



Law & Practice of the United Nations

Documents and Commentary

First Edition

Thomas Franck, Simon Chesterman and David Malone

(Oxford University Press, Dec 2007, Not Yet Published)

Law & Practice of the United Nations: Documents and Commentary combines primary materials with expert commentary, demonstrating the interaction between law and practice in the UN organization, as well as the possibilities and limitations of multilateral institutions in general. Each chapter begins with a short introductory essay by the authors that describes how the documents that follow illustrate a set of legal, institutional, and political issues relevant to the practice of diplomacy and the development of public international law through the United Nations.

The authors help students form a realistic idea of the work of international diplomacy, as the negotiation and interpretation of such texts is an important part of what actually takes place at the United Nations and other international organizations. A wide variety of documents are presented, each of which must be read differently: treaties and resolutions based on political compromises, judicial opinions that are based on legal reasoning, policy documents intended to justify specific actions, and advocacy intended to pursue a national or other interest. Students will develop the ability to read these documents critically, parsing not only the meaning but the political and bureaucratic interests behind them.

Law & Practice of the United Nations is ideal for courses on the United Nations or International Organizations, taught in both law and international relations programs.

Table of Contents

Part I. Relevance

1. The UN Charter
2. Hard Cases

Part II. Capacity

3. Legal Status
4. The Secretary-General and the Secretariat
5. Membership
6. Financing

Part III. Practice

7. Conflict Prevention
8. Peace Operations
9. Peacebuilding
10. Sanctions
11. Development
12. Self-Determination
13. Human Rights
14. Humanitarian Assistance

Part IV. Accountability

15. Immunity and Responsibility
16. Accountability in Practice
17. Reform

Appendix

- Charter of the United Nations
- Statute of the International Court of Justice