

CONTENTS

<i>Table of Cases</i>	xix
<i>Table of Statutes</i>	xxvi
<i>Acronyms</i>	xliii
<i>Preface</i>	xlvi

PART 1: INTRODUCING HUMAN RIGHTS 1

1	THE INTERNATIONAL BILL OF HUMAN RIGHTS	2
1.1	Introduction	3
1.2	Background to the Universal Declaration	4
1.2.1	From the First to the Second World War	4
1.2.2	The Charter of the United Nations	5
1.2.3	The International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg	13
1.3	The <i>Universal Declaration of Human Rights</i>	13
1.3.1	Drafting by the UN Commission on Human Rights	13
1.3.2	The Final Draft of the UDHR	18
1.4	The International Covenants	24
1.4.1	The Debate over Categorising Rights	24
1.4.2	Drafting the International Covenants	25
1.4.3	Justiciability	29
1.5	Changing Approaches to International Human Rights	32
1.5.1	Post-Colonialism and the Influence of Newly Independent States	32
1.5.2	Emergence of Human Rights as a Mainstream Legal, Social and Political Issue	35
2	EARLIER CONCEPTIONS OF 'HUMAN RIGHTS'	36
2.1	Introduction	36
2.2	Individual Rights	37
2.2.1	Natural Law (Not Natural Rights)	38
2.2.2	Natural Rights	41
2.2.3	Similar Traditions	44
2.2.4	Natural Rights in Politics	45
2.2.5	The Decline of Natural Rights	51

2.2.6	The Significance of Natural Rights to the UDHR	53
2.2.7	Common Law Rights	54
2.3	Social Rights	55
2.3.1	Private Property and Marxism	56
2.3.2	The Russian Revolution	56
2.3.3	Western Socialism	58
2.4	Dignity and Universality	59
2.4.1	Dignity	60
2.4.2	Universality	69
2.5	Future Challenges for the Idea of Human Rights	75

PART 2: THE SUBSTANTIVE RIGHTS 79

3	CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS	80
3.1	Introduction	81
3.2	The Substantive Rights	81
3.2.1	The Right to Self-Determination: Article 1	81
3.2.2	The Right to Life: Article 6	83
3.2.3	Freedom from Torture and Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment: Article 7	84
3.2.4	Freedom from Slavery and Compulsory Labour: Article 8	86
3.2.5	Freedom from Arbitrary Arrest and Detention: Article 9	87
3.2.6	Right to Humane Treatment in Detention: Article 10	89
3.2.7	Freedom from Imprisonment for Debt: Article 11	90
3.2.8	Freedom of Movement: Article 12	90
3.2.9	Procedural Rights of Aliens: Article 13	92
3.2.10	Right to a Fair Trial and Related Rights in the Judicial System: Article 14	93
3.2.11	Prohibition on Retrospective Criminal Laws: Article 15	95
3.2.12	Right to Personal Standing Before the Law: Article 16	96
3.2.13	Right to Privacy: Article 17	96
3.2.14	Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion: Article 18	98
3.2.15	Freedom of Opinion and Expression: Article 19	101
3.2.16	Prohibition on Propaganda for War and Advocacy of National, Racial or Religious Hatred: Article 20	102
3.2.17	Freedom of Assembly: Article 21	103
3.2.18	Freedom of Association: Article 22	105
3.2.19	Freedom to Marry and Found a Family and Protection of the Family: Article 23	106
3.2.20	Protection of Children: Article 24	108
3.2.21	Right to Political Participation: Article 25	109
3.2.22	Freedom from Discrimination: Article 26	111
3.2.23	Minority Rights: Article 27	111

3.3	Nature of Obligations Under the ICCPR	112
3.3.1	Immediate Nature of Obligations	112
3.3.2	Duties to Respect, Protect and Ensure Human Rights	113
3.3.3	Limitations and Derogations	116
3.4	Optional Protocols	121
3.5	Case Study: The Right to Life	121
3.5.1	Text of Article 6 of the ICCPR	122
3.5.2	Scope of Prohibition: Arbitrary Deprivation of Life	122
3.5.3	State Killing	123
3.5.4	Capital Punishment	124
3.5.5	Abortion and Euthanasia	127
3.5.6	Socio-Economic and Environmental Issues	130
3.5.7	Concluding Remarks on the Right to Life	132
3.6	Conclusion and Issues	132
4	ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS	134
4.1	Introduction	135
4.1.1	From Theory to Practice	135
4.1.2	The US and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	136
4.2	The Substantive Rights	138
4.2.1	Overview of ICESCR	138
4.2.2	The Rights to Equality and Non-Discrimination: Articles 2 and 3	139
4.2.3	The Right to Work: Articles 6, 7 and 8	140
4.2.4	The Right to Social Security: Article 9	140
4.2.5	The Right to Protection and Assistance for the Family and the Prohibition of Child Labour: Article 10	141
4.2.6	The Right to an Adequate Standard of Living: Article 11	142
4.2.7	The Right to Health: Article 12	146
4.2.8	The Right to Education: Articles 13 and 14	148
4.2.9	The Right to Take Part in Cultural Life: Article 15	149
4.3	Nature of Obligations	150
4.3.1	Tripartite Typology of Obligations	150
4.3.2	Obligation 'To Take Steps ... By All Appropriate Means'	151
4.3.3	Progressive Realisation	154
4.3.4	Maximum of Available Resources	155
4.3.5	Minimum Core Obligations	157
4.3.6	Limitations to and Derogations from the ICESCR	163
4.4	Optional Protocol	166
4.4.1	Jurisdictional Limits Imposed on Complainants	167
4.5	Transforming Rights Into Reality: Domestic Adjudication of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	168
4.5.1	South Africa	168
4.5.2	India	173

4.6	Case Study: The Right to Water	179
4.6.1	Is There a Human Right to Water?	179
4.6.2	Determining the Scope and Content of the Right to Water	182
4.6.3	Privatising Water Services	184
4.7	Conclusion and Issues	186

PART 3: THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMEWORK 189

5 THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM 190

5.1	Introduction	190
5.1.1	UN Structure	191
5.1.2	UN Membership	191
5.2	General Assembly	192
5.2.1	Overview	192
5.2.2	Human Rights	193
5.3	Security Council	195
5.3.1	Overview	195
5.3.2	Action v Inaction: The Perennial Dilemma	197
5.4	Secretariat	201
5.5	The International Court of Justice	202
5.6	Economic and Social Council	205
5.7	Human Rights Council	206
5.8	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	206
5.9	Commission on the Status of Women	209
5.10	Treaty Bodies	209
5.11	Conclusion and Issues	209

6 THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL 210

6.1	The UN Commission on Human Rights	210
6.1.1	Inquiries into Gross and Systematic Human Rights Abuses	211
6.1.2	Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights	212
6.1.3	Special Procedures	214
6.1.4	Inaction in the Face of Atrocities	214
6.1.5	Politicisation of the Commission and Calls for Reform	215
6.2	The Human Rights Council	217
6.2.1	Structure of the Human Rights Council: Depoliticisation?	218
6.2.2	Election to the Human Rights Council	218
6.2.3	Universality and Non-Selectivity	221
6.3	Sessions of the Human Rights Council	221
6.3.1	The First Session: June 2006	221
6.3.2	Conduct of a Council Session	224
6.3.3	Special Sessions	225

6.4	Advisory Committee	227
6.5	Special Procedures	228
6.6	Complaint Procedure	230
6.7	Universal Periodic Review	231
6.7.1	Basis of the UPR	232
6.7.2	UPR Process	232
6.7.3	Outcomes of the UPR	236
6.7.4	Value of the UPR	242
6.8	NGO Participation	242
6.9	Conclusion and Issues	243
7	THE HUMAN RIGHTS TREATY SYSTEM	244
7.1	Introduction	245
7.2	International Treaty Practice	245
7.2.1	Declarations	245
7.2.2	Covenants, Conventions and 'Treaties'	246
7.2.3	Ratification, Accession, Acceptance and Succession	247
7.2.4	Reservations, Declarations and Understandings	248
7.2.5	Denunciation and Derogation	251
7.2.6	State Obligations to Give Effect to a Human Rights Treaty	251
7.2.7	Giving Effect to a Treaty in a Dualist System	253
7.3	The 'Core' Human Rights Treaties	254
7.3.1	Optional Protocols	254
7.3.2	States Parties to the Core Human Rights Treaties	255
7.3.3	Overlap Among Treaties	256
7.3.4	International Bill of Rights	258
7.3.5	ICESCR: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	258
7.3.6	ICCPR: Civil and Political Rights	259
7.3.7	ICERD: Racial Discrimination	260
7.3.8	CEDAW: Discrimination Against Women	261
7.3.9	CAT: Protection Against Torture	262
7.3.10	CROC: Children's Rights	265
7.3.11	ICRMW: Rights of Migrant Workers	266
7.3.12	CRPD: Rights of People with Disabilities	267
7.3.13	ICPED: Protection from Enforced Disappearance	268
7.4	The Treaty Bodies	268
7.4.1	Treaty Bodies' Purpose	269
7.4.2	Membership	271
7.4.3	Procedures	274
7.4.4	State Reports	275
7.4.5	General Comments and Recommendations	281
7.4.6	State-to-State Communications	281
7.4.7	Individual Communications	282
7.4.8	Treaty Body Reform	284
7.5	Conclusion and Issues	290

8	REGIONAL MECHANISMS	291
8.1	Overview of Regional Systems	292
8.2	Europe	293
8.2.1	The Council of Europe	293
8.2.2	The <i>Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms</i>	293
8.2.3	The European Court of Human Rights	294
8.2.4	The <i>European Social Charter</i>	298
8.3	The Americas	299
8.3.1	The Organization of American States	299
8.3.2	The American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man	299
8.3.3	The American Convention on Human Rights	300
8.3.4	The Inter-American Commission of Human Rights	301
8.3.5	The Inter-American Court of Human Rights	302
8.3.6	The Legacy of Military Dictatorships	303
8.4	Africa	303
8.4.1	The African Union	304
8.4.2	The <i>African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights</i>	304
8.4.3	The <i>Children's Charter</i> and the <i>Women's Protocol</i>	305
8.4.4	The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights	306
8.4.5	The African Commission Complaints Procedures	306
8.4.6	Periodic State Reporting to the African Commission	308
8.4.7	The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights	308
8.5	The Arab Region	309
8.5.1	The <i>Arab Charter on Human Rights</i>	309
8.5.2	The Arab Human Rights Committee	311
8.6	The Asia-Pacific Region	311
8.6.1	The Asian Reluctance About Rights?	312
8.6.2	ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)	314
8.7	Conclusion and issues	315
9	THE ROLE OF NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS (NGOS)	316
9.1	Introduction	316
9.2	The Idea of an NGO	317
9.2.1	Defining an NGO	317
9.2.2	IGOs, NHRIs and CSOs	322
9.2.3	A Brief History of NGOs	323
9.2.4	NGOs' Functions and Activities	324
9.3	NGOs at the UN	327
9.3.1	Article 71 of the <i>UN Charter</i>	327
9.3.2	NGO Consultative Status Under ECOSOC	328

9.3.3	UN Observer Status	332
9.3.4	NGO Relations with the UN	332
9.4	NGOs and Nation States	333
9.4.1	Criticisms	334
9.4.2	Silencing NGOs	336
9.4.3	NGO–State Relations in Australia	338
9.5	Conclusion and Issues	339

PART 4: AUSTRALIA 341

10 IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW IN AUSTRALIA 342

10.1	Introduction	343
10.2	Treaty Ratification in Australia	343
10.2.1	Constitutional Power	344
10.2.2	Parliamentary Process	345
10.2.3	Human Right Treaties Binding on Australia	346
10.2.4	Australia's Declarations and Reservations	347
10.3	Australia's Human Rights Laws	348
10.3.1	Constitutional 'Rights'	348
10.3.2	A 'Legitimate Expectation' of Human Rights Conformity	350
10.3.3	Federal Legislation	351
10.3.4	State and Territory Human Rights Laws	361
10.3.5	Anti-Discrimination Laws	366
10.4	Australian Human Rights Mechanisms	368
10.4.1	National Action Plan	368
10.4.2	Australian Human Rights Commission	369
10.4.3	Other Federal Human Rights Agencies	374
10.4.4	State and Territory Human Rights Agencies	375
10.4.5	Legislation Scrutiny Committees	375
10.4.6	Statutory Interpretation by the Courts	376
10.4.7	Common law Development by the Courts	378
10.5	Australia's Performance Under Its Human Rights Treaty Obligations	379
10.5.1	Universal Periodic Review	380
10.5.2	Human Rights Treaty Reporting	381
10.5.3	Visits under Thematic Mandates	386
10.5.4	Treaty Body Communications	387
10.5.5	Australia's Challenge to the International Human Rights System	392
10.6	Conclusion and Issues	394

PART 5: HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES 395

11 ACCOUNTABILITY FOR GROSS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES 396

11.1	International Humanitarian Law	396
11.1.1	Development of International Humanitarian Law	396
11.1.2	Application of International Human Rights Law in Times of Armed Conflict	402
11.2	Criminal Law as a Human Rights Enforcement Tool	404
11.2.1	The Nature of International Criminal Law	404
11.2.2	The Main Categories of International Crimes	406
11.2.3	International Criminal Law as Catharsis	409
11.3	Nuremberg and Tokyo Tribunals	412
11.3.1	Nuremberg	412
11.3.2	Tokyo	414
11.4	Ad Hoc Criminal Tribunals	414
11.4.1	The Former Yugoslavia	415
11.4.2	Rwanda	417
11.4.3	Hybrid Courts and Tribunals	419
11.5	International Criminal Court	419
11.6	Conclusion and Issues	422

PART 6: VULNERABLE PEOPLE 425

12 CHILDREN 426

12.1	Introduction	426
12.2	International Legal Framework: From the Declaration to the Convention	427
12.2.1	<i>Declaration of Geneva</i>	427
12.2.2	<i>Declaration of the Rights of the Child</i>	427
12.2.3	<i>Convention on the Rights of the Child</i>	429
12.2.4	Optional Protocols	434
12.2.5	State Responses to the CROC: Focus on the United States	435
12.2.6	Other Instruments and Developments	437
12.3	Committee on the Rights of the Child	440
12.3.1	Mandate and Reporting Procedures	440
12.3.2	New Draft Communications Procedure	441
12.4	Case Study: Children and Armed Conflict	442
12.4.1	Overview	442
12.4.2	Legal Framework	445
12.4.3	Accountability	447
12.5	Conclusion and Issues	450

13	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES	451
13.1	Introduction	451
13.1.1	The Place of Indigenous Peoples	451
13.1.2	Race Theory	453
13.2	The International Framework	454
13.2.1	Recent History	454
13.2.2	Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	455
13.2.3	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	457
13.2.4	Special Rapporteur	459
13.2.5	Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	460
13.2.6	United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues	460
13.2.7	United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations	461
13.2.8	International Decades of the World's Indigenous People	461
13.2.9	Regional Mechanisms	462
13.3	Current Issues	465
13.3.1	Self-Determination	466
13.3.2	Right to Culture	466
13.3.3	Customary Law	470
13.4	Conclusion and Issues	471
14	PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES	473
14.1	Introduction	473
14.1.1	The Idea of Disability	474
14.2	The International Framework	477
14.2.1	Towards a Treaty	477
14.2.2	<i>The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</i>	482
14.3	The United Nations and Disability	487
14.3.1	Regional Activity	488
14.4	Domestic Laws	490
14.5	Case Study: The Right to Life	491
14.5.1	The Case of Jason Dawes	492
14.5.2	The Case of Matthew Sutton	493
14.6	Conclusion And Issues	494
15	REFUGEES	495
15.1	Introduction	496
15.2	The Idea of a 'Refugee'	496
15.2.1	Refugees are not 'Illegal'	497
15.3	International Arrangements for Refugees	498
15.3.1	<i>The Refugee Convention</i> and Protocol	498
15.3.2	The United Nations High Commission for Refugees	500
15.3.3	Arrangements for Refugees in Regional Instruments	500

15.4	The Idea of 'Asylum'	502
15.4.1	The Reluctance of States	503
15.4.2	'Safe Third Country'	504
15.4.3	No 'Right of Entry'	504
15.4.4	<i>Non-Refoulement</i>	504
15.5	Applying for Asylum	506
15.5.1	Proving a Claim	506
15.5.2	A 'Well-Founded Fear'	507
15.5.3	A Fear of 'Persecution'	508
15.5.4	The Grounds of Persecution	508
15.5.5	Grounds Arising After Fleeing—a Refugee ' <i>Sur Place</i> '	512
15.5.6	'Extra territorial Processing'	512
15.5.7	Losing Refugee Status	514
15.6	The Lawfulness of Detention	515
15.7	The Human Rights of Refugees	516
15.7.1	Arbitrary Detention and Torture	517
15.7.2	Conditions of Detention	519
15.8	Protecting People Who are not 'Refugees'	520
15.8.1	'Economic' Refugees	520
15.8.2	'Environmental' or 'Climate' Refugees	521
15.8.3	Internally Displaced Persons	522
15.8.4	The UNHCR Mandate	522
15.8.5	Complementary Protection	523
15.8.6	<i>Non-Refoulement</i>	524
15.9	Conclusion and Issues	525

16 WOMEN 527

16.1	Introduction	527
16.2	A Feminist Framework	529
16.2.1	Four Stages of Feminism	530
16.3	UN Bodies	532
16.3.1	Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)	532
16.3.2	'UN Women'	533
16.4	Women's Rights Under Human Rights Treaties	534
16.4.1	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	535
16.5	CEDAW	536
16.5.1	The CEDAW Committee	537
16.5.2	The Provisions of CEDAW	537
16.5.3	Reservations to CEDAW	540
16.5.4	Women's Human Rights?	541
16.5.5	Into the Private Sphere	543
16.5.6	CEDAW's Effect on States' Behaviour	544
16.5.7	Individual Communications Under CEDAW	546
16.6	The International Women's Conferences	548
16.7	Conclusion and Issues	551

17	WORKERS	552
17.1	Introduction	552
17.2	The International Labour Organisation	556
17.2.1	Formation and goals	556
17.2.2	ILO's Structure	557
17.2.3	ILO Standards	558
17.2.4	Monitoring Compliance with ILO Standards	569
17.3	Effectiveness of the ILO	572
17.4	Conclusion and Issues	576
	PART 7: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW	579
18	TERRORISM, COUNTER-TERRORISM AND THE IMPACT ON HUMAN RIGHTS	580
18.1	Introduction	580
18.2	Defining Terrorism	581
18.2.1	Drafting an International Law Definition	582
18.2.2	International Conventions and Protocols on Terrorism	583
18.2.3	Draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism	584
18.2.4	UN Security Council Resolution 1373	585
18.2.5	UN Security Council Resolution 1566	586
18.3	Case Study: Drafting a Definition of Terrorism in Australian Law	588
18.3.1	A 'Terrorist Act'	589
18.3.2	Case Law in Australia	590
18.4	Human Rights and (Counter) Terrorism	591
18.4.1	Setting the Context: Rights and Security	591
18.4.2	The Flexibility of International Human Rights Law	593
18.4.3	Impact on Rights	595
18.5	Conclusion and Issues	605
19	TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS	606
19.1	Introduction	606
19.2	The Role of Corporations in Society	607
19.3	Contemporary Developments: Appointment of the UN Special Representative for Business and Human Rights	609
19.4	Sources of Corporate Responsibilities and Standards for Human Rights	611
19.4.1	<i>Universal Declaration of Human Rights</i> and Corporations	612
19.4.2	Human Rights Treaties and Corporations	612
19.4.3	The Development of Soft Law	614

19.5	Human Rights Enforcement Through Litigation in Tort	625
19.5.1	The US approach: The <i>Alien Tort Claims Act</i>	626
19.5.2	Other Tort-Based Approaches For Enforcing Human Rights	629
19.6	Human Rights Enforcement Through International Criminal Proceedings	632
19.7	Conclusion and Issues	633
20	THE EXPANDING SCOPE OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW	634
20.1	Introduction	634
20.2	Expanding Jurisdiction: Extra-territorial Obligations	635
20.2.1	Responsibility for State Actions Outside Territory	635
20.2.2	Responsibility to Provide Aid and Assistance	637
20.2.3	Conclusions on Extra-territoriality	638
20.3	Expanding Mandate: The Responsibility to Protect	638
20.3.1	Humanitarian Intervention	638
20.3.2	Emergence of the Responsibility to Protect	639
20.3.3	Conclusions on the Responsibility to Protect	640
20.4	Expanding Coverage: Application to Non-State Actors	642
20.4.1	The Traditional Approach	642
20.4.2	Corporations	643
20.4.3	International Institutions	643
20.4.4	Armed Groups and Individuals	646
20.4.5	Conclusions on Non-State Actors	647
	<i>Appendix 1</i>	648
	<i>Index</i>	651