Book Reviews

Arie Bloed (ed.), The Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe – Analysis and Basic Documents, 1972-1993, Dordrecht/Boston/London, Kluwer, XXIX + 1337 pages.

Although the CSCE has gained new momentum in the years following the end of the cold war, it remains little known and information on its activities is scarce. This weighty book attempts to fill in this lacuna by making available the main documents adopted by the various CSCE organs. The documents are preceded by a 120-page introduction in which the genesis and development of the CSCE process are recalled. Although its ambitions are mainly descriptive, this part is made necessary by the thorough transformation experienced by the CSCE in recent years. Documents are classified by their source rather than by topic, but an issue index is provided. Preference has been given to substantive texts rather than to organizational matters. A great number of interpretative statements and reservations made by participating States are also included. Because of its comprehensive nature, this publication is likely to become an indispensable source for all scholars working on the CSCE.

R.D.

Arie Bloed, Liselotte Leicht, Manfred Nowak, Allan Rosas (eds), Monitoring Human Rights in Europe. Comparing International Procedures and Mechanisms, Dordrecht/Boston/London, Martinus Nijhoff (1993) 338 pages, Index.

This book is the product of a series of meetings of an expert working group convened by the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights, in collaboration with the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights in Finland. All authors are human rights 'insiders', on the intergovernmental and/or NGO level, which ensures a profound and up-to-date treatment of the subjects which are dealt with in the book: the monitoring of human rights and the prevention of human rights violations through reporting procedures (Vojin Dimirijivic); the efficiency of individual complaint procedures and, in particular, the experience of CCPR. CERD, CAT and ECHR (Rein Mullerson); monitoring the CSCE Human Dimension (Arie Bloed); a comparative study of the monitoring mechanisms and institutional frameworks for human rights protection within the Council of Europe, the CSCE and the European Community (Merja Pentikäinen/Martin Scheinin); the contribution of NGOs to the monitoring and protection of human rights in Europe (Rachel Brett); international mechanisms for the prevention of torture (Manfred Nowak/Walter Sundinger); international mechanisms for the monitoring and the protection of minority rights (Gudmundur Alfredsson/Danilo Türk); future protection of economic and social rights in Europe (Asbjørn Eide); international monitoring mechanisms in situations of armed conflict (Allan Rosas); collective responsibility of States to ensure respect for humanitarian principles (Laurence Boisson de Chazournes); the International War Crimes Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (Nicholas Howen); case study on the former Yugoslavia, the international mechanisms, their efficiency and failures (Roman Wieruszewski).

With the exception of the last three contributions, the studies focus on the effectiveness of the various mechanisms and frameworks, their differing legal and political characteristics and contexts, their interrelationship as well as their advantages and disadvantages. Even though the title of the book suggests that it is limited to reviewing human rights protection in Europe, it is also useful as an overview of human rights treaty monitoring at the universal (UN) level.