

Justice among Nations

By Stephen C. Neff

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Justice among Nations tells the story of the rise of international law and how it has been formulated, debated, contested, and put into practice from ancient times to the present. Stephen Neff avoids technical jargon as he surveys doctrines from natural law to feminism, and practice from the Warring States of China to the international criminal courts of today.

Ancient China produced the first rudimentary set of doctrines. But the cornerstone of international law was laid by the Romans, in the form of universal natural law. However, as medieval European states encountered non-Christian peoples from East Asia to the New World, new legal quandaries arose, and by the seventeenth century the first modern theories of international law were devised. New challenges in the nineteenth century encompassed nationalism, free trade, imperialism, international organizations, and arbitration. Innovative doctrines included liberalism, the nationality school, and solidarism. The twentieth century witnessed the League of Nations and a World Court, but also the rise of socialist and fascist states and the advent of the Cold War. Yet the collapse of the Soviet Union brought little respite. As Neff makes clear, further threats to the rule of law today come from environmental pressures, genocide, and terrorism.

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Editorial Review

Review

Justice among Nations is by far the best general survey of the history of international law to date. It will be mandatory reading for both students and scholars in the field. (Randall Lesaffer, author of *European Legal History: A Cultural and Political Perspective*)

Like Vattel's 1758 *Law of Nations*, this sparkling and intelligent history is intended for a broad audience. Vattel reached his audience: George Washington and other Founding American Fathers are known to have possessed copies. Their vision for the new United States in the world was plainly influenced by it. Neff's *Justice among Nations* refreshes Vattel for our time and our even more pressing need to understand what international law is and what it can accomplish for our common humanity. (Mary Ellen O'Connell, author of *The Power and Purpose of International Law: Insights from the Theory and Practice of Enforcement*)

About the Author

Stephen C. Neff is Reader in Public International Law at the University of Edinburgh School of Law.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Keith Abell:

Reading a reserve tends to be new life style in this particular era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information which will give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world can certainly share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their reader with their story or their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the ebooks. But also they write about the data about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors on this planet always try to improve their skill in writing, they also doing some exploration before they write on their book. One of them is this Justice among Nations.

Maria Levine:

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