AIMS & SCOPE

Editor’s Note

The *Global Community Yearbook of International Law and Jurisprudence* (*Yearbook* or GCYILJ) is a peer-reviewed journal, covered in Scopus, and first published in 2001 (with twenty-two editions, that is, annual publications so far). Over the years it has become an authoritative reference on the most significant transformations in the world constitutive process. While providing researchers and practitioners with access to a uniquely rich resource for the study of international jurisprudence, the *Yearbook* promotes discussion on current issues that impact substantive and procedural aspects of global law. In this way, the *Yearbook* makes it possible to monitor—from year to year and from several perspectives—the development of the international order towards a legal system for a global community.

The *Yearbook* provides scientific and practice-oriented articles on recent developments in global law, as well as new insights on the contribution of judicial pronouncements to the constitutional global order.

The theoretical sections of the *Yearbook* contain analyses by prominent scholars and judges from all over the world focusing on the global challenges for law, policy, and justice. The approach to global ethics is developed in a dynamic manner, thereby reflecting the increasing concern for and indeed need to address ethical problems and issues in a global context.

Furthermore, the *Yearbook* constitutes the only thorough annual survey of major developments in international jurisprudence. The decisions of international courts and tribunals are covered extensively, to reflect their recognized importance for the development of international/global law. A comprehensive survey by eminent international law scholars who explore, document, and evaluate this process provides an innovative and, so our hope is, intriguing approach to the interactions between courts/tribunals/other judicial bodies, with the objective of reducing conflicts and paving the path towards harmonization of legal principles governing the global community. The section “Global Justice”, which is divided into sub-sections and which is primarily devoted to the highest judicial bodies, reports annually on significant international case law. It further discusses about the contribution of judicial pronouncements to the constitutional global order.

The 2023 edition of the *Global Community Yearbook of International Law and Jurisprudence* marks a decisive stage in the development path of the *Yearbook*. This introduces significant changes by virtue of improving its model and refining its scope set out in the constitutive document.[[1]](#footnote-1) One of the previous hallmarks – “legal Maxims” – has been replaced, as a logical consequence of the ever-burgeoning international case-law. It nevertheless becomes evident that the core of the spirit in which the *Yearbook* was founded will be maintained. In fact, the “global communitarian paradigm” and GCYILJ’s “global constitutionalism approach,” as were advanced in the GCYILJ editorials since its first 2001 edition, has been enhanced, inter alia, in a notable expansion of the number of courts covered, the “Surveys “ that replace the “Introductory Note” related to their activity; and the idea of emphasizing putting “Global Law” in the context of “Politics” and “Justice, thereby placing an increased attention on the role of ethics in global politics.

Starting from this edition (2023) the number of international courts, tribunals and quasi-judicial bodies covered has doubled and, consequently, has come to include:

International Court of Justice (ICJ); International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID); International Criminal Court (ICC); International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS); Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA); IOs’ Administrative Tribunals (IATs); World Trade Organization Dispute Settlement Body and Appellate Body (WTO Dispute Settlement System); African Court on Human and Peoples*'*Rights (ACtHPR)*;* Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ); Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU); ECOWAS Community Court of Justice (ECCJ)*;* European Free Trade Agreement Court (EFTA COURT); EuroAsian Economic Union Court (EAEU COURT); European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR); Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACtHR); OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration (CCA); UN Human Rights Committee (UNHRC); Hybrid Courts; International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT); International Arbitration and Dispute Resolution.

In this manner, the *Yearbook* fills in the gaps left by other journals that provide partial coverage of international judicial decisions; and international law scholars can rely on it to better understand the wealth of case law emanating from international jurisdictions. The originality and utility of this *Yearbook* lies precisely in its “intermediation” role between case law and international scholars, practitioners, and students.

Finally, an updated overview of the current international law literature in the section entitled “Recent Lines of Internationalist Thought” provides readers with an opportunity to study and interpret global legal issues from different perspectives, examine different methodologies, and explore ideas from different legal, philosophical and cultural traditions. The 2017 edition introduced a change to this section. The novelty concerned the subject behind the original authorship—meaning that the Scholar/Judge who contributes thoughts and ideas is also talking about his own work.

The *Yearbook* is a one-stop resource for all researchers of international/global law, various related disciplines, and the jurisprudence of international courts and tribunals. It is aimed at academics, legal practitioners, and law students in the fields of international/global law, national law, legal philosophy and ethics, political science, and economics.

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1. Editorial GCYILJ 2001 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)