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European Environmental Law: A Comparative Perspective

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European Environmental Law: A Comparative Perspective

Iran's prior claim to Abu Musa and the Tonbs makes it stronger than the Arab claim.

Small Islands, Big Politics presents a comprehensive survey of the territorial dispute between the UAE and Iran by examining the conflict from historical, territorial and legal perspectives. Although the book does not present both sides of the dispute, it does not claim to do so. Amirahmadi noted at the beginning of the book that although advocates of the UAE's position had been invited to contribute to the book, they had declined to do so. While the authors allude to the UAE's position on Abu Musa and the Tonbs and the arguments in support of its claim to the islands, a more thorough and vigorous explanation of the opposing position would have contributed significantly to *Small Islands, Big Politics*.

Even without a thorough discussion of the UAE's side of the dispute, *Small Islands, Big Politics* makes a useful contribution to the understanding of the dispute over Abu Musa and the Tonbs. In addition to the chapters discussed above, the book includes an extensive bibliography, maps, and reproductions of historical documents which will prove helpful to anyone who wishes to learn more about this territorial dispute.

Amy Eckert

GERD WINTER (Ed.), *EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW: A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE*; Dartmouth Publishing Company, Brookfield, Vermont (1996); (\$39.95); ISBN 1-85521-564-0; 443 pp. (paperback).

Environmental law continues to expand internationally. *European Environmental Law: A Comparative Perspective* examines and assesses the fundamental concepts of environmental law in Europe. Divided into five sections, this compilation of essays explores the foundation, the framework and the future role of the environment in the European political arena.

The collection begins by analyzing the command and control model — government definition and regulation of environmental concerns. Part one addresses the need for integration of environmental concerns into policy areas not traditionally associated with environmental law and the relationship with constitutional law, in particular, fundamental rights. Specific components of an environmental regime include: criteria and instruments for regulation; environmental impact assessment; public participation; judicial review; administration and freedom of information, comprise the subject matter of the second section.

Although the command and control model dominates European environmental policy, alternatives to this structure are considered. Focusing on the individual, rather than the government, section three of this book discusses potential reforms. Such changes include network management, financial alternatives, liability schemes and self-

regulation by industry. Radical revisions seem unlikely, however, these authors believe that the aforementioned measures should be used to enhance and to expand the existing structures.

With the theoretical frameworks explored, a concrete examination of European law is undertaken. Part four discusses the evolution, the objectives and principles and the decision-making structure of the European Community (EC). Specifics of EC directives and policies are detailed. Additionally, this section includes a case study of the transportation of transboundary hazardous material.

The final section concludes with an examination of emerging environmental law schemes in Eastern Europe. Poland and Hungary are utilized as case studies. A command and control regime provides the basis for many former Warsaw Pact countries' environmental programs. The authors debate whether this regime is preferred or whether market forces should dictate environmental policy. This discussion ultimately predicts the future of Eastern European environmental law; namely, pursuing the course defined by the European Community.

Overall, the authors provide a complete but general overview of European environmental law. Although a straightforward comparison of various states' regimes is not investigated, the inclusion of alternatives to the typical command and control model gives the reader sufficient information to appraise the existing scheme. This well-written and well-organized compilation is a good starting point for anyone wishing to become familiar with basics of European environmental law.

Nicolle M. Fleury

THOMAS C. FISCHER, *THE EUROPEANIZATION OF AMERICA*, Carolina Academic Press, Durham, N.C. (1995); (\$49.95); ISBN 0-89089-751-4 342 pp. (hardcover).

This book provides a helpful understanding to the legal and factual basis for the formation and operation of the European Union. The author strongly believes that every "American" should have knowledge about what he considers to be the most important trading partner for the US.

Fischer begins his book by reviewing some startling statistics concerning US and European trade. After reviewing these numbers, one is truly impressed as to the economic interdependence present between these two regions. It is important to note that Fischer considers the European Union ("EU") as a whole when tabulating these figures. Outside of the context of each state separately reviewed, it becomes apparent that the trade between the US and the EU is perhaps the most important in economic terms to each.

The author, Dean Emeritus and Professor of Law at the New England School of Law and an honors graduate of the University of Cin-