

riod, has been rejected by the previous sociology, which in fact had a conception of law “natural” rather than “positive”. The concept of the law in the light of a general theory of the social system is explained, showing the importance of law in solving the problems of society, not only as a contribution to legal sociology, but also as a major work in social theory.

*C. Serra*

L. SLINGENBERG, *The Reception of Asylum Seekers under International Law*, Hart Publishing, 2014, 394 pp., ISBN: 978-1-84946-482-6

At no time in history has the reception of asylum seekers in European countries been a more relevant topic, and the analysis laid out in this book sets a benchmark for judging the reception conditions currently being afforded to asylum seekers in Europe. Slingenberg notes the treaties and conventions pertaining to reception conditions, focusing specifically on provisions relating to asylum seekers' rights to access social security schemes and the labor market under international human rights law, international refugee law, and international social security law.

Slingenberg's examination was conducted before the onset of the migration crisis in Europe, and her conclusions do not take into account the practical strains of the magnitude of the current crisis, and fixate instead on the legal rights of asylum seekers and obligations of states under an array of UN and EU conventions. Slingenberg reaches the conclusion that during their application period all asylum seekers must be treated equally to refugees. However, asylum seekers' access to social security and the labor market is not absolute or uninhibited, as states are permitted leeway to set waiting periods, residency requirements, and other provisions.

*M. Read*