

point of view, aiming to increase the efficiency of the politico-legal system of rights protection. The 'civil law/common law' distinction is not so important in the approach of this system. Nevertheless, the comparison between constitutions leads us to expect that fundamental rights are not fixed and are likely to change over time. The stories from the past and problems of a particular society make its emphasis within fundamental rights distinctive. Comparative law makes us aware of the specific features of our own constitutional traditions, why they work and what might be the specific constraints which we take for granted.

The book is based on the contributions of leading scholars at the Annual Seminar of the Society of Legal Scholars (SLS) held in Dublin in 2013. These issues deserve continuing analysis in light of the challenges posed to the development of constitutional justice in the domestic and international sphere.

*P. Stergiannis*

J. BEST / A. GHECIU (eds), *The return of the public in global governance*, Cambridge University Press, UK, 2014, 265 pp., ISBN: 978-1-107-05295-6

In *The return of the public in global governance*, the authors point out the transformation of the public dimension of governance in the era of globalization.

The unique structure of the book, which is split into four parts containing theoretical implications of governance in the public sector, allows the reader to gain an understanding of global governance. Notably, this is done by not only focusing on each level of the system, but also on the different actors working within each level. The work effectively explores three types of complexity associated with contemporary public practices where the public practices are associated with the state.

This book gives a great amount of knowledge about public involvement in global governance. The book is written directly and concisely, making it easy to read and streamlining all important information about how a new authoritative line between the public

and the private sector is redrawn. Moreover, the work focuses on initiatives of social and environmental global governance.

In conclusion, *The return of the public in global governance* presents transformations within the realm of global governance, advancing the following major aim: the relationship between the public and the international.

*E. Tudor*

P. BROOKER, *Mediation Law - Journey through Institutionalism to Juridification*, Routledge, UK, 2013, 290 pp., ISBN: 978-0-415-61294-4 (hbk), 978-0-203-79662-7 (ebk)

The book explores the complexities of mediation, an alternative to litigation that is oftentimes more cost-effective, efficient and faster than in-court litigation. However, several complications arise from this method of Alternative Dispute Resolution, otherwise known as ADR. ADR presents a neutral, third-party source of interpretation of cases between two parties. The author, however, has eluded to several cases whereby third-party interpretation without a traditional legislative court-setting (jury, repeated trials) has shown to be less impartial than made out to be. While the author agrees that mediation as a form of ADR can be more useful for non-criminal, simpler cases, the point is made that more complicated cases require more attention from judges and several cross-checking mechanisms that review the facts of the given case.

The author believes that in several cases, including simpler cases whereby litigators use mediation, this is more cost-ineffective because clients are, oftentimes, put in the driver's seat of the case, and that more time is spent choosing the mediator and venue, rather than focusing on settling a case.

*D.R. Străchinescu*