



Indigenous Peoples, the Environment and Law

• Lawrence Watters •



"Indigenous People, the Environment and Law... provides an invaluable one-stop resource for seasoned scholars seeking a holistic look at this important topic and for relative newcomers to the subject seeking a broad introduction.... an important contribution to the scholarly field at a crucial time...."
— Sean T. McAllister, *UCLA Journal of Environmental Law & Policy* (forthcoming)

This book provides a rich perspective on the intersection of indigenous peoples and the law, emphasizing themes that are increasingly prominent on the agenda of the international community. In the anthology, twenty-three articles address significant conflicts with an interdisciplinary vantage point, where the interests of indigenous peoples and environmental law are closely intertwined. It analyzes biodiversity, traditional knowledge, the responsibility of multinational corporations, and restitution.

Sixteen of the selections provide a comparative perspective on the conflicts and issues involving indigenous peoples arising in specific countries. From the fragile environment of the Arctic, to sacred sites and water in the United States, the diversity of indigenous peoples is explored within the context of governance, natural resources and conflict resolution. From native Hawaiians to the Sami of Scandinavia, selected themes parallel and contrast with one another in concert with the quest for survival in Bolivia, Guatemala, the Philippines and Russia. At the same time, the relationship of indigenous peoples to nature and the struggle for identity are common themes in virtually all

of the selections. Case studies, drawing on anthropology and history, in addition to law, combined with several more conceptual contributions, provide a mosaic that places indigenous peoples in both a comparative and international context. In addition, several articles explore trends in convergence and globalization, which have especially important ramifications for indigenous peoples. **Summary Table of Contents on reverse.**

"Each article stands on its own as a significant scholarly contribution and the diversity of authors necessarily lends a unique flavor and perspective to the subject.... almost all of the selections are recent and therefore timely; ...they are drawn from an excellent group of journals that remain in the forefront in scholarship.... "

— Brian Myers, *University of Auckland, LLM Program*

August 2004 • 460 pp • paper • ISBN 0-89089-147-8 • \$00.00

About the editor:

Lawrence Watters was a Fulbright Scholar in international environmental law at the University of Oslo and a visiting fellow in environmental law at Queens University in Northern Ireland. Previously a visiting professor at the Environmental Law Centre at the University of Auckland, the Institute of Comparative and European Law at the University of Lausanne, the Institute of Public and International Law at the University of Oslo and the Institute of Environmental Law at the University of Wuhan, he is currently lecturing at the University of Washington in the Program on the Environment in environmental law, policy and sustainable development. His most recent publications are in the environmental law journals of Berkeley, Columbia, Georgetown and UCLA.

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