International Human Rights Litigation in U.S. Courts

2nd Revised Edition

Beth Stephens, Judith Chomsky, Jennifer Green, Paul Hoffman, Michael Ratner

Written by leading human rights litigators and theorists, this treatise offers a comprehensive analysis of human rights litigation in U.S. courts under the Alien Tort Statute and related provisions, including jurisprudential complexities and litigation guidance. The book includes discussion of the Alien Tort Statute, the Torture Victim Protection Act, and less common jurisdictional bases. The issues raised by suing corporations are also discussed. Separate chapters address lawsuits against the U.S. and foreign governments. A section on defenses includes analysis of topics such as immunities, forum non conveniens, and the intervention of the executive branch. The final section discusses litigation strategies. For a full table of contents, please visit www.brill.nl.

Readership: Legal practitioners, scholars, students, and human rights activists.


The five authors have decades of experience with human rights litigation and have published dozens of articles about the topics covered in the book: Beth Stephens, a law professor at Rutgers-Camden School of Law, has litigated international human rights cases with the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) and written extensively about the issues covered in this book. She is on the Board of Directors of the Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA).

Judith Brown Chomsky is a civil and human rights lawyer and a cooperating attorney with CCR.

Jennifer Green is a Senior Staff Attorney at CCR, where she specializes in international human rights legal actions in U.S. courts and international bodies.

Paul Hoffman, a civil rights lawyer and partner in Schonbrun DeSimone Seplow Harris and Hoffman LLP, has litigated numerous human rights cases and argued Sosa v. Alvarez-Machain in the U.S. Supreme Court. He is one of the co-founders of CJA.

Michael Ratner is President of CCR and has litigated numerous human rights cases throughout the world. He led CCR in its aggressive legal fight against the post-September 11 human rights violations.
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