

BOOKS AND REVIEWS

REPERTORIO DA PRÁTICA BRASILEIRA DE DIREITO INTERNACIONAL PÚBLICO

The author of this work* is one of Latin America's leading experts on public international law. Dr. Cançado Trindade is a professor at the University of Brasília and at the Instituto Rio-Branco, Brazil's prestigious school for diplomats. Since 1985, he has also been a legal adviser to the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The book gives a well-organized description of how Brazil has conducted its international relations from the founding of the Republic up to the present.

The five volumes contain significant statements and opinions expressed by Brazil's representatives, in both bilateral and multilateral contexts, on the development and interpretation of international law, particularly the formation of customary law.

Mr. Cançado Trindade's work is worthy of recognition both because of the masterful way in which he has selected his texts, reflecting the growth of Brazilian policy over a very long period, and because of the way in which he has demonstrated not only the legal constants in that policy but also the dynamics of its development.

It is the first book of its kind in Latin America and may be compared with the leading European and North American digests, on whose experience it draws while using its own original methods. The author's introduction to the concluding volume, entitled "Inventory of national legislation incorporating international law and an examination of State practice" (pp. 13-49), is in itself a thorough analysis of the impact State practice has on the development of international law.

International humanitarian law receives much more attention in this work than in other similar studies. Dr. Cançado Trindade shows us the position taken up by one major country with its own legal traditions *vis-à-vis* the development and interpretation of humanitarian rules.

In the first volume, which covers the years from 1889 to 1898, a whole chapter is devoted to humanitarian law (pp. 127-234). In the second volume,

* Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade, *Repertório de prática brasileira de direito internacional público* (5 volumes + general index), Fundação Alexandre de Gusmão, Brasília, 1984-1988

covering the period 1899 to 1918, there is another chapter (Chapter XVIII, pp. 487-489) on the subject. In the volume covering the years 1919 to 1941, humanitarian law is dealt with in Chapter XIX on armed conflicts and neutrality. It also takes up part of Chapter XIX in the following volume which covers the years 1941 to 1960.

Finally, humanitarian law is dealt with in Chapter XX of the last volume (1961-1981), with a detailed account of Brazil's participation in the Diplomatic Conference which resulted in the adoption of the Additional Protocols.

The excellent analytical index makes this study a handy and accessible reference work, since English and French equivalents are given for the terms in Portuguese.

Bearing in mind the impact of State practice on the implementation of international humanitarian law, the prominence given to that body of law in Dr. Cañado Trindade's masterly work add to its interest and makes it worthwhile reading for all students of the subject.

Christophe Swinarski

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ANALYTICAL INDEX
of the
International Review of the Red Cross
1975-1987
(in French)*

This index will be in four parts:

- **An index in chronological order with a description of each article;**
- **An author index;**
- **A subject index;**
- **A list describing articles and books which have been reviewed.**

* English version will appear later.