Historical Justice in International Perspective

This book makes a valuable contribution to recent debates on redress for historical injustices by offering case studies from nine countries on five continents. The contributors examine the problems of material restitution, criminal justice, apologies, recognition, memory, and reconciliation in national contexts as well as in comparative perspective. Among the topics discussed are the claims for reparations for slavery in the United States, West German restitution for the Holocaust, the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the efforts to prosecute the perpetrators of the Khmer Rouge's mass murders in Cambodia, and the struggles of the indigenous people of Australia and New Zealand. The book highlights the diversity of the ways societies have tried to right past wrongs as the demand for historical justice has become universal.

Manfred Berg, the Curt Engelhorn Professor of American History at the University of Heidelberg, is a specialist in the history of the African-American civil rights movement. His book *The Ticket to Freedom: The NAACP and the Struggle for Black Political Integration* was published in 2005. In 2006 he received the David Thelen Award of the Organization of American Historians for the best essay in American history published in a language other than English. Professor Berg has published ten other monographs and edited volumes and roughly forty scholarly articles in both English and German. Before joining the Heidelberg faculty, he taught at the Free University of Berlin and was a research Fellow at the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C.

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The German Historical Institute is a center for advanced study and research whose purpose is to provide a permanent basis for scholarly cooperation among historians from the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States. The Institute conducts, promotes, and supports research into both American and German political, social, economic, and cultural history; into transatlantic migration, especially in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; and into the history of international relations, with special emphasis on the roles played by the United States and Germany.

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Historical Justice in International Perspective

HOW SOCIETIES ARE TRYING TO RIGHT THE WRONGS OF THE PAST

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Preface

This book grew out of a conference held at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., in March 2003. The editors would like to thank Christof Mauch, the former director of the GHI, and Christian Ostermann, director of the History and Public Policy Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, for their generous support of this project.

During three exciting days in Washington, twenty-six participants from nine countries and other guests engaged in inspiring discussions of historical justice in theoretical and practical terms and within an international context. We thank all the speakers for their contributions to this meeting. This book includes revised versions of most of the conference papers. We are grateful to all of the contributors for meeting deadlines and their ensuing patience. Also we wish to thank our editor at Cambridge University Press, Frank Smith; the three anonymous reviewers, who read the manuscript and gave us helpful suggestions; and David Lazar, senior editor at the German Historical Institute.

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