

des Hamburger Völkerrechtslehrers Rainer Lagoni entstammen. – Überhaupt ist dem Herausgeber anzuraten, stärkeres Augenmerk auf die lektorische Arbeit zu legen, um die sich auffällig häufenden Orthographie- und Interpunktionsfehler zukünftig vermeiden zu helfen.

Nach alledem ist festzuhalten, daß Armin Barthel insgesamt eine fachübergreifende Einführung in das komplexe Thema »Recht auf Entwicklung« vorgelegt hat, deren Lektüre dem Neuling auf diesem Gebiet als ein erster Einstieg sicher von Nutzen sein wird, ohne allerdings für weiterführenden Diskussionsstoff zu sorgen.

*Philipp Landers*

*Katarina Tomaševski (ed.)*

**The Right to Food**

Guide through Applicable International Law

Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, Dordrecht 1987, 387 pp., £ 56,75

It is tragically notorious that famines and malnutrition afflict millions of human beings. Nevertheless, for the most part, world hunger is a problem which has been perceived by most policy makers, academics, human rights activists, and others as a painful but inevitable »fact of life«, rather than as the abandonment of everything that the concept of human rights stands for. The Right to Food Project carried out at the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights (SIM) from 1983 to 1985 was the first successful attempt to make hunger a prominent issue on the international human rights agenda. As a result of this project, two books have been published so far. The first one, edited by Philip Alston and Katarina Tomaševski\* includes the papers presented within this project. The other more recent publication, to be dealt with here, is a collection of »international instruments« related to the right to food. It was initiated during the SIM Project and the work of the ILA Committee on the Right to Food.

With this »Guide through Applicable International Law« Katarina Tomaševski aims at assisting the promotion and protection of the human right to food by a selection of internationally acknowledged principles, policies and rules of conduct. In essence, the reference book is divided into three sections: the collection of relevant legal and political sources itself, the chronological list of international instruments related to the right of food, and the essential information on the most relevant documents. The utility of the volume is increased further by a thoroughly worked out index.

The variety of authentic texts compiled – partly in excerpts – in the volume ranges from the *Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition* and the *Minimum*

\* Philip Alston/ Katarina Tomaševski, *The Right to Food*, in: VRÜ 1986, pp. 503-506.

*Wage Fixing (Agriculture) Convention* to the *Code of Ethics for International Trade in Food* and the IMF Executive Board Decision on *Compensatory Financing of Fluctuations in the Costs of Cereal Imports*. Moreover, the guide contains instruments concerning such special tropics as, inter alia, provision of food for refugees and prisoners (of war), disaster relief, population policy, natural resources and desertification, consumer protection, and prohibition of slavery.

The chronology of sources (Part Three) begins on October 21, 1921 with the ILO *Minimum Age (Agriculture) Convention* and finally quotes the 1986 *United Nations Programme of Action for African Recovery and Development, 1986-1990*. In consulting the »Information on the Selected Applicable Instruments« the reader is quickly provided with basic information on the most important documents. Beside data on their adoption, legal force, and the states parties to these »instruments«, this section indicates where their full texts are published and where information on their implementation is given.

The usefulness of a reference book such as this decreases with its length. In order to do justice to this knowledge, the guide has been shortened many times. The author, however, has mastered perfectly the difficult task to establish an acceptable balance between the contending interests of necessary documentation and desirable brevity. Food problems are a conglomeration of economic and monetary, cultural, agricultural, as well as legal questions. Taking into consideration, therefore, how widely dispersed food-related international instruments are, Tomaševski's guide is a remarkable piece of documentary work. The combination of the well-balanced contents and the way it is composed makes the volume and indispensable tool for anybody who is professionally concerned with human rights questions. The only disturbing fact, the comparatively high price, is outweighed by the advantages of this book.

*Philipp Landers*

*Michael Banz*

**Völkerrechtlicher Eigentumsschutz durch Investitionsschutzabkommen  
– Insbesondere die Praxis der Bundesrepublik Deutschland seit 1959**

Duncker & Humblot, Berlin 1988, 216 S., DM 98,- (Tübinger Schriften zum internationalen und europäischen Recht, Bd. 17)

»(D)ie Investitionsförderungsverträge (sind) keineswegs überflüssig . . . , da sie nicht nur deklaratorisch das geltende Völkergewohnheitsrecht wiedergeben, sondern (zumindest) in der Regelung der Entschädigung für Nationalisierungen einen höheren Maßstab anlegen, als es das allgemeine Völkerrecht verlangt. Dieser höhere Standard wird auch von denjenigen Entwicklungsländern, die Partner von Kapitalschutzabkommen sind, respektiert . . . So tragen die (A)bkommen einerseits dazu bei, den Investoren ein höchstmögliches Maß an