Roaming Charges:
Moments of History: 1989

We deal in *EJIL* with the world we live in – often with its worst and most violent patholo-
gies, often with its most promising signs of hope for a better world. But, inevitably, since
our vehicle is scholarship, we reify this world. Roaming Charges is designed not just
to offer a moment of aesthetic relief, but to remind us of the ultimate subject of our
scholarly reflections: we alternate between photos of places – the world we live in – and
photos of people – who we are, the human condition. We eschew the direct program-
matic photograph: people shot up; the ravages of pollution and all other manner of
photojournalism.

‘Roaming’, ‘Charges’, and those irritating ‘Roaming Charges’ – was chosen because
of the multiple and at times conflicting meanings, feelings and associations the words,
jointly and severally, evoke and which we hope to capture in our choice of photographs. As we roam around the world we aim for images which charge us: please and challenge, even irritate, at the same time. We seek photos which have some ambiguity, are edgy and relate in an indirect way, both to the current circumstance but also to that which is, like human dignity, permanent and enduring.

Take a moment – enjoy, reflect. If you are online, pause before the next click.

Photos from our readers should be sent to ejil@eui.eu.