

The UN Charter

Five Pillars for Humankind

This book reintroduces the U.N. Charter to the global audience by describing the Charter as the most important secular document in the world, for it is essentially the constitution of global governance to which all nations are bound, even if some honor it in the breach. The co-authors explain the core principles embedded in the Charter, which embodies codified customary international law for all nations. But the book also introduces pragmatic interpretations of key Charter provisions to modernize its application both today and in the future. Under the authority of the Charter, such U.N. bodies as the General Assembly, Security Council, Economic and Social Council, Human Rights Council, and International Court of Justice address global affairs in a tough neighborhood of 193 sovereign nations. Yet relatively few people are conversant with the principles set forth in the Charter. With moral principles under siege and with the reality of divisive politics in contemporary life, the Charter remains a beacon of global unity that offers a renewed sense of human progress in a turbulent world. The book explicates five core tenets of the U.N. Charter: human rights and fundamental freedoms, international law, economic and social progress, international peace and security, and peacemaking.

The book will appeal to the academic audience and is written in a style that will engage the general reader as well.

(Hans Corell, Former Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and the Legal Counsel of the United Nations)

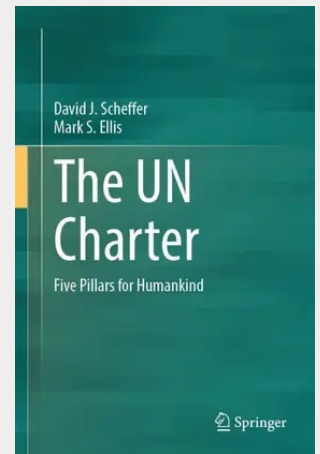
(The Honourable Irwin Cotler, P.C., O.C., O.Q., Ad.E.; former Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada; Founder & International Chair, Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights)

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