

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This book has its origins in a *Round Table on Governance and International Legal Theory*, held at the Faculty of Law of the University of Utrecht from 2 till 4 July 2002. The main aim of the Round Table was to stimulate an ongoing discussion between scholars who are interested in theoretical aspects of international law and international politics. In pursuance of a call for papers, some thirty authors sent in a proposal, of which the convener of this Round Table – Wouter G. Werner – invited fifteen authors to send in their paper. Since the aim of the Round Table was to stimulate discussion about the papers (and not to be a forum of presentations), speakers were required to send in their papers in advance and to hold only short introductions to their papers. For each paper about one hour was available for discussion.

The editors would like to thank the twenty-two participants for their contributions to the very lively discussions at the Round Table. A report of the discussions was written by professor Catherine Kessedjian and published in the 4 *International Law Forum du droit international*, 2002, 176–179.

Of the fifteen papers discussed at the Round Table, thirteen are published in this volume. Before writing their definitive texts, the contributors had the opportunity to adapt their papers on the basis of the discussions held during the Round Table. The editors asked other scholars, who could not participate in the Round Table, to give their comments on certain papers. In this respect they would like to express their appreciation in particular to Deirdre Curtin, Harm Dotinga, Nigel White, Jaap de Wilde, and Bärbel Ziegler-Jung.

The Round Table formed part of the *6th Hague Joint Conference on Contemporary Issues of International Law: From Government to Governance? The Growing Impact of Non-State Actors on the International and European Legal System*, organized by the Stichting “The Hague Joint Conferences on International Law”, the American Society of International Law, the Nederlandse Vereniging voor Internationaal Recht and the T.M.C. Asser Instituut. The conference was originally planned to be held in July 2002 but the conference was postponed to July 2003. However, it was decided to go through with the *Round Table on Governance and International Legal Theory* in 2002. A second meeting of the Round

Table was held from 1–3 July 2003, also at the Faculty of Law of the University of Utrecht, just before the 6th Hague Joint Conference, which took place from 3–5 July 2003, at the Steigenberger Kurhaus Hotel, The Hague, The Netherlands. The papers discussed during the second meeting will be published in the proceedings of the 6th Hague Joint Conference (forthcoming).

The editors would like to express their gratitude to the sponsors of the Round Table: the Stichting “The Hague Joint Conferences on International Law”, and the Faculty of Law of the University of Utrecht, in particular the G.J. Wiarda Institute and the International Law Institute. Their support – financially and otherwise – made it possible that the Round Table took place in one of the historic buildings in the centre of Utrecht and that the discussions could go on during lunches and dinners. Their support contributed very much to the scientific success of the meeting and the publication of this book.

The editors also warm-heartedly thank Amy Wall, student-assistant at the International Law Institute of the University of Utrecht, whose patient assistance in the preparation of this book has been indispensable. Last but not least, we greatly appreciate the support given by Brill Academic Publishers for taking care of the work involved in this publication.

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The Editors