

## CHOICE OF LAW AND CONFLICTS OF LAWS

by *A. V. Levontin*, Fisher Professor of Private International and Interreligious Law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

1976, 180 pp., cloth, Dfl. 32.00/US \$ 12.25

ISBN 90 286 0026 4

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

There is a gap between the traditional learning about choice of law and the modern conflicts that arise when countries disagree on their very rules for choice of law. Professor Levontin proposes a method for bridging this gap and, particularly, for overcoming the difficulties of Renvoi, Characterization and the Preliminary Question. The various 'uses' of foreign law are divided into typical occasions. Specific situations of contract, tort, marriage and divorce, property and tax are discussed with reference to decided cases. The author reexamines the dualism between rules of choice of law on the one hand, and the doctrine of acquired rights, on the other. Two concluding notes are presented on Rules and Rights.

First of all, Professor Levontin seeks to show that every rule of law is of necessity 'space-conditioned' or 'limited', and he relates this analysis of the structure of rules to the questions whether and when a reference to foreign law can be other than to the whole of it. In the second note, he asserts that private law without recognition of vested rights is a contradiction in terms and he argues that the very reason behind recognition of private rights extends to embrace foreign as well as local rights.

The volume is completed with a *Table of Cases* (2 pages) and a *Selective Subject Index* (4 pages).

Of interest to: advanced students and practitioners in private international law and in jurisprudence.

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*P.O. Box 26, Leyden, The Netherlands*

## COMMERCIAL LAW OF INDIA

by *Nagendra Singh*, LL.D. (Cambridge and Dublin), D.Sc. (law) (Moscow), D.C.L. (Delhi), D. Litt. (Bihar), D. Phil. (Calcutta); Judge of the International Court of Justice; Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the International Law Commission and the Institut de Droit International.

1976, 216 pp., cloth, Dfl. 38.00/\$ 14.50

ISBN 90 286 0216 X

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

With the growing importance of the developing countries in the field of the international trade and commerce, the study of the commercial laws of these countries is also gaining in importance for international lawyers.

Particularly, the commercial laws of some big countries like India, which are fast coming up in the international market as significant exporters and importers of goods, have become an essential field of study for international lawyers, solicitors, export-import traders and their agents.

This book provides the commercial laws of India and presents the various legal provisions (as modified till March 1975) in their relevance to business affairs. It covers approximately twenty years areas of Indian Commercial Law; Contracts; Agency; Sale of Goods, Hire-Purchase; Specific Relief; Negotiable Instruments; Arbitration; Jurisdiction and Procedure of Courts; Recognition of Foreign Judgments; Execution of Decrees; Insolvency; Limitations; Trade and Merchandise Marks; Patents; Copyrights; Licensing and Registration; Monopolies; Partnerships and Companies.

Of interest to: students and scholars in commercial law and economics; international lawyers; practitioners in international trade and commerce; import-export traders and their agents; law libraries.

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## THE SYSTEM OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES

by *Richard Szawłowski*, professor of political science, University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Preface by Manlio Brosio, leader of the Liberals in the Italian Senate, former Italian Ambassador in Moscow, Secretary-General of NATO (1964-1971).

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

The monographic part of the book is mainly based on original Soviet, Polish and East German sources including political, legal, economic and other material, and covers developments until May 1975. The concluding chapter presents a hypothetical projection of the conceivable ultimate result of the large-scale integration processes, in the perspective of the coming two decades. The second part of the book contains the Annexes (137 pages): the English texts of twenty-two basic legal documents (most of them translated for the first time) and recent amendments of the organizations discussed; duplication with the United Nations Treaty Series has been avoided, with the exception of four treaties too important to be omitted: the Warsaw Treaty, the Charter of Comecon and the Convention concerning the Juridical Personality, Privileges and Immunities of Comecon (both requiring updating anyway, to include the 1962 and 1974 amendments) and the Agreement creating the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (which also needed addition of the text of its Charter). The volume is completed with a *Selective Bibliography* (6 pages), a *Subject Index* (7 pages) and a *Name Index* (3 pages).

In the case of the system of the international organizations of the Communist countries, one is facing an extremely big, unique and steadily developing group of international bodies. All these are tightly-knit together, representing a formidable combination of military and economic power. In spite of all the difficulties and shortcomings, they represent a dynamically growing potential. In the economic field this is well reflected in the fact that while Western industrial production in the post-World War II period increased about four times, that of the Comecon group increased twelve times. This discrepancy in economic growth is especially dramatized during the present period of economic recession in the West.

The whole gigantic economic and military complex is completely dominated by the USSR conditioned, as it is, by the overwhelming disproportion of forces between the 'senior' partner and all the others combined: over 3: 1 in the military field (plus the Soviet monopoly of nuclear weapons) and over 2: 1 in the economic field. This is also reflected in the absolute dominance of the Russians in the top positions in the WTO and Comecon and in the fact that Russian is, in almost all the organizations, the only working language.

The growing force of what could be referred to as the WTO-Comecon complex is clearly helpful in expansionist designs on a local as well as on a global scale. Western knowledge of these organizations is generally poor.

Of interest to: students and lecturers in the field of international relations, international law; political scientists; civil servants and IGO officials; journalists.

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## INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND TRADE LAW: UNIVERSALISM AND REGIONALISM

edited by *Clive M. Schmitthoff*, visiting professor in international business law at the City University and the University of Kent at Canterbury, and *Kenneth R. Simmonds*, visiting professor of international and European law at Queen Mary College of the University of London; director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law; president of the International Association of Legal Science.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

Attempts at attaining the unification of international economic and trade law proceed on two levels: universal and regional. The relationship between these trends, their apparent conflict and possible reconciliation, is examined in this unique work by outstanding international experts whose penetrating analysis covers the whole world.

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Of interest to: students of Public and Private International Law, International Relations; commercial lawyers.

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