

Routledge Handbook of International Environmental Law

The *Routledge Handbook of International Environmental Law* is an advanced level reference guide which provides a comprehensive and contemporary overview of the corpus of international environmental law (IEL). The Handbook features specially commissioned papers by leading experts in the field of international environmental law, drawn from a range of both developed and developing countries in order to put forward a truly global approach to the subject. Furthermore, it addresses emerging and cross-cutting issues of critical importance for the years ahead.

The book is split into six parts for ease of reference:

- **The Legal Framework, Theories and Principles of International Environmental Law** – focuses on the origins, theory, principles and development of the discipline.
- **Implementing International Environmental Law** – addresses the implementation of IEL and the role of various actors and institutions, including corporations, intergovernmental organisations and NGOs.
- **Key Issues and Legal Frameworks** – brings fresh perspectives of the common general issues of international environmental law, such as biological diversity and marine environmental law.
- **Regional Environmental Law** – explores the specific regimes developed to address regional environmental issues, considering the evolution, prospects and relationship of regional law and mechanisms to IEL.
- **Cross-Cutting Issues** – considers the engagement of international environmental law with other key fields and legal regimes, including international trade, human rights and armed conflict.
- **Contemporary and Future Challenges** – analyses pressing current and emerging issues in the field including environmental refugees and climate change, REDD and deforestation, and 'treaty congestion' in IEL.

This up-to-date and authoritative book makes it an essential reference work for students, scholars and practitioners working in the field.

Shawkat Alam is a Senior Lecturer and Director of the Centre for International and Environmental Law at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia, where he teaches and researches in the areas of international and environmental law. His recent publications include *Sustainable Development and Free Trade* (Routledge, 2008).

Md Jahid Hossain Bhuiyan teaches law in the Department of Law, ASA University Bangladesh. He was a visiting scholar of Emory Law School, USA. During his studies in Belgium he gained experience in legal practice. He is co-editor of *Globalization, International Law, and Human Rights* (Oxford University Press, 2012).

Tareq M.R. Chowdhury is Professor and Dean at the Faculty of Law, ASA University Bangladesh. He was a faculty member of Stockholm University, Sweden. He has contributed many research articles. He is the author of *Legal Framework of International Supervision* (Stockholm University, 1986).

Erika J. Techera is a Professor at The University of Western Australia where she teaches and researches in international and comparative environmental law. She is the author of *Marine Environmental Governance: from International Law to Local Practice* (Routledge, 2012) and previously practised as a barrister.

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*Edited by Shawkat Alam, Md Jahid Hossain Bhuiyan,
Tareq M.R. Chowdhury and Erika J. Techera*

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Preface

The global environment is indivisible and the degradation of any part of it affects – in the course of time – the global environment itself. The realities of climate change are a rude reminder of the above fact. Increasingly, concern for protection of the environment has become an important agenda item for the governments of every nation. International environmental law has evolved and expanded to become a significant area of international law and a vital subject to be studied, researched and talked about in the important circles of academics, lawyers, policy-makers, practitioners and administrators.

The *Routledge Handbook of International Environmental Law* provides a comprehensive and contemporary overview of the corpus of international environmental law from a range of perspectives. It recognises that international environmental law is not a self-contained discipline, but is interconnected with other issues and branches of law, through an examination of key areas where international environmental law intersects with other fields. It includes contributions from scholars in different parts of the world and at different stages of their careers. In doing so it attempts to capture the diversity of international environmental law scholarship in a dynamic and developing field.

This book explores the existing international environmental law – governance frameworks, regimes and institutions – and examines their strengths and weaknesses and the techniques, barriers and challenges to successful implementation. In doing so it offers a comprehensive and contemporary overview of international environmental law, as well as addressing emerging and cross-cutting issues of critical importance for the years ahead. The up-to-date and authoritative articles in this book make it an essential reference work for students, scholars and practitioners working in the field.

Contributors

Shawkat Alam is a Senior Lecturer at Macquarie Law School, Macquarie University, Australia where he teaches and researches in areas of international law, international environmental law, international trade and sustainable development. He is the author of the book, *Sustainable Development and Free Trade* (Routledge, 2008). He has published extensively in his areas of expertise. Shawkat holds an LLB (Honours) from Rajshahi University, an LLM from Dhaka University and a PhD from Macquarie University. He is Director of the Centre for International and Environmental Law at Macquarie University and editor of the *Macquarie Journal of International and Comparative Environmental Law*.

Abdullah Al Faruque is a Professor of Law and former Head of the Department of Law at the University of Chittagong, Bangladesh. He holds an LLM from the University of Dhaka and a PhD from Dundee University. He was awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship in 2002 to pursue his PhD programme in Petroleum Law in the UK. He was a post-doctoral fellow at Dundee University during 2009 and 2010 under a Commonwealth Staff Fellowship. He has published two books: *Petroleum Contracts: Stability and Risk Management in Developing Countries* (BILIA, 2011) and *Essentials of Legal Research* (Palal Prokashoni, 2009). He has also published many articles in national and international refereed law journals.

Donald K. Anton is an Associate Professor of Law at the Australian National University. He teaches, researches and advises in core areas of international law and organisation and has an active international law practice. In 2010 he appeared as Counsel on behalf of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature in the Seabed Disputes Chamber of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in *Responsibilities and Obligations of States Sponsoring Persons and Entities with Respect to Activities in the Area*.

Md Jahid Hossain Bhuiyan teaches law in the Department of Law, ASA University Bangladesh. During his studies in Belgium he gained experience in legal practice with lawyers from European countries. Bhuiyan was a visiting scholar of Emory Law School, Emory University, USA. He has articles in journals published in Australia, Bangladesh, India and Malta. He is co-editor of *International Humanitarian Law: An Anthology* (LexisNexis Butterworths, 2009), *Issues in Human Rights* (Atlantic Publishers, 2010), *An Introduction to International Human Rights Law* (Martinus Nijhoff, 2010) and *Globalization, International Law, and Human Rights* (Oxford University Press, 2012).

Ulrike M. Bohlmann earned her doctoral degree at the University of Cologne, Germany, after the completion of her bar exam. She joined the legal department of the European Space Agency

(ESA) in 2002 and has since covered a multitude of legal issues embracing both public international law and private law aspects, and represented ESA at the international level. She has published a book on commercial space activities and intellectual property, a number of book chapters, conference papers and articles in law and policy journals. She contributes to academic research projects and lectures regularly on space law and policy at the university level.

Klaus Bosselmann, PhD, is a Professor and Director of the New Zealand Centre for Environmental Law at the University of Auckland Faculty of Law. He is chair of various international professional bodies including the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law Ethics Specialist Group and the Global Ecological Integrity Group. Professor Bosselmann has been an advisor to UNEP, IUCN, the EU and the New Zealand and German governments on legal issues related to hazardous substances, biodiversity, climate change and sustainable development. He has authored or edited 25 books in the area of international environmental law, domestic environmental law and sustainability approaches to law-making and global governance.

Rebecca M. Bratspies is a Professor of Law at the CUNY School of Law, New York. She directs the CUNY Center for Urban Environmental Reform. Her scholarly research focuses on the international dimensions of environmental regulation and on environmental democracy. Professor Bratspies has published widely on the topics of environmental liability, international fisheries management and genetically modified food crops. She co-edited *Transboundary Harm in International Law: Lessons from the Trail Smelter Arbitration* (Cambridge University Press, 2006) and *Progress in International Law* (Martinus Nijhoff, 2008). Professor Bratspies holds a BA in Biology from Wesleyan University and graduated with honours from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Susan Breau is Professor of International Law at Flinders University in Adelaide, Australia. She has published widely on the law of armed conflict. Her main focus of research is civilian casualties in armed conflict as her PhD research focused on humanitarian intervention. Recently she was co-author with Kerim Yilidiz of a book entitled *The Kurdish Conflict, International Humanitarian Law and Post-Conflict Mechanisms* (Routledge, 2010). She is currently a consultant with the Oxford Research Group on their Recording of Civilian Casualties of Armed Conflict project.

Maxine Burkett is an Associate Professor of Law at the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii and serves as the Director of the Center for Island Climate Adaptation and Policy (ICAP). Professor Burkett attended Williams College and Exeter College, Oxford University, and received her law degree from Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley. Professor Burkett's current research focuses on 'Climate Justice', writing on the disparate impact of climate change on vulnerable communities, in the United States and globally. As the Director of ICAP, she leads projects to address climate change law, policy and planning for island communities in Hawaii, the Pacific region and beyond.

Elizabeth Burleson is a Professor at Pace Law School, has an LLM in International Law from the London School of Economics (LSE), a JD from the University of Connecticut, and is a Fulbright Senior Specialist whose research addresses emerging International Environmental and Human Rights Law. She began participating in the treaty negotiation process at the United Nations in 1991 during proceedings for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and helped draft the United Nations Framework Convention

on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration. She has written reports for the United Nations and delivered presentations at United Nations conferences.

Indira Carr (MA, BPhil, LLM, PhD) is a Professor of Law at the University of Surrey, UK. Her research interests include various aspects of international trade law and information technology law. Of late, she has been working on corruption in international business. This research has been funded by the UK Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the British Academy. Professor Carr is also the founder editor of the journal *Information & Communications Technology* and Joint Founder Editor (with Brian Carr) of the journal *Asian Philosophy*, both published by Taylor & Francis.

Tareq M.R. Chowdhury BA (Hons), MA, LLB (Dhaka) PGDSS, PGDLS, DBC, LLD (Stockholm University, Sweden) is Professor and Dean at the Faculty of Law, ASA University Bangladesh. He was a faculty member of Stockholm University, Sweden. He has participated in several national and international conferences, and made substantial contributions through his papers. He has contributed many research articles. He is the author of *Legal Framework of International Supervision* (Stockholm University, 1986) and co-editor of *Globalization, International Law, and Human Rights* (Oxford University Press, 2012).

Marie-Claire Cordonier Segger (MEM (Yale) BCL and LLB (McGill) BA Hons) is Head of Economic Growth and Trade at the International Development Law Organization (IDLO); Senior Director, Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL); Affiliated Fellow, Lauterpacht Centre for International Law (LCIL), Cambridge University; and International Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Chile. She is a Councillor of the World Future Council, an expert on the International Law Association's Committee on International Law on Sustainable Development, and author/editor of 14 books and over 80 papers on law and policy for sustainable development.

Damien Cremean (MA (Phil), LLB (Hons 1st Class), PhD, Barrister-at-Law) is an Adjunct Professor at the Law School, University of Queensland, Australia, attached to the Maritime and Shipping Law Unit. Dr Cremean is a practising barrister and a specialist admiralty and maritime lawyer. He has published widely in those areas and has taught maritime law subjects.

Erin Daly is a Professor of Law and the H. Albert Young Fellow in Constitutional Law at Widener Law School in Delaware, United States. She is the author, with Jeremy Sarkin, of *Reconciliation in Divided Societies: Finding Common Ground* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2006), and of the forthcoming *Dignity Rights: Courts, Constitutions and the Worth of the Human Person* (University of Pennsylvania, 2012), and, with James R. May, of *Environmental Rights and Constitutional Protections: Implications for Present and Future Generations* (Cambridge University Press, 2013).

Michael Eburn is a Senior Fellow at the ANU College of Law and the Fenner School of Environment and Society, the Australian National University. Dr Eburn has written extensively on Australian and international disaster law. His PhD benchmarked Australia's legal arrangements against Red Cross international disaster response law guidelines and he has contributed, as a member of a panel of experts, to the development of the *Model Act on International Disaster Assistance*. Dr Eburn is a member of the advisory panel for the *Australian Journal of Emergency Management* and is a visiting presenter at the Australian Emergency Management Institute.

Douglas E. Fisher holds the degrees of MA, LLB and PhD of the University of Edinburgh. He has practised law in Scotland and in Queensland in Australia. He has held positions at Edinburgh University and Dundee University in Scotland, at Queensland University and the Australian National University in Australia and at Victoria University in Wellington in New Zealand. He is currently a Professor of law at Queensland University of Technology in Australia. The focus of his academic and professional activities over the last 40 years has been environmental and natural resources law.

Steven Freeland is Professor of International Law at the University of Western Sydney, Visiting Professor in International Law at the University of Copenhagen, and Faculty Member at the London Institute of Space Policy and Law. He has been a Visiting Professional at the International Criminal Court and a member of the Australian delegation to the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. Among other appointments, he is a Director of the International Institute of Space Law, and a member of the Space Law Committee of the International Law Association. He lectures and publishes widely on various aspects of International Law and Space Law.

Paolo Galizzi is Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Sustainable Development Legal Initiative (SDLI) of the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice at Fordham Law School in New York City. He previously taught at Imperial College London, the University of Nottingham and the University of Verona. His research interests lie in international environmental law and law of sustainable development and he has published extensively in these areas. His recent publications include *The Future of African Customary Law* with Tracy Higgins and Jeanmarie Fenrich (Cambridge University Press, 2011) and *The Role of the Environment in Poverty Alleviation* (Fordham University Press, 2008).

Markus W. Gehring is Deputy Director of the Centre for European Legal Studies (CELS) at the University of Cambridge, Faculty of Law and Fellow in Law at Robinson College in the UK. He holds an *ad personam* Jean Monnet Chair in Sustainable Development Law at the University of Ottawa in Canada and serves as Lead Counsel for Sustainable International Trade, Investment and Competition Law with the Centre of International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL), based at McGill University. He holds an LLM from Yale and a Dr Jur from Hamburg. His most recent book is titled *Sustainable Development in World Investment Law* (Kluwer Law International, 2010).

Renée Gift (LLB (University of the West Indies), with Honours, member of the Trinidad and Tobago Bar, LLM (Lewis and Clark Law School) Natural Resources and Environmental Law) is an environmental lawyer practising in Trinidad and Tobago and Legal Researcher at the Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL). Renée has worked on legal matters advocating for the expansion of the rights of private individuals to bring citizen suits against the local environmental regulator, increased public consultation in permitting applications, and increased enforcement of environmental standards by local regulators, and also provides pro bono assistance to local non-profit environmental groups.

Carmen G. Gonzalez is a Professor of Law at Seattle University School of Law, who writes in the areas of international environmental law, environmental justice, trade and the environment, and food security. After graduating from Yale University and Harvard Law School, Professor Gonzalez clerked for Judge Thelton E. Henderson, US District Court for the

Northern District of California, and practised environmental law in the private sector and with the US Environmental Protection Agency. Professor Gonzalez was a Fulbright scholar in Argentina, a Fellow at the US Supreme Court and a Visiting Scholar at the University of Cambridge, UK. From 2011 to 2012, she served as Chair of the Environmental Law Section of the Association of American Law Schools.

Paul Govind is a lecturer at Macquarie University Law School and a member of The Centre for International and Environmental Law at Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia. His research interests include international climate change law with a particular emphasis on adaptation and climate finance.

Anita M. Halvorsen received her law degree from the University of Oslo, Norway and an LLM and doctorate in the science of law (JSD) from Columbia University, New York. She is the Director of Global Legal Solutions, an international think tank and consultancy, focusing on developing countries and sustainable development. She also teaches Sustainable Development and Trade and Global Climate Change Law and Policy at the University of Denver, Sturm College of Law. Dr Halvorsen has also taught international law and international environmental law at the University of Colorado. She is a member of the Committee on Legal Principles Relating to Climate Change of the International Law Association (ILA).

Cameron Holley is a Senior Lecturer at the University of New South Wales Law School in Australia and Research Affiliate at the National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training. Prior to joining UNSW, Cameron worked as a researcher and lecturer at the Centre for Legal Governance and the Centre for International and Environmental Law at Macquarie University and as a postdoctoral research associate at the Regulatory Institutions Network at the Australian National University. Cameron's research interests are in the areas of environmental law, natural resources law and water law, with a focus on regulation and governance.

Kamrul Hossain is a Senior Researcher at the Northern Institute for Environmental and Minority Law in the Arctic Centre of the University of Lapland. He holds a degree of Doctor of Laws in international law from the University of Lapland. His research interests lie in the field of international environmental law as applied in the Arctic with special focus on energy and mineral development, marine pollution, indigenous people's human rights, continental shelf development and law of the sea. He has recently served as the Special Editor of the third volume of the *Yearbook of Polar Law* (Martinus Nijhoff, 2011).

Md Saiful Karim is an Associate Lecturer at the School of Law and Justice, Southern Cross University, Lismore, Australia. Before joining Southern Cross University, he was a Sessional Lecturer at Macquarie University. He has also worked as a consultant for the University of South Pacific, Vanuatu. After completing his LLB (Honours) and LLM at Chittagong University in 2004, Saiful worked for the Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA). In 2008 he completed his LLM by research programme at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore and then practised at a Singapore law firm.

J. Patrick Kelly is the Vice-Dean and Professor of Law at Widener University School of Law, Pennsylvania. Professor Kelly received his JD degree from Harvard Law School and a BA from the University of Delaware. He has served as Counsel to the House Banking Committee of the US House of Representatives and the Federal Trade Commission. Professor Kelly is a

specialist in the areas of international law, international trade and international environmental law. He is admitted to practise in the District of Columbia and the United States Supreme Court as well as being an associate member of the Delaware Bar Association. His articles have appeared in many international journals including those of Yale, Virginia, Duke, Cornell, Northwestern and Michigan law schools.

Avidan Kent (LLM (McGill University)) is a PhD candidate at Cambridge University (POLIS), a Visiting Fellow at Bristol University School of Law, and a Legal Research Fellow with the Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL). Avidan's research interests include the field of international trade and investment law and its intersection with other legal disciplines such as competition law and climate change law. Avidan has supervised in European Union environmental law at undergraduate level at Cambridge University. He is a member of the Israeli Bar.

Michael Kidd has a BCom LLB LLM PhD (all from the University of Natal) and is Professor of Law at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. He teaches environmental law and administrative law and is the author of *Environmental Law*, a leading South African textbook. He is the principal editor of the *South African Journal of Environmental Law and Policy* and is on the governing board of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law. His principal research interests within environmental law are water, environmental impact assessment, enforcement and climate change.

Svitlana Kravchenko was Professor and Director of the LLM Programme in Environmental and Natural Resources Law, the University of Oregon Law School, USA. She was the author of 12 books, numerous book chapters and scholarly articles. Kravchenko was an advisor to the Ministry of Environment and the Parliament of Ukraine. She was the founder and served as president of Environment-People-Law, the first public interest environmental law firm in Ukraine. She was co-founder and co-director of the Association of Environmental Law of Central and Eastern Europe. She also served as Vice Chair of the IUCN Commission of Environmental Law.

Koh Kheng-Lian is an Emeritus Professor, founder member and Director of the Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (established in 1996 by the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, in partnership with the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (IUCN-CEL) in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)). She has published extensively on environment and other areas of law. She was the IUCN-CEL Regional Vice-Chair for South and East Asia, and a member of its Steering Committee from 1996 to 2004. She was formerly legal officer in the Secretariat of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law in Vienna.

Zada Lipman is an Emeritus Professor in the School of Law, Macquarie University, Sydney. Over the past 26 years, she has been involved in teaching and researching in the area of environmental law. Zada is the Australian editor of the *Environmental Liability Journal*, and the New South Wales and Pollution Special Editor of the *Environmental and Planning Law Journal*. Zada is a member of the IUCN – the World Conservation Union Commission on Environmental Law. She is a member of the Commission's Special Working Groups on Enforcement and Compliance and the Special Working Group on Oceans, Coasts and Coral Reefs.

Rowena Maguire is a Lecturer in the Faculty of Law at Queensland University of Technology, Australia. Dr Maguire completed her doctoral thesis in 2010 on the topic of 'The International Regulation of Sustainable Forest Management'. This work is currently in preparation for publication as a manuscript with Edward Elgar Publishers for release in mid-2012. In 2011, Rowena was awarded a Queensland-China Climate Change Fellowship to further explore issues of land tenure and forest carbon markets. Rowena has published articles on forest carbon markets in the *Carbon and Climate Law Review* and the *Environmental and Planning Law Journal*.

James R. May is a Professor of Law, co-director of the Environmental Law Center, Professor of Graduate Engineering (Adjunct), and founder and co-director of the Masters of Marine Policy (MMP) program at Widener University, Pennsylvania. He serves as a Fellow of the American College of Environmental Lawyers, and is a former H. Albert Young Constitutional Law Fellow. He is widely published. His most recent book is *Principles of Constitutional Environmental Law* (American Bar Assn, Env'tl L Inst, 2011). May has served as a pro bono litigator on public interest environmental cases throughout the country, working on cases at every level from state boards to the United States Supreme Court.

Elisa Morgera is a Lecturer in European Environmental Law and Director of the LLM Programme in Global Environment and Climate Change Law at the University of Edinburgh School of Law, UK. Dr Morgera specialises in international, EU and comparative environmental law, with a focus on biodiversity and corporate accountability. She authored *Corporate Accountability in International Environmental Law* (Oxford University Press, 2009), and co-authored *Environmental Integration in the EU's External Relations: Beyond Multilateral Dimensions* (Hart, 2012) and *A Commentary to the 2010 Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing* (Martinus Nijhoff, forthcoming).

Chidi Oguamanam (LLM, PhD) is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa, Canada. He writes, teaches and consults in the areas of law and technology (including biotechnologies), biodiversity, agricultural knowledge systems, indigenous knowledge, intellectual property, human rights, globalisation and global knowledge governance. He is a Senior Research Fellow in the Centre for International Sustainable Development Law at McGill University, Montreal and a member of Nova Scotia Barristers' Society and the Nigerian Bar Association. He is the author of *International Law and Indigenous Knowledge* (University of Toronto Press, 2006) and *Intellectual Property in Global Governance* (Routledge, 2011).

Robert V. Percival is the Robert F. Stanton Professor of Law and the Director of the Environmental Law Program at the University of Maryland, Francis King Carey School of Law. He has been a visiting professor at Harvard Law School and Georgetown University Law Center and a Fulbright Scholar at the China University of Political Science and Law in Beijing and Comenius University Law School in Bratislava. The principal author of the leading environmental law casebook in the US, Percival has lectured in 25 countries on six continents. He maintains a website and blog on global environmental law at www.globalenvironmentallaw.com.

Tony George Puthucherril is a JSD candidate at the Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University, Canada, researching climate change, sea level rise and integrated coastal zone

management. In 2010, Puthucherril was awarded the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship and the Dalhousie University Presidents' award for his academic achievements. His Master's thesis on ship recycling has been published as *From Ship Breaking to Sustainable Ship Recycling: Evolution of a Legal Regime* (Martinus Nijhoff, 2010). Puthucherril's research interests include the rights of marginalised populations, and environmental, coastal and climate change law.

Jona Razzaque is an Associate Professor in Environmental Law at the University of the West of England (UWE) in Bristol, UK. Jona is a barrister and holds a PhD in law from the University of London. Prior to joining UWE, she worked as a staff lawyer with the Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development (FIELD). She has researched widely on access to justice and participatory rights in environmental matters and her publications include *Public Interest Environmental Litigation in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh* (Kluwer, 2004) and *Globalisation and Natural Resources Law* (Edward Elgar, 2011).

Alistair Rieu-Clarke (LLB (Hons), LLM (Distinction), PhD) is a Senior Lecturer at the IHP-HELP Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science (under the auspices of UNESCO), University of Dundee, Scotland, UK. Dr Rieu-Clarke's research interests centre on examining the effectiveness of transboundary watercourse treaty regimes, where he has a particular interest in the interface between international law and science (including hydrology, ecology and the political economy). He has taught, published and led numerous international research projects.

Tim Stephens is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Law, University of Sydney, Australia. He has published widely on public international law, national and international environmental law and the law of the sea. His most recent book is *The International Law of the Sea* (Hart, 2010), co-authored with Professor Donald R. Rothwell. Dr Stephens is Co-Director of the Sydney Centre for International Law and Co-Editor in Chief of the *Asia Pacific Journal of Environmental Law*. Tim holds a PhD in law from the University of Sydney, and an MPhil in geography from the University of Cambridge. In 2010 Tim was awarded the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law Junior Scholarship Prize for his contribution to environmental law.

Vernon I. Tava holds an LLM (First Class Honours) from the University of Auckland in New Zealand. He was the 2010 winner of the university's Fowld's Memorial Prize for Most Distinguished Postgraduate Student in Law. He works as a Research Fellow at the New Zealand Centre for Environmental Law, Faculty of Law, University of Auckland.

Erika J. Techera (LLB (Hons), M Env Law, LLM, PhD) is a Professor in the Faculty of Law, University of Western Australia. Dr Techera teaches and researches in environmental law including international and comparative marine environmental governance and cultural heritage law. She is the author of *Marine Environmental Governance: From International Law to Local Practice* (Routledge, 2011). She has been a Visiting Scholar at the University of Hawaii, was formerly Director of the Centre for International and Environmental Law at Macquarie University and has practised as a barrister. She is a member of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law and World Commission on Protected Areas.

Anastasia Telesetsky is an Associate Professor of Law at the University of Idaho, College of Law where she teaches and writes in the area of international environmental law. Her

scholarship focuses on the general international legal principle of restoration and the protection of living marine resources.

Justin Wolst holds LLM degrees in international environmental law and EU law. International environmental law has been the cornerstone of his education and professional career. After his initial studies he interned at UNEP and at an environmental non-governmental organisation. Following his graduation he was accepted in the Netherlands' government traineeship and subsequently worked for the international affairs department of the Netherlands' Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment in international climate change and environmental affairs. Currently he works as an analyst in a private sector consultancy firm as a specialist in European affairs and international energy and environmental law.

Alexander Zahar is a Senior Lecturer in law at Macquarie Law School, Sydney, Australia. Dr Zahar is the editor of the journal *Climate Law* and an expert reviewer (energy sector) of national communications and state greenhouse gas inventories under the auspices of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. His book *Australian Climate Law in a Global Context* (co-authored with Jacqueline Peel and Lee Godden) is to be published by Cambridge University Press in September 2012.