

# Preface

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With the collapse of collective bargaining and union membership the individual common law contract of employment has increasingly come to dominate not only the legal foundation of the employment relationship but also the terms and day-to-day management of that relationship. While much has been written about the contract of employment in individual jurisdictions, there has been relatively little consideration of the way the common law perspective on employment has been shaped by domestic factors bearing on employment relationships – statutes, domestic industrial relations structures and domestic social and political influences – across jurisdictions. This book explores this question by taking a range of aspects of the employment relationship and considers the way the common law courts in the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand have approached the regulation of those aspects of employment in their different environments.

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