

Environmental Protection of International Watercourses under International Law



Owen McIntyre, University College, Cork, Ireland

'This is a fascinating study of the principles of international watercourses law and the place of environmental protection within this area of law. It is highly interesting intellectually, extensively researched and presented with skill and care. ... a very useful source of reference ...' – **Surya P. Subedi**, University of Leeds, UK

'Finally! A new book addressing one of the most important issues of current day: the effective management of the world's water resources, with a particular focus on the rules of international law. Providing an examination of the rules of both water and environmental law, as well as the theoretical and practice-based foundations for their evolution, this work will be useful to students of international law who wish to deepen their knowledge of the evolution and current status of water law.' – **Patricia Wouters**, Dundee UNESCO Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science

'Well written and logically laid out, the book takes the reader through the minefield of legal complexity associated with any challenge to state sovereignty. It is an essential read for a wide range of users, whether insight into complex legal arguments, clear and logical explanation of the critical components of international water law, or an investigation into what can be legally and thus morally defended.' – **Anthony Turton**, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Pretoria, South Africa

McIntyre's work explains the legal means by which requirements of environmental protection influence the determination of a reasonable and equitable regime for allocating rights to riparian states to utilize shared freshwater resources. The work examines the means and processes by which environmental considerations can act upon the operation of the principle of equitable utilization. The volume provides a comprehensive analysis of the subject, outlining the development, scope and operation in general and customary international law of key rules of environmental protection.

Contents: International conventions; Decisions of judicial and arbitral tribunals; Introduction; Problems, principles and terminology; The principle of equitable utilization; The rule on prevention of significant harm; Equity and the utilization of shared natural resources; Factors relating to the equitable utilization of international watercourses; Environmental protection of international watercourses I: substantive rules of customary and general international law; Environmental protection of international watercourses II: procedural rules of customary and general international law; Conclusion: environmental protection as a factor in determining the equitable utilization of international watercourses; Bibliography; Index.

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