

BOOKS RECEIVED / LIVRES REÇUS

M. AMOS, *Human Rights Law*, Hart Publishing, 2014, 705 pp., ISBN: 978-1-84946-380-5

In *Human Rights Law*, Merris Amos provides an expert and detailed analysis of the United Kingdom's Human Rights Act of 1998. As a dedicated researcher and academic specialized in human rights, with years of experience, Amos' examination of the 1998 Human Rights Act provides a balanced account of the most controversial elements that encompass such a delicate topic. By providing an in-depth background to the Act, and later on centering her analysis around key concepts such as the right to life, to liberty and security, fair trial, freedom of thought, conscience and religion, this second edition becomes an invaluable tool for the clear understanding of the application of the Human Rights Act within the United Kingdom. Amos separates her arguments in two parts, a book structure that allows her to deliver the nature, framework, and approaches of the Act and later on, in the second part, to examine specific articles, definitions, and cases. Furthermore, this academic work offers an outlook into the judicial proceedings that have surrounded the Human Rights Act, its origins, relationship with the European Court of Human Rights, as well as its benefits and burdens in the context of English law.

J. Navarrete

D. ANAGNOSTOU (ed.), *Rights and Courts in Pursuit of Social Change: Legal Mobilisation in the Multi-Level European System*, Hart Publishing, 2014, 218 pp., ISBN: 978-1-84946-390-4

As editor Dia Anagnostou correctly points out in her introductory chapter, the role of minorities and other marginalized members of society participating in rights-based legal action has been largely under-studied in the European context. This volume seeks to ad-

dress this gap by analyzing the efficacy of pursuing legal mobilization through the different levels of the complex European legal system.

The unique structure of the book, which is split into three parts containing a broad range of case studies, allows the reader to gain an understanding of the risks and rewards of pursuing rights through the different avenues provided by the European system. Notably this is done by not only focusing on each level of the system, but also on the different actors working within it. This provides for an in-depth presentation of the motivations of minority individuals, groups, and organizations and the challenges that they face based on their political and legal realities, which is essential when analyzing the successes or failures of their legal pursuits.

This volume effectively lays the groundwork for further study of this under-analyzed topic by beginning the conversation surrounding the opportunities and shortcomings of the European legal system for individuals or groups seeking to enact social change.

H. MacKenzie

W. E. CONKLIN, *Statelessness: The Enigma of the International Community*, First Edition, Hart Publishing, 2014, 380 pp., ISBN: 978-1-84946-507-6 (Hardback)

Conklin's book explores the history of statelessness. He looks for an explanation of how and why the international community has created such a large, unprotected population, through the denial of national identity. Conklin's passionate argument makes a compelling argument. He argues that under the international community as a whole, a person's social and cultural bonds determine nationality. The legal status is based on a lack of national recognition. He correctly shows that in this case the link between an individual and a state is absent, thus leading to social and symbolic exclusion. Despite the fact that he assures that the states always maintain independent power over domestic affairs, he presents a compelling case through specific case-studies. Conklin's view shows the dysfunction of a system where the individual person is the main actor and can access that community without state intervention.