

Book Notes: Refugee in International Law, by Guy S. Goodwin-Gill & Jane McAdam

Sarah Boyd

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Book Note

THE REFUGEE IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, by Guy S. Goodwin-Gill & Jane McAdam¹

SARAH BOYD

THIS IS THE MOST RECENT EDITION² of a canonical text on refugee law. It is frequently cited by the Supreme Court of Canada in refugee law cases,³ indicating its importance to domestic Canadian refugee law.

This new edition takes into account a decade of developments in the supranational, regional, and numerous national refugee protection regimes. Goodwin-Gill and McAdam state that their goal is to describe the law as it stood on 31 December 2006.⁴ They discuss the increasing use of extra-territorial interdiction and the excising of frontier territories from the national “refugee zones,” a tactic employed by states hoping to duck their obligations under the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol.⁵ The plight of internally displaced people is addressed in more depth than in previous editions; the authors also include the jurisprudence of the International Criminal Tribunals for the Former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda (most of which

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1. 3d ed. (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2007) 848 pages.
 2. The first edition was Guy Goodwin-Gill, *The Refugee in International Law* (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1983). The second was (New York: Oxford University Press, 1996), reprinted in 1998 with corrections.
 3. See especially *Canada (Attorney General) v. Ward*, [1993] 2 S.C.R. 689; *Pushpanathan v. Canada (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration)*, [1998] 1 S.C.R. 982 [*Pushpanathan*]; *Moreno v. Canada (Minister of Employment and Immigration)*, [1994] 1 F.C. 298 (F.C.A.); and *Chan v. Canada (Minister of Employment and Immigration)*, [1995] 3 S.C.R. 593.
 4. Goodwin-Gill & McAdam, *supra* note 1 at vi.
 5. *Convention relating to the Status of Refugees*, 189 U.N.T.S. 2545; *Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees*, 606 U.N.T.S. 8791.

postdates the previous editions), as well as a number of newer and important decisions from various national⁶ and international⁷ courts and tribunals.

The Refugee in International Law is a comprehensive survey text that addresses both theories and practicalities of refugee law from the legal perspective. While it does not examine any specific themes in detail, it offers an up-to-date foundation on refugee law, as well as an extensive bibliography and Online Resource Centre to help direct more focused research.

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6. See e.g. *Pushpanathan*, *supra* note 3; *Mugasera v. Minister of Citizenship and Immigration*, [2005] 2 S.C.R. 100; *Suresh v. Minister of Citizenship and Immigration*, [2002] 1 S.C.R. 3; *A. v. Secretary of State for the Home Department*, [2005] 2 A.C. 68; and *Januzi v. Secretary of State for the Home Department*, [2006] 2 W.L.R. 397.
 7. See e.g. *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Rep. (2004), No. 131; *Case Concerning the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations (Germany v. United States of America)*, I.C.J. Rep. (2001), No. 104.