max Planck Y.B. UN. L
MEPC
Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law
Milter
Milter
Milter
Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law
Marine Environment Protection Committee
The Marshall Islands Intergenerational

Trust Fund

MONAS Monitoring and Assessment Group

MOX Mixed Oxide

N. Y. U. J. Int'l Law & Pol. New York University Journal of

International Law and Policy

NCT Nuclear Claims Tribunal NCTA Nuclear Claims Tribunal Act

ND Northern Dimension

NEFCO Nordic Environment Finance Corporation

NGOs Non-governmental Organizations

NIB Nordic Investment Bank

NILR Netherlands International Law Review
ONA Project Oceans in the Nuclear Age Project

OPA Oil Pollution Act

OPRC Convention International Convention on Oil Pollution

Preparedness, Response and Cooperation

OSPAR Convention Convention for the Protection of the Marine

Environment of the North-East Atlantic

OJLS Oxford Journal of Legal Studies

P&I Protection and Indemnity
PCB Polychlorinated Biphenyls
PIC Prior Informed Consent
PoI Plan of Implementation
POPs Persistent Organic Pollutants
PPP Polluter-Pays Principle

RECIEL Review of European Community and

 $International\ Environmental\ Law$

RMI Republic of the Marshall Islands

Rutgers L. Rev. Rutgers Law Review SC Security Council

SCOPIC Special Compensation Protection and

Indemnity Clause

Sess. Session

SOG Senior Officials Group

SPS Agreement Sanitary & Phytosanitary Agreement

SSS Short Sea Shipping

Stanford J. Int'l L. Stanford Journal of International Law
STCW Standards of Training, Certification and

Watchkeeping

TFSA Task Force Sustainable Agriculture
TLAs Timber Licensing Agreements

UBC Union of Baltic Cities

UNCLOS United Nations Convention on the Law of

the Sea

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme

UNTS United Nations Treaty Series

VASAB Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea
VISA Virtual Institute for Sustainable Agriculture
WCED World Commission on Environment and

Development

WFD Water Framework Directive

WG Working Group

WSSD World Summit on Sustainable Development

WTO World Trade Organization
WWF World Wide Fund for Nature

YBIEL Yearbook of International Environmental

Law

ZaöRV Zeitschrift für ausländisches und öffentliches

Recht und Völkerrecht

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Introduction

The present book deals with current issues of international environmental law. The aim of this book is to present the problems which, although well-known and widely written about, have not been entirely solved or remain controversial or, regrettably, have become useful clichés. The present book is not meant as a textbook or a comprehensive study of international environmental law; it is a collection of essays which analyse certain concepts, such as the precautionary principle and sustainable development, the legal character, normative content and practical application of which are questionable.

The study is firmly rooted in international law. It will assess certain concepts and principles of international environmental law from the point of view of the general concepts of international law. Therefore the issues of international environmental law are viewed in this study with international law as the background and in close link with all its underlying principles. The book relies on the work of the International Law Commission and takes into account the relevant jurisprudence of international courts and tribunals. Such an approach enables full understanding of the problems involved. The book, when necessary, also presents the views of philosophers. This is so, for instance, in relation to intergenerational equity, where the philosophical background of the theory of John Rawls is necessary for us to understand the whole concept of intergenerational equity.

Several areas of international environmental law will be examined, such as the legal content of the precautionary principle and its applicability in practice; the human right to a clean environment, whether it already exists and is it in fact really a necessary right in order to address and redress environmental problems of an individual (this question will be analysed in particular within the context of the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights); the concept of intergenerational equity or intergenerational rights, which is closely connected to the right to a clean environment will be looked at from the point of view of its usefulness in practice; the concept of sustainable development will be examined from the point of view of its legal content (if any). The practice of States will be scrutinized, for example, in relation to the national application of the precautionary principle, and the author will rely on documents in languages other than English, such as Polish or Russian.

In conclusion it may be said that the present book will deal with somewhat controversial and unclear issues of international environmental law. The author does not purport to give the answers to problems dealt with, but rather to identify the issues and their inconsistencies.

The author would like to express her gratitude to Mr Panos Merkouris for the editing of the book and very useful comments on its first draft.