

## ICLQ Book Reviews

### General Instructions for Contributors

If you wish to review a title for the ICLQ, please contact [a.riddell@biicl.org](mailto:a.riddell@biicl.org) with your suggestion including a brief biography indicating your suitability to review the book and your postal address. If the book is one we wish to have reviewed, a copy will be requested from the publisher for you.

**Completed reviews should always be submitted via the ScholarOne platform:**

<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/iclq>

- Book reviews should be between 500 and 1,000 words.
- Longer book review articles which discuss more than one book covering a similar theme will be considered for publication, at the discretion of the book review editors. These should not exceed 1,500 words.
- Book reviews should not contain footnotes or endnotes.
- All book reviews, whether solicited or otherwise, will be subject to a review process, and a request to write a review or receiving a review copy from us are no guarantee of publication. Any connection to the author/editors of the book should be declared by the reviewer at the time of submission (or earlier if requesting a copy).
- It is expected that reviewers will upload their review, in MS Word format, to ScholarOne within two months of receipt of the book. If this is not possible the Managing Editor Anna Riddell-Roberts should be notified as soon as possible at [a.riddell@biicl.org](mailto:a.riddell@biicl.org).
- Reviewers are asked to read the Book Review Guidance detailed below before submitting reviews or review proposals, and to adhere to the Style Guide overleaf when writing reviews.

### Book Review Guidance

Reviews should normally address the following issues:

1. The structure and contents of the book.
2. The intended target audience of the book.
3. What is the overall perspective adopted/argument advanced by the book?
4. How does this perspective/argument add to the body of existing literature in the field?
5. How convincing is the argument(s) set out by the author? A reviewer might want to subject a specific chapter(s) to more detailed analysis in the light of the book's overall argument. Are there any major/minor omissions that impede/weaken the overall argument made in the book?
6. Issues of style - how clearly written/accessible is the book? (bearing in mind target audience) - how accurate is the factual material relied upon in support of the main arguments?
7. Does the author succeed in doing what he/she set out to do? How is the book likely to be viewed by members of the target audience?



**British Institute of  
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Comparative Law**

# ICLQ Book Review Style Guide

## 1. Layout

- All book reviews should be submitted in 12-point font, single-spaced, with margins of at least 2.5 cm in Microsoft Word only (please do not submit a pdf).
- The review should be headed with the book details as follows:

*Title* by AUTHOR [Publisher, Year, ISBN: xxx-x-xx-xxxxxx-x, #pp, £price, h/bk (or p/bk)]

- Please do not include your name in the document, but instead upload it along with your present affiliation to the ScholarOne system. Please use the email address you would like published in the journal .
- Footnotes should **not** be used in book reviews unless it is absolutely necessary to refer directly to another work. References to the book being reviewed should simply indicate a page or chapter number within the text. Where footnotes are used, they should follow the Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA). Footnote cues should appear after the punctuation mark.
- New paragraphs should be indented, except for the first paragraph in a section. All sentences should be separated by a single space and double spaces should not be used.
- The ICLQ uses the following heading levels (no more than two heading levels should be used in book reviews):

I. FIRST-LEVEL SUBHEADING

A. Second-level Subheading

- Quotations of fewer than three lines should be set in single quotation marks within the main text, with double quotation marks reserved for quotations within quotations. Longer quotations should begin on a new line, without quotation marks, and all the lines should be equally indented. However, the first line after the quotation extract is not indented.

## 2. Points of Style

- All abbreviations should be spelled out in first use with the abbreviation following in brackets, eg 'European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR)', and should not be followed or separated by a full stop.
- Words that have become part of the English language should not be italicized (ad hoc, ibid, de facto, ex officio, per se, etc), but phrases in other languages should be italicized.
- Numerals should be written out up to and including ten; 11 and above should be given in figures.
- The serial comma (ie the one before 'and' in 'peace, war, and defence') should not be used.
- Words omitted from quotations should be indicated by three full stops.
- Spelling should follow the Oxford English Dictionary or the Concise Oxford Dictionary. For the '-ise' / '-ize' sound expressed as 'z', use z instead of s.
- For all other points of style not covered in this guide, please refer to the Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA).