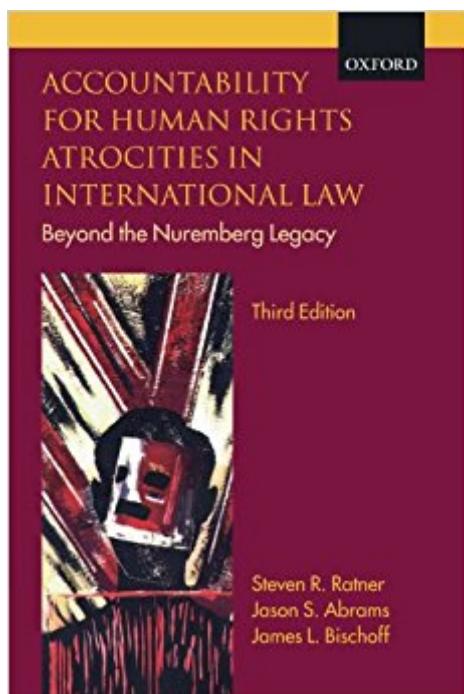


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Accountability For Human Rights Atrocities In International Law: Beyond The Nuremberg Legacy



Synopsis

The fall of dictatorial regimes and the eruption of destructive civil conflicts around the world have led to calls for holding individuals accountable for human rights atrocities. This book offers a comprehensive study of the promise and limitations of international criminal law as a means of enforcing international human rights and humanitarian law. It provides a searching analysis of the principal crimes under the law of nations, such as genocide and crimes against humanity and an appraisal of the most important prosecutorial and other mechanisms developed to bring individuals to justice. After applying their conclusions in a detailed case study, the authors offer a series of compelling conclusions on the prospects for accountability. This fully updated new edition also contains expanded coverage of the increasing numbers of international criminal trials including the cases of Bosnia, Serbia, and East Timor. It also explores individual accountability for terrorist acts and accountability for acts undertaken in the name of counter-terrorism policy, and provides expanded coverage of aggression and crimes against peace.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Acclaim for the Previous Edition: "Ratner and Abrams provide an incisive, knowledgeable, and comprehensive look at the substantive law and legal institutions that inhabit the intersection of international human rights law. The need to hold individuals responsible for abuses of human dignity in war and peace has lately assumed critical importance for the global community. This volume, with its searching appraisal of contemporary doctrinal issues as well as the promises and pitfalls of mechanisms for accountability, is a timely and essential resource for any scholar or practitioner with

an interest in these areas of international law." --Richard J. Goldstone "A timely and highly valuable contribution to the emerging literature on the subject... An outstanding book that is concise and accessible to a broad audience, yet comprehensive and scholarly. This excellent book provides a thoroughly researched and within which these and other complex issues may be examined. It combines scholarly erudition with a practical sense and thus provides a valuable instrument for the pursuit of international justice. It is indispensable reading for students, practitioners, scholars and others interested in accountability for gross human rights abuses." --The American Journal of International Law

Steven R. Ratner, is Professor of Law, University of Michigan Law School Jason S. Abrams, Consultant to the United Nations James L. Bischoff, Attorney-Adviser in the Office of the Legal Adviser of the United States Department of State

This is an excellent, short alternative to bigger and more well-known textbooks on crimes against humanity. It's very scholarly, well-researched, and offers the case study of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. It addresses many theoretical as well as practical issues of international law. It lists (p. 77) crimes against humanity as murder, extermination, enslavement, forced labor, deportation and unjustified or cruel forced population transfers, imprisonment, torture, rape and other forms of sexual abuse, inhumane acts constituting severe attacks on the human person, persecution that denies basic human rights, certain severe deprivations of property, and disappearances without proof of murder. Without being overly legalistic, the book goes into how to investigate and prosecute such crimes which would be very useful for those seeking greater "accountability" in the world today.

International Law calls for accountability but our world leaders are unwilling to hold people accountable to those laws in most cases. A tough read but a good one.

Abrams and Ratner provide an excellent in depth review of the legal and moral difficulties in bringing perpetrators of genocide to justice.

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