Classical arguments about the legitimate use of force have profoundly shaped the norms and institutions of contemporary international society. But what specific lessons can we learn from the classical European philosophers and jurists when thinking about humanitarian intervention, preventive self-defense, or international trusteeship today? The contributors to this volume take seriously the admonition of contextualist scholars not to uproot classical thinkers’ arguments from their social, political and intellectual environment. Nevertheless, this collection demonstrates that contemporary students, scholars, and policymakers can still learn a great deal from the questions raised by classical European thinkers, the problems they highlighted, and even the problematic character of some of the solutions they offered. The aim of this volume is to open up current assumptions about military intervention to critical reflection and to explore the possibility of reconceptualizing and reappraising contemporary approaches.

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Just and Unjust Military Intervention

*European Thinkers from Vitoria to Mill*

Edited by

Stefano Recchia and Jennifer M. Welsh
Contents

Notes on contributors vii
Acknowledgements xi

Introduction: the enduring relevance of classical thinkers
STEFANO RECCHIA AND JENNIFER M. WELSH

1 Intervention in European history, c.1520–1850
DAVID TRIM

2 War in the face of doubt: early modern classics and the preventive use of force
ARIEL COLONOMOS

3 Vitoria: the law of war, saving the innocent, and the image of God
WILLIAM BAIN

4 Grotius, Hobbes, and Pufendorf on humanitarian intervention
RICHARD TUCK

5 John Locke on intervention, uncertainty, and insurgency
SAMUEL MOYN

6 Intervention and sovereign equality: legacies of Vattel
JENNIFER PITTS

7 David Hume and Adam Smith on international ethics and humanitarian intervention
EDWIN VAN DE HAAR

8 Sovereignty, morality, and history: the problematic legitimization of force in Rousseau, Kant, and Hegel
PIERRE HASSNER

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Contents

9 Revisiting Kant and intervention 196
   ANDREW HURRELL

10 Edmund Burke and intervention: empire and neighborhood 219
   JENNIFER M. WELSH

11 The origins of liberal Wilsonianism: Giuseppe Mazzini on 237
    regime change and humanitarian intervention
    STEFANO RECCHIA

12 J. S. Mill on nonintervention and intervention 263
   MICHAEL DOYLE

Select bibliography 288
Index 294
Notes on contributors

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