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of the  
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## EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

The *Proceedings* of the 1988 Annual Meeting of the American Society of International Law clearly reflects the variety of interests and concerns of its active membership, as well as the diversity of challenges to and developments in international law over the past year. The reader may track through these proceedings three general areas of interest, though there are naturally many points of overlapping concern among the panels. These points may uncritically appear to manifest repetitiveness among the panels, but in fact they are actually concrete indications of the increasingly interdependent relationships among the concepts and concerns of public and private international law.

These general areas of interest may be identified as follows. First, there is the traditional province of public international law and "foreign relations law." This area is fully represented by such panels and discussions as: the Special Session on Capitol Hill concerning war powers and congressional responsibility; the panels on congressional oversight of intelligence operations; on verification of arms control agreements; on the Organization of American States Charter; on legal regimes of the Arctic; on self-determination and Palestine and on the Palestine Liberation Organization Mission controversy; on self-determination and the cases of Fiji, New Caledonia, Namibia and the Western Sahara; on the human right to participate in government; on international drug-trafficking and money-laundering; on human rights litigation in the United States and on citizen initiatives; on emerging legal regimes in the Pacific; and the extremely interesting twin panels on the Persian Gulf War.

Second, there is a general area of interest in private or transnational law. This area, in fact broader than purely private or transactional legal concerns, is represented by such panels as those on internationalization of the securities markets, on the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement, on international debt and the case of Mexico, and on privatization of public development projects, and by a quite compelling practitioner's workshop.

Third, there is a general area of interest in the framework or "culture" of international law. This conceptual concern was, of course, present in varying degrees in virtually all of the panels and discussions which took place during the Annual Meeting of the Society, but it is particularly represented by the panels on the history of international law, on religion and international law, and on "soft law."

Several panels cut across these areas of interest, and clearly demonstrate the fact that the separate areas of intellectual concern to international lawyers are intersecting. Examples include the plenary session of the Society on the Year of International Law in Review; and the panels on environment, economic development and human rights; on deep seabed mining; and on health, human rights and international law.

As has been true for several years at least, these *Proceedings* continue to exhibit variety in form and presentation as well as content. In addition to the traditional "panel" presentations by groups of scholars and practitioners examining various aspects of an overall panel topic, the Annual Meeting was again enriched by many relatively more informal workshops, seminars, open forums and special projects. While many of these events raise practical problems for an editor, it can only be hoped that they will continue to enrich the experience of participants in future Annual Meetings of the Society.

From that practical side, it should be noted that the three-year editorial effort to bring together the text of the *Proceedings* in a timely fashion is continuing. Unlike last year's *Proceedings*, considerations of time have required the insertion of only one "edi-

torial summary” in place of reported remarks of participants. Such summaries are intended to be precisely what they suggest—summaries, not actual reports of remarks. They are editorial in nature, not necessarily reflecting the final, considered views of any given participant.

The editor’s lot would have truly been a thankless and pointless one but for the support and assistance of many individuals. The editor wishes to acknowledge in particular the kind and constant support of John Lawrence Hargrove, Executive Vice President and Executive Director of the Society, throughout this project. The editor also wishes to thank Marilyn Alexander and the faculty secretarial staff at Fordham University School of Law for their invaluable and generous assistance.

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CHARLOTTE KU  
*Administrative and Programs Director*  
October 1990

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE EIGHTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

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