

Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law

Volume 19
Issue 2 *Spring 1986*

Article 5

1986

Books Received

Law Review Staff

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.law.vanderbilt.edu/vjtl>



Part of the [Law and Society Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Law Review Staff, Books Received, 19 *Vanderbilt Law Review* 473 (2021)

Available at: <https://scholarship.law.vanderbilt.edu/vjtl/vol19/iss2/5>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by Scholarship@Vanderbilt Law. It has been accepted for inclusion in Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law by an authorized editor of Scholarship@Vanderbilt Law. For more information, please contact mark.j.williams@vanderbilt.edu.

BOOKS RECEIVED

WEST'S LAW & COMMERCIAL DICTIONARY IN FIVE LANGUAGES.
West Publishing Company, 1985. Pp. xvi, 885, 899.

This two-volume dictionary provides attorneys and businessmen engaged in international law or commerce with a valuable resource. Its foremost feature is that it facilitates the translation of legal terminology from English to four different foreign languages — German, Spanish, French, and Italian. In addition to translating English terms into foreign ones, the dictionary also translates hundreds of foreign entries — original and generic to their civil law system — into English. An additional feature of the dictionary is a series of useful appendices which includes a table of legal abbreviations commonly used in English, German, Spanish, French and Italian and a list of countries of the world and their capitals.

In a world where attorneys and businessmen find themselves increasingly involved in international transactions, the dictionary is of great practical utility and a valuable resource.

FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE. By B.N. Metaxes. Aldershot, England and Brookfield, Vermont: Gower Publishing Company, 1985. Pp. x, 107.

This book argues that Flags of Convenience result in increased economic and social costs to the shipping world above those which would be the case if the world merchant fleet consisted only of vessels registered under national flags. Mr. Metaxes begins by identifying the problems associated with increased international maritime activity, and the growth of Flags of Convenience (F.O.C.) as an attempt to deal with them. Mr. Metaxes proceeds to evaluate the social and economic costs and benefits of the F.O.C. to reach his conclusion. As a maritime economist, Mr. Metaxes utilizes extensive statistical data and economic formulae to substantiate his hypothesis.

EXTERNAL DEBT MANAGEMENT. Edited by Hassanali Mehran. Washington, D.C.: International Monetary Fund, 1985. Pp. v, 322.

In response to the severe debt crisis confronting several International Monetary Fund (IMF) member countries, the IMF Institute and the Fund's Central Banking Department organized a seminar at the Fund in December 1984. This pamphlet is a compilation of papers presented by several commercial bankers, national debt managers, and experts at the seminar. Mehran notes that the primary purpose of this seminar was "to provide a forum for national officials, international bankers, and staff members of the Fund and the World Bank to exchange views and discuss issues and practices arising out of their experience with external debt matters." These contributors outline various techniques and strategies countries can use in managing their external debt as well as comments on what the Fund has done and can do in assisting member countries with their debt problems.

ADJUSTMENT, CONDITIONALITY, AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCING. Edited by Joaquin Muns. Washington, D.C.: International Monetary Fund, 1984. Pp. xi, 214.

The financial crisis of the last ten years has tested the efficacy of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as a stabilizing influence on the international economy. The decreased ability of some countries to service external debt, particularly in Latin America, has been a major part of this crisis. This book is a compilation of papers presented at a seminar on "The Role of the International Monetary Fund in the Adjustment Process." The authors provide analysis of the performance of the IMF as well as proposals for improving the adjustment process. The editor includes a summary of the discussions and a statement of the conclusions reached by the discussants.

NON-APPEARANCE BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE. By H.W.A. Thirlway. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985. Pp. v, 184.

The absence of the state against which the proceedings have been brought is becoming a common feature in cases brought before the International Court of Justice. This phenomenon has given rise to concern being viewed as both a symptom of lack of confidence in the Court and as a contributory cause of the contin-

uing decline of confidence in the Court. Mr. Thirlway, an official of the Court for over fifteen years, examines the phenomenon in light of fundamental concepts of international judicial procedure, the scope of duty on its defending state, the two problems raised by nonappearance and suggested remedies. Although the question of procedural international law may be small in scope, it is far-reaching in its implications for future judicial settlement.

WILLIAM SHEPPARD, CROMWELL'S LAW REFORMER. By Nancy L. Matthews. London: Cambridge University Press, 1984. Pp. xviii, 307.

The first comprehensive study of William Sheppard, seventeenth century legal author, examines his employment under Oliver Cromwell's Protectorate, his family and education, his religious commitment to John Oliver's party of independents, and his legal philosophy. The author traces the foundations of that legal philosophy to Sheppard's concern for law reform, politics and religion. His writing anticipates the reforms adopted centuries later in the Judicature Acts of 1875-78. In addition, the author appraises Sheppard's legal works, which include studies for conveyancing, actions on the case, tithe collection, guides for local law enforcement and the first three legal encyclopedias to be written in the English language, and considers their effect on his own generation as well as on subsequent legal literature. The author provides a full bibliography of Sheppard's own works and the sources on which he based his legal writing.

