

Acknowledgements

This volume offers a collection of essays on how international lawyers imaginatively work on the discipline's concepts. It offers insights into how these concepts transform and disrupt our fragile discipline, opening up its possibilities while also constantly shifting our own experiences and expectations of international law. The variety of approaches to concepts, the breadth of styles, the deemphasizing of references and the diversity of authors it gathers (many of whom rarely appear together) speak to its ambition. Unsurprisingly, the making of such an unconventional volume – for that was what was intended – proved experimental in many respects, not least in its refusal of the accepted procedures commonly practised in the field for such volumes, or the nature of the changes requested from authors. For this reason we are indebted to Edward Elgar and in particular to Ben Booth, for not only believing in the merits of the project from its inception but also being willing to accommodate the many twists and turns in the preparation of the volume. The 62 authors of the following chapters similarly deserve tribute for their passionate efforts, diligent revisions and above all their remarkable patience through the lengthy assemblage of the 60 chapters that comprise this volume. We are also thankful to Jennifer Lee for her support and guidance in the final stretch of the project. Last but not least we are immensely grateful for the editing and formatting work conducted by our assistant editor Connor McBain, as well as David Scott, who provided support at a critical moment in the project. We can only hope we have done justice to all those that were instrumental to the making of this volume. Above all, we hope it will be a book that will help to nurture, refine and renew a critical and hopeful attitude within the discipline.

J. d'A. and S.S.
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