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YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL
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PART 6
RECENT LINES OF INTERNATIONALIST THOUGHT

The Dual Face of Sovereignty
Contradictions of Coercion in International Law

HANS KÖCHLER

New York: Oxford University Press, 2020, 875ff

This part, included in the *Yearbook* since 2006, focuses on the thought of leading international law scholars "innovative" in their responses to challenges that have faced contemporary world society. The 2017 edition introduced a change to this part. The novelty concerns the subject behind the original authorship—meaning that the Scholar/Judge who contributes thoughts and ideas is also talking about his *own work*. The purpose is to give an overview of the current international law literature providing readers with an opportunity to view arguments from different perspectives, to examine different methodologies, and to explore ideas reflecting cultural diversity. This would certainly allow an understanding of the relevance of internationalist thought on the changes in international law and contemporary politics in the context of globalization. (xvii-xviii)

From Editor's Note

Finally, an updated overview of the current international law literature in the part entitled "Recent Lines of Internationalist Thought" provides readers with an opportunity to study and interpret global legal issues from different perspectives, examine different methodologies, and explore ideas from different cultures. The 2017 edition introduced a change to this part. The novelty concerns the subject behind the original authorship—meaning that the Scholar/Judge who contributes thoughts and ideas is also talking about his *own work*. In this edition (2019), *Hans Köchler* explores the dialectic of power and law as exemplified in the ambiguous status of sovereignty, in particular in the UN Charter and practice of the UN Organization. The analysis results from his involvement with situations of international conflicts in the last several decades both as President of the International Progress Organization, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the United Nations (ECOSOC), and as an international observer appointed by the United Nations, at the Lockerbie bombing trial in the Netherlands. Drawing on a mixture of expertise and masterful analysis of the detrimental impact of power politics on international law, he identifies the areas where inconsistencies would have to be eliminated in order to make all persons, institutions, and entities, public and private, including the state itself, accountable to laws. (xiv)

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