Library Highlights
September 2007

The asylum speaker : language in the Belgian asylum procedure / Maryns, K. - Manchester (United Kingdom); Northampton (MA) : St Jerome, 2006. - 375 p. - (Encounters : Vol. 7)
ISBN : 1-900650-89-4

INDEX TERMS : asylum seekers; refugee status determination procedures; refugee identity documents; evidence; burden of proof; languages; translation services; interviews; case studies
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Belgium

The key issue in the Belgian asylum procedure is that extensive legal decisions impacting the determination of refugee status are often made on limited grounds. Many refugees arrive in Belgium without legal documents and are unable to submit any hard evidence to substantiate their case. Their burden of proof is often based on oral hearings with public officials of asylum agencies. Drawing on first hand ethnographic data, field interviews with interpreters, interviewers and decision-makers, the author examines discursive processes in the Belgium asylum procedure and its impact on the determination of refugee status. This discursive medium is often one of the main obstacles to a successful exchange of information and it raises questions about how applicants and officials understand each other and how their intended meanings are represented in textual files. The author argues that the legal-administrative procedure cannot be dissociated from its discursive construction of what counts as evidence in the decision-making process. The author demonstrates how propositional aspects play a crucial role in the asylum procedure and how little attention has been paid to narrative structuring and gradations of linguistic competence which often results in a deficient processing of important details.

Complementary protection in international refugee law / McAdam, J. - Oxford (United Kingdom); New York (NY) : Oxford University Press, 2007. - xxxvii, 283 p. : bibl., index. - (Oxford monographs in international law)
ISBN : 978-0-19-920306-2

INDEX TERMS : refugees; asylum seekers; international refugee law; international protection; international humanitarian law; right of asylum; legal protection; CAT84; CSR51; ECHR50; ICCPR66; European Union; non-refoulement principle; humanitarian cases
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Europe; World

This book pioneers the study on 'complementary protection' or the protection provided by States to persons needing international protection but falling outside the legal definition of a refugee as in article 1A(2) of the 1951 Refugee Convention. Human rights law has extended States' international protection obligations beyond the Refugee Convention, preventing States from removing individuals who would be at risk of serious harm if returned to their countries of origin. The book makes a comprehensive analysis of complementary protection from its historical development through to its contemporary application. It identifies pre-1951 examples of complementary protection and demonstrates how the content of the status afforded to extended categories of refugees was historically the same as that granted to de jure refugees. The Qualification Directive adopted in 2004 represents the first supranational codification of complementary protection, but it has been hampered by a hierarchical conceptualization of protection that grants a lesser status to beneficiaries of 'subsidiary protection' vis-à-vis Convention refugees. The book examines the human rights foundations of the Convention, the architecture of Convention rights, regional examples of complementary protection and principles of non-discrimination. It concludes that the Convention acts as a type reference for persons in need of international protection. It provides a specialized blueprint for legal status and illustrates why all persons protected by the principle of non-refoulement should be entitled to the same legal status as refugees.

Crossing national borders : human migration issues in Northeast Asia / Akaha, T. (ed.); Vassilieva, A. (ed.). - Tokyo; New York (NY); Paris : United Nations University Press, 2005. - xvi, 254 p. : maps, graph., tabl.
ISBN : 92-808-1117-7

INDEX TERMS : Chinese; Russians; North Koreans; South Koreans; immigrants; migrant workers; international migration; immigration; emigration; immigration policy; international relations; migrants; border crossers; refugee impact; case studies
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : East Asia; Russian Federation; Japan; China; Mongolia, People's Republic

The contributors to this book discuss the opportunities and challenges of the human flows taking place in Northeast Asia. Experts on China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia and Russia examine the political, economic, social and cultural dimensions of the interaction between border-crossing individuals and host communities. The case studies presented show the diversity of issues that cross border movements present to migrants, to affected communities and national policy makers. The authors analyze population trends and migration patterns in each country: Chinese migration to the Russian Far East; Chinese, Koreans and Russians in Japan; North Koreans in China; and migration issues in South Korea and Mongolia. They present four comprehensive themes: the first pertains to the receiving country's ability to absorb migrant populations; the second consideration is the threat factor immigrants pose in popular perception; the third theme deals with the domestic conditions and market needs in host countries; and the final theme deals with considerations of national security. All these themes highlight the challenges faced by national and local leaders in each country and suggest needed changes in national and international policies.

Democracy and human rights in multicultural societies / Koening, M (ed.); De Guchteneire, P. - Aldershot (United Kingdom) : Ashgate ; Paris : UNESCO, 2007. - 308 p.
ISBN : 978-0-7546-7029-2

INDEX TERMS : human rights; democracy; political change; political systems; plural societies; culture; political participation; integration policy; peoples rights; indigenous groups; state; conflict; religious groups; OSCE; language minorities; violence; case studies
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Baltic States; South Africa; Canada; Spain; United Kingdom; Ireland; Turkey

This book discusses the political governance of cultural diversity, and, in particular, the way public policy-making has dealt with the claims for cultural recognition increasingly expressed by ethno-national movements, language groups, religious minorities, indigenous peoples and migrant communities. The contributors address the governance of pluralistic societies by focusing on the transformation of the nation-state and on political modernity. A crucial aspect of this transformation is the emergence and development of international human rights regimes. These alter the external legitimacy structures of nation-states by providing new social arenas and new cultural repertoires of contention and claims-making. The principal aim of this study is to analyze the particular challenges posed to the classical model of the nation-state by politics of ethnic, linguistic and regional recognition. The contributors deal with specific aspects of democratic and human rights based governing of multi-ethnic, multi-linguistic and multi-faith societies from different disciplinary perspectives.

EU immigration and asylum law : text and commentary / Peers, S. (ed.); Rogers, N. (ed.). - Leiden (The Netherlands); Boston (MA) : Martinus Nijhoff, 2006. - xix, 1025 p. : tabl., graph., bibl., annexes. - (Immigration and asylum law and and policy in Europe / Guild, E. (ed.), Niessen, J. (ed.) ; vol. 12)
ISBN : 90-04-15374-8

INDEX TERMS : asylum seekers; asylum policy; immigration policy; refugee status determination procedures; border controls; gender groups; family reunification; durable solutions; employment; integration policy; treaties; ECHR50; law of asylum; European Union; manuals
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Europe

The Treaty of Amsterdam in May 1999 made possible for the European Community to adopt measures proposed on immigration and asylum law. These measures range from technical operational matters to basic aspects of immigration and asylum law and cover all issues relating to immigration and asylum. This book analyses and interprets evolving European legislation and its effect on national law and policies. It

presents the text of key measures concerning asylum, legal migration and irregular migration and expert commentary on a large number of these measures proposed or adopted by January 2006. The editors aim to give an integrated overview of all the various proposals, including their relationship with measures agreed or proposed before the Treaty of Amsterdam and with the overall political context. The authors of each commentary provide a legislative history to each measure and cover areas that include visa and border controls, asylum, legal migration and integration, and irregular migration. The volume also contains an extensive annex which lists proposed and adopted Title IV measures of Jan.1, 2006; EC Treaty provisions on immigration and asylum and excerpts from the Tempere European Council, from Laeken, Seville and Thessaloniki European Councils, and excerpts of the Hague Program and the EU Constitutional Treaty.

EU justice and home affairs law / Peers, S. - 2nd ed. - Oxford (United Kingdom); New York (NY) : Oxford University Press, 2006. - cxiv, 588 p. : bibl., index. - (Oxford European Community law series / Jacobs, F.G. (ed.))
ISBN : 0-19-929055-5

INDEX TERMS : migrants; illegal immigrants; asylum seekers; refugees; European Union; immigration law; law of asylum; asylum policy; treaties; border controls; visas; expulsion; trafficking in persons; criminal law; national security
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Europe

Justice and Home Affairs Law of the European Union is relatively a new area of EU law and it covers fields which are integral to state sovereignty. These include issues of immigration, asylum and border control; some forms of harmonization of the criminal law and criminal procedure of the Member States; and the emergence of an incipient police authority that cooperates in the detection and persecution of crime. This book is an overview, analysis and critique of this EU law and examines both the institutional framework and substantive law in each area. It also makes an in-depth examination of the interaction between the EU's Justice and Human Affairs legislation and the relevant human rights law and normal Community law. Throughout the book, there is a focus on tension between the objectives of controlling migration on the one hand and the human rights and civil liberties principles on the other. This concern, since 9/11, to strike a balance between human rights and security objectives both at the national and international level will have an increasing impact as economic integration proceeds.

Evaluating the effectiveness of international refugee law : the protection of Iraqi refugees / Alborzi M. R. (ed.). - Leiden (Netherlands); Boston (MA) : Martinus Nijhoff, 2006. - 333 p. : tabl. - (Refugees and Human Rights ; Vol. 11)
ISBN : 90-04-15251-2

INDEX TERMS : Iraqis; international protection; international refugee law; Kurds; history; foreign occupation; humanitarian assistance; UNHCR; humanitarian organizations; refugee definitions; burden sharing; mass exodus; human rights
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Iraq

This book examines the relevance and effectiveness of refugee law and protection regime in dealing with Iraqi refugees during the rule of Saddam Hussain. It is an evaluation of the international response to a protracted humanitarian situation and the case of Iraq represents one of the most comprehensive cases in refugee law since it occurred over a relatively long period of time. It generated different types of refugees and different types of solutions which became precedents in international law and Iraq continues to produce new flow of refugees. The book argues that though the situation of Iraqi refugees has provided a challenging experimental case, the provisions of contractual international refugee law are not sufficiently developed to cover the needs of refugees and there is need for a modern, legally binding framework for an effective protection regime. To make the protection regime for refugees more effective, the soft laws which support the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol need to be transformed into customary norms.

Forced migration in Eastern Africa : democratization, structural adjustment, and refugees / Veney, C.R. - New York (NY) : Palgrave Macmillan, 2007. - xiii, 287 p. : tabl., map, bibl., index
ISBN : 1-4039-7610-4

INDEX TERMS : refugees; Somalis; Ethiopians; Sudanese; Burundians; Congolese; Rwandans; forced migration; war; genocide; asylum policy; receiving country; involuntary repatriation; refugee camps; human rights violations; refugee/local community relations; UNHCR; NGOs; Red Cross; history; international protection; assistance
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Kenya; United Republic of Tanzania; East Africa

Migration needs to be analyzed as part of a wider discourse that includes internal conflict, war, failed states, externally imposed development agendas, and shifting gender and power relations within refugee and host communities. This book attempts an understanding of politics and practice of refugee policy in two leading host countries, Kenya and Tanzania, and underpins the refugee condition in Eastern Africa to political and cultural struggles. Historical and contemporary economic, political, ethnic and social factors forced people to flee countries in the Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes regions in search of safety. Forced migration and the refugee crisis in Kenya and Tanzania during the late 1990s and early 2000s was a response to both countries adopting a harsher refugee policy which was linked to the change in economic and political regimes. The study examines how the various actors involved - host governments, the international relief agencies, local relief agencies, host communities, and refugees - interacted with each other to advance their respective agendas, meet their mandates and satisfy their constituents.

From outside in : an anthology of writings by refugees on Britain and britishness / Arbabzadah, N. (ed.). - London : Arcadia Books, 2007. - 180 p.
ISBN : 1-905147-14-7

INDEX TERMS : refugees; nationality; testimonies; literature; anthropology; refugee experiences; cultural identity; sociology; UK nationals; asylum policy; integration; testimonies; refugee experiences
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : United Kingdom

In this anthology of writings, refugees present their views on Britain and the British through memoir, fiction and poetry. This collective effort by an international group of refugees is based on the experience of exile and is an introspection of identity, the meaning of home and the impact of the host country culture on refugee lives. These stories cross generation, gender, ages, faiths and cultural backgrounds and they all reflect a personal and social history of the migratory experience which has been impacted by war, ethnic conflict and persecution. The narratives depict the twin mechanisms of loss and hope faced by newcomers and their simultaneous search to hold on to memories of past lives while they try to assimilate and integrate within British society. In this book, refugee contributions are grouped together by country of origin and in the chronological order in which these groups came to Britain and each section is preceded by an editorial piece contextualizing the importance of their presence in a historical framework. The contributors hope that by demonstrating links between history, politics and forced migration, they will counter the reductionism often employed by politicians and media in the issues of asylum.

Globalization, security, and the Nation-State: paradigms in transition / Aydinli, E. (ed.); Rosenau, J.N. (ed.). - Albany (NY) : State University of New York Press, 2005. - vii, 282 p. : tabl., bibl., index. - (SUNY series in global politics)
ISBN : 0-7914-6401-6

INDEX TERMS : national security; regional security; terrorism; war; trade; state; economics; politics; capitalism; globalization; NATO; European Union
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Russian Federation; Europe; Middle East; North Africa; World

The changing paradigms are altering the structures of world politics and adding new issues to the global agenda. Globalization is impacting the conduct of international affairs, the capacities of states and international security. This volume studies the links between globalization, security and the authority of the nation state and places them in a conceptual and historical background. The book is divided into four sections that focus on re-conceptualizing security, state transformations, regional reflections, and the emerging international patterns. The authors question and extend existing paradigms through three regional case studies: the periphery states of the Middle East and North Africa, the second world states of the Russian Federation, and the core states of the European Union. The book concludes by synthesizing the

themes of globalization, security and the state and explores their implications for emerging international patterns in world affairs.

The handbook of reparations / De Greiff, P. (ed.). - Oxford (United Kingdom) : Oxford University Press, 2006. - xxxiii, 1020 p. : tabl., index
ISBN : 0-19-929192-6

INDEX TERMS : victims; disappeared persons; human rights violations; forced labour; international law; sexual violence; financing; reconciliation; compensation; peace efforts; right to justice; international instruments; UN; case studies
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Argentina; Chile; Brazil; El Salvador; South Africa; Malawi; United States; Germany

In this handbook, an international and cross-disciplinary group of scholars and practitioners answer questions dealing with design and implementation of large-scale reparation programs around the world. War victims often see reparations as the most tangible manifestations of the efforts of the state to remedy the persecution suffered as they transit out of conflict towards democracy. This handbook tackles often ignored issues of justice in reparations, the relationship between material compensation and other symbolic measures of reparations and complicated issues of compensation to victims of sexual violence. The book is divided into three parts. Part 1 contains a series of highly detailed case studies that illustrate international experience with reparation programs and provide the empirical grounding and the basis of inquiry for the thematic chapters in Part 2. The second part examines the various challenges that frequently manifest in the design and implementation of reparations programs. The authors offer a normative and conceptual analysis focusing on the boundaries of the concept of reparations. They examine the relationship between reparations and other transitional justice measures and they articulate the goals of legitimate reparations programs. The last part of the book reproduces some basic documents on reparations. These include document from Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Germany translated here for the first time, as well as documents from Haiti, Malawi and South Africa.

International law and diplomacy / Chatterjee, C. - London; New York (NY) : Routledge, 2007. - 415 p.
ISBN : 978-1-85743-384-5

INDEX TERMS : international law; international relations; economics; history; diplomacy; diplomatic asylum; nationality; sovereignty; conferences; treaties; UN

This reference book on diplomacy and international law is addressed to both diplomats and students of diplomacy. In a globalizing world, diplomacy is continuously becoming more complex and requires an understanding of international relations, international law, economics and history from a theoretical and practical perspective. The author also emphasis on the importance of presenting issues before the United Nations and inter-governmental and non-governmental institutions and on the importance of the appropriate training for a diplomat and student of diplomacy. The book includes a glossary of essential terms and an extensive discussion and reproduction of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961, and the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, 1963.

The Iraq crisis and world order : structural, institutional and normative challenges / Thakur, R. (ed.); Sidhu, W.P.S. (ed.). - Tokyo; New York (NY); Paris : United Nations University Press, 2006. - xi, 547 p. : index
Joint project of the United Nations University (UNU) and the International Peace Academy (IPA), in partnership with King Prajadhipok's Institute
ISBN : 92-808-1128-2

INDEX TERMS : international security; sovereignty; armed intervention; terrorism; peace; international law; international relations; weapons; UN; government; NATO; European Union
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Iraq

The Iraq war provoked important questions about the adequacy of existing institutions for articulating global norms and enforcing demands of the international community. In the wake of Iraq, the growing divergence between legality and legitimacy has divided the international community and domestic opinion on the current world order. To address these issues, the contributors to this volume put the Iraq crisis in a historical perspective and examine its origins since 1980. They draw attention to two critical moments in its history: first, the Security Council's inadequate reaction to Iraq's attack on Iran in 1980; and, second, the unilateral imposition by France, Britain and the United States of 'no fly zones' over Iraq in 1991 and other unilateral initiatives that eventually undermined the unity of the Security Council's decisions on Iraq after 1998. In light of the Iraq crisis contributors examine structural and normative issues of unipolarity and Westphalian sovereignty, the disconnect between threats to international peace and security and state sovereignty and the rise of global public opinion against the war. They offer perspectives from the Middle East and the implications of the ongoing crisis for the region. The last part of the book looks at the legal and doctrinal implications of the Iraq war, including the responsibility to protect and human rights norms; the international use of force; and the postwar relations between occupying powers and the United Nations.

Les migrations en Europe : les réalités du présent, les défis du futur / Gourévitch, J.-P. - Paris : Acropole, 2007. - 425 p. : cartes, tabl., bibl.
ISBN : 978-2-7357-0267-1

INDEX TERMS : migrant workers; child immigrants; illegal immigrants; European Union; international migration; immigration policy; migration policy; irregular immigration; costing
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Europe

L'auteur établit un état des lieux documenté sur la réalité des migrations dans une Europe, confrontée à de nouveaux défis alors qu'elle se trouve en mutation et peine à définir une politique commune. Les flux migratoires augmentent et se diversifient avec la mondialisation : migration de main-d'oeuvre, de compétences, étudiantes, industrielles, familiales, etc. Les opinions publiques s'inquiètent de la disparition des moteurs traditionnels de l'intégration (tels que l'école, le travail, la religion, la famille, etc.) et des comportements de jeunes issus de l'immigration, de la montée de l'économie informelle et de l'emergence de la diversité culturelle. L'exploitation médiatique ou politique du thème des migrations rend la compréhension du phénomène migratoire difficile : chiffres biaisés, absence d'analyse des coûts, amalgames et schématisations.
(adapté du résumé de l'éditeur)

NGO accountability : politics, principles and innovations / Jordan, L. (ed.); Van Tuijl, P. (ed.). - London; Sterling (VA) : Earthscan, 2006. - 257 p.
ISBN : 1-84407-367-X

INDEX TERMS : community organizations; community development; financing; politics; peoples rights; human rights; project evaluation; monitoring; international aid; donors; NGOs; case studies
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : World; China; Indonesia; Uganda

Changes in the development paradigm have produced a corresponding shift in the emphasis in the NGO accountability discussions. The current debates regarding NGO accountability are embedded in multiple discourses around development, security, globalization and global governance. Today, accountability has become central to a NGO's political and organizational profile. This book examines the issues and politics of NGO accountability across all sectors and internationally. It confronts its political and power-related underpinnings and shows how its language and mechanisms can be abused for suppressing basic rights and political participation. The contributors assess the key technical tools available, including legal accountability, certification and donor-based accountability, and question whether these are viable options to reinstate NGOs to a one-dimensional role as organizers of national and global charity. The book is divided into four sections. In these sections the contributors discuss the main concepts of NGO accountability in the global context; they review traditional attempts to address NGO accountability; they elaborate the benefits of NGOs embracing accountability; and finally they present innovations that have developed from within NGOs that offer new approaches and flexible frameworks that enable accountability to become a reality. The authors present case studies from NGOs like ActionAid and from NGOs in China, Indonesia and Uganda and express their vision of better democratic governance and universal human rights resulting from accountability grounded in field-based innovation.

No refuge : the crisis of refugee militarization in Africa / Muggah, R. (ed.). - London; New York (NY); Bonn (Germany); Geneva : Zed Books; Bonn International Center for Conversion; Graduate Institute of International Studies, 2006. - xviii, 261 p. : tabl., maps, bibl., index
ISBN : 1-84277-788-2

INDEX TERMS : refugees; internally displaced persons; Burundians; Congolese; refugee camps; small arms; demilitarization; international protection; militias; armed attacks on camps; protection of camps; UNHCR; case studies
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Africa; Guinea; Uganda; United Republic of Tanzania; Rwanda

This book analyzes the many dimensions and experience of refugee and IDP militarization in several African countries affected by and emerging from civil war. It draws from new empirical research of refugee camps and settlements in Guinea, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda, where UNHCR is involved in protection and assistance to refugees. Refugee camp militarization and small arms proliferation threatens access to asylum and protection, which are the basis of refugee law and the mandates of aid agencies. So far there has been little evidence explaining on why displaced people arm themselves or how militarization effects host communities. This book demonstrates that militarization does not take place in a vacuum but is a manifestation of historical developments. The contributors to this volume present their understanding of the historical, political and regional dimensions that influence militarization in Africa and the international and national efforts to contain it.

Palestinian refugees : challenges of repatriation and development / Brynen R. (ed.); El-Rifai, R. (ed.). - London; New York (NY); Ottawa : I.B. Tauris; International Development Research Centre, 2007. - 242 p. , tabl.
ISBN : 978 1 84511 311 7

INDEX TERMS : refugees; Palestinians; conflict; peace efforts; return migration; reintegration; repatriation; land; returnees
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Palestine; Israel

Central to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and to its possible resolution is the complex issue of Palestinian refugees. The contributors to this book address the demographic and developmental challenges of the return of refugees to a future Palestinian state. They discuss the social and economic effects that might be anticipated from refugee repatriation and absorption and explore the various policy options that could be adopted to deal with these. The book presents data on the refugees and their living conditions in the West Bank and Gaza and host countries and examines the sociological factors influencing the process of return migration. Combining knowledge of Palestinian refugee societies with studies of repatriation experiences elsewhere, the authors construct hypotheses about future resettlement scenarios in Palestine. The book also tackles the technical planning aspects of the absorption and integration of returnees into the West Bank and Gaza as developed by Palestinian planners and the World Bank. It presents lessons learnt from Israel's experience in the absorption of immigrants over the last five decades and provides a preliminary analysis of the potential of evacuated settlements to absorb refugees into a new state.

The peace process and Palestinian refugee claims : addressing claims for property compensation and restitution / Fishbach, M. R. - Washington (DC) : United States Institute of Peace Press, 2006. - 150 p.: tabl.
ISBN : 1-929223-80-3

INDEX TERMS : refugees; Palestinians; conflict; peace efforts; right to property; administration of justice; compensation
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Palestine; Israel

This study examines one of the most important issues related to Palestinian refugees and the future of the peace process. This deals with the future of Palestinian property abandoned in 1948 and the dissatisfaction with the way the property question has been addressed as part of a lasting peace settlement. After sketching the historical background and reviewing conflicting estimates of the amount of property involved,

the author details why Arabs, Israelis and the global community have failed to solve the refugee property problem despite six decades of discussion. It investigates the US and UN proposals developed in the 1950s and '60s, it looks at peace efforts that began with the 1979 Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, and it discusses the conceptual and practical obstacles that have hindered resolution of the issue. The author believes that the failure to deal with the claims for compensation and restitution has undermined peace endeavors. He offers examples and ideas from history to help peacemakers to tackle this dilemma in future negotiation.

Security dynamics in Africa's Great Lakes Region / Khadiagala, G. M. (ed.). - Boulder (CO); London : Lynne Rienner, 2006. - 231 p.
A project of the International Peace Academy
ISBN : 978-1-58826-444-2

INDEX TERMS : armed conflict; civil war; ethnic conflict; genocide; history; peace efforts; international cooperation; political systems; non-state agents; UN; regional security
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Congo; Rwanda; Burundi

The authors of this book explore the sources of conflict in the Great Lakes Region and discuss the local and international attempts to rebuild political authority and reduce the scale of human suffering. They highlight the actors, issues and institutions that have impacted political, economic and security relationships in this region. The genocide in Rwanda, recurrent cycles of communal massacre, deepening poverty, state fragmentation and the massive displacement of civilians have lent urgency and energized policy intervention by a wide array of local and international actors to find mechanisms to stop conflicts and restore fragile polities and economies. To achieve peace, security and governance, the current concerns of participation need to be reconciled with post-colonial challenges of state and nation building in an environment without regional norms and institutions. The histories of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Burundi not only point at the salient post-colonial contexts that have structured the course of contemporary conflicts but also reveal how these civil wars and political instability have had adverse consequences on regional relationships. The authors believe that in order to alter the course of conflict resolution in the Great Lakes Region, it is essential to bring together national, regional and international solutions.

Security, reconstruction, and reconciliation : when the wars end / Ndulo, M. (ed.). - Abingdon (United Kingdom); New York (NY) : UCL press, 2007. - 348 p.
ISBN : 1-84472-117-5

INDEX TERMS : civil war; conflict resolution; peace efforts; civil and polical rights; economic social and cultural rights; reconstruction; arms trafficking; women; children; disarmament
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Africa; South Africa; Sierra Leone

This inter-disciplinary study of conflict brings together contributions on complex issues of security, reconstruction and reconciliation in post-conflict societies. The causes of conflict are affected by both history and contemporary realities. As a symptom of the structural problems that generate conflict, displacement is a national challenge that calls for creating an environment in which all citizens feel a sense of belonging on equal footing. Contributors attempt to draw on common lessons learnt, identify pitfalls to be avoided and articulate issues and guidelines that should be considered in the design of post-conflict processes. This book is organized into four main parts. These include: the social, economic and political dimensions of conflict; the impact of conflict on women and children; reconstructions and past human rights violations; disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, post-war reconstruction and the role of the international community in the peace process. The ultimate aim of the authors is to contribute to the determination of the variables that underline success in the approaches adopted to achieve reconciliation and reconstruction in post-conflict societies and identify ways of empowering those most affected by war.

Violence and reconstruction / Darby, J. (ed.). - Notre Dame (IN) : University of Notre Dame Press, 2006. - ix, 178 p. : tabl., bibl., index
ISBN : 0-268-02588-6

INDEX TERMS : internal conflict; violence; peace efforts; demobilization; disarmament; reintegration; reconstruction; non-political crimes; state; police

GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Angola; Namibia; Congo; South Africa; Israel; Yugoslavia; United Kingdom; Haiti; Guatemala

The contributors to this volume present their arguments on the counter-intuitive relationship between violence and peace in peace implementation and peacebuilding. Their aim is to explore analytically the different ways that violence can influence the implementation of peace agreements and postwar reconstruction. Since the 1990s, peace processes in Israel-Palestine, Guatemala, El Salvador and Northern Ireland reverted to violence while seeking to implement formal peace agreements. The persistence and the forms of violence became the main determinants of the future of the peace process. This book adopts a four-part analysis, and examines in turn violence emanating from the state, from militants, from destabilizing societies, and from the challenges of implementing a range of policies including demobilization, disarmament and policing. It draws attention to the increased willingness of the state to turn to militias to carry on violence by proxy; to the importance of distinguishing between the aims and actions of different militant groups; to a postwar rise in violent conventional crime; and to the importance of the proper restoration of a civil society.