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E-BOOKS

Contesting Human Rights: Norms, Institutions and Practice; Alison Brysk and Michael Stohl (eds.); Elgar Online; 2019

Publisher’s note: Illustrated with case studies from across the globe, Contesting Human Rights provides an innovative approach to human rights, and examines the barriers and changing pathways to the full realisation of these rights. Presenting a thorough proposal for the reframing of human rights, the volume suggests that new opportunities at, and below, the state level, and creative pathways of global governance can help reconstruct human rights in the face of modern challenges.
The Responsibility to Protect and a Cosmopolitan Approach to Human Protection; Samuel James Wyatt; Springer; 2019

Publisher's note: This book conceptualizes Responsibility to Protect doctrine (R2P) as part of a global cosmopolitan agenda, drawing on the work of Jürgen Habermas, and argues that R2P is reflective of a shift towards a more cosmopolitan approach to human protection. The author also proposes a framework of analysis that includes a strong legal dimension in order to advance reforms to the international legal, political and military structures in order to better prevent humanitarian crises and protect civilians in times of conflict. The volume explores the cosmopolitan, moral and legal progress that has occurred—and could yet occur—under R2P as the approach to human protection transitions in the Post-Cold War era.

Human Rights Practices during Financial Crises; Rana S. Gautam; Springer; 2019

Publisher's note: From the Great Depression in the twentieth century to the Great Recession in the twenty-first, systemic banking crises have been a recurring problem for both developing and developed countries. This book offers a human rights perspective on financial crises vis-à-vis low-income and least developed countries. It systematically analyzes government's commitment to women's economic rights and basic human rights during systemic banking crises. The book combines a wealth of data with rich theoretical arguments that weave together distinct but related bodies of literature from international development, human rights, and political economy.

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E-ARTICLES

> Human rights data for everyone: Introducing the Human Rights Measurement Initiative (HRMI); Anne-Marie Brook, K. Chad Clay, Susan Randolph; Journal of Human Rights; 17 January 2020; Vol. 19(1)

Publisher’s note: Cross-national quantitative data measuring human rights practices have existed for about four decades. However, those data have yet to gain much traction in the public sphere, leaving human rights advocacy a largely data-free enterprise. We argue that the underutilization of these data is due to (1) a heavy reliance on public documentation alone as an information source, (2) incomplete coverage of the entire list of internationally recognized rights, and (3) the many barriers to data access and understanding faced by those outside of academia. In response to these problems, we introduce the Human Rights Measurement Initiative, a global collaborative project committed to generating the best cross-national, comprehensive human rights data possible through a process of codesign across disciplines and professions and presenting those data in ways that are accessible and useful to academics, practitioners, and everyday people alike.

> Peace agreements and the institutionalisation of human rights: a multi-level analysis; Corina Lacatus, Kathryn Nash; The International Journal of Human Rights; 15 November 2019

Publisher’s note: Parties to peace agreements have long considered human rights as central to the consolidation of peace and democracy in post-conflict settings. Yet, understanding of the formal institutional mechanisms that peace processes put in place to promote and protect human rights is rather limited. This article informs this gap using an original multi-level analysis of 126 peace agreements and three main categories of institutions involved in securing human rights implementation after conflict – international and regional institutions for promoting and protecting rights, as well as national human rights ombudsmen and commissions. We find that peace agreements localise human rights implementation after the end of conflict, relying more on national human rights institutions than international ones to monitor and implement human rights domestically and assist national executives with processes of transition away from conflict and toward liberal democracy. While regional and international institutions like the United Nations and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe are included in some peace agreements, their roles are much more limited and nearly exclusively aimed at offering support to new and existing national human rights commissions. We illustrate our analysis with two case studies of peace agreements in Cambodia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

> Human rights protection in new generation’s free trade agreements of the European Union; Anna Micara; The International Journal of Human Rights; 24 April 2019; Vol. 23(9)

Publisher’s note: This article aims at furthering human rights protection in EU’s new generation’s trade agreements, with special regard to the human rights clause, which offers the possibility to take measures in the event the counterpart violates human rights, as well as legal tools aimed at ensuring that agreements themselves do not violate human rights, such as the human rights impact assessments. It will be shown that the EU is widening its action on human rights protection whereas its obligations should be better defined and enforced.

> Sustainable Development Goals and the Business and Human Rights Discourse: Ships Passing in the Night?; Nicola Jägers; Human Rights Quarterly; February 2020; Vol. 42(1)

Publisher’s note: The UN Agenda 2030 sets ambitious goals recognizing the private sector as a key partner in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The last two decades a discourse on business and human rights (BHR) has developed that has influenced the way we think about corporate responsibility and the degree of responsibility that corporations carry for their impact on human rights. Concerns have been raised that Agenda 2030 insufficiently recognizes this evolving discourse on the responsibility of the private sector and arguably may undermine developments in this area. To what
extent do the SDGs reflect the evolving BHR debate? (How) is the BHR discourse shaping the implementation of the SDGs?

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