

FOREWORD

Amnesties, Pardons, Statutes of Limitation, Immunities, the principle of *Non Bis In Idem*, and Abuse of Process are well known in most legal systems. Together, they are evaluated afresh in this challenging and timely work, as presenting the most significant impediments today to the exercise of international criminal jurisdiction.

These impediments manifest themselves differently in a variety of international and national courts. The policy issues which arise have been the subject of widely varying appreciations by scholars, judges and governments. There are marked divergences of approach.

Incisively, and at times controversially, the author examines each of these impediments and their justifications. Both national and international decisions, as well as learned commentaries, are reviewed. Attention is often drawn to issues and consequences which may have become familiar and are thereby unnoticed, in national jurisdictional contexts but which take on a significance in an international setting which demands renewed evaluation. The result is both extremely informative and deeply challenging.

This book will be of immediate value in many national legal systems. Its primary focus, however, is in the developing perspective of international criminal jurisdiction. Here it offers an innovative and valuable resource. The work will commend itself to learned scholars, judges, diplomats, students and the many other persons and organisations for whom this subject is of increasing significance.

The depth and scope of research, the clarity of expression, and the quality of analysis to be found in this volume are commendable. Work in this area of law will be enriched, and its further development significantly assisted, by the author's most welcome contribution.

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