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Remedies against international organisations

International organisations have become major players on the international scene, whose acts, actions and omissions affect individuals, companies and states. Damage to interests or violation of rights sometimes occurs (such as during peacekeeping operations, for example). Karel Wellens considers what remedies are available to potential claimants such as private contractors, staff members or, indeed, anyone suffering damage as a result of their actions. Can they turn to an ombudsman or national courts, or do they have to rely on support from their own state? Are the remedies provided by international organisations adequate? Wellens' conclusions include suggestions for alternative remedial options in the future.

Karel Wellens is Professor of Public International Law and the Law of International Organisations, at the Catholic University of Nijmegen, the Netherlands. He is also Chairman of the Advisory Committee on International Legal Issues to the Dutch Foreign Ministry and Co-Rapporteur of the International Law Association Committee on Accountability of International Organisations. His other publications include editing *Resolutions and Statements of the UN Security Council (1946–1992): A Thematic Guide* (1993) and *Economic Conflicts and Disputes before the World Court (1922–1995)* (1996).

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Of course, all the errors and mistakes remain my exclusive accountability and the views expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the ILA Committee or of any of its members. I have attempted to render this study up to date as of 30 June 2000. This inevitably implies that important later developments could not be covered.

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Abbreviations

AFDI	<i>Annuaire Français de Droit International</i>
AJIL	<i>American Journal of International Law</i>
ASIL	American Society of International Law
ATCA	Alien Tort Claims Act
BYIL	<i>British Yearbook of International Law</i>
CFI	Court of First Instance
CHR	Commission on Human Rights
DPKO	United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Community/Communities
ECHR	European Court of Human Rights
ECJ	European Court of Justice
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EU	European Union
FSIA	Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
IACHR	Inter-American Court of Human Rights
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICLQ	<i>International and Comparative Law Quarterly</i>
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICTR	International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
ICTY	International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia
ILA	International Law Association
ILC	International Law Commission
ILM	<i>International Legal Materials</i>

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ILO	International Labour Organisation
ILOAT	ILO Administrative Tribunal
ILR	<i>International Law Reports</i>
ITLOS	International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
JAB	Joint Appeals Board
JWTL	<i>Journal of World Trade Law</i>
LJIL	<i>Leiden Journal of International Law</i>
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NILR	<i>Netherlands International Law Review</i>
OAS	Organisation of American States
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OIOS	Office of Internal Oversight Services
ONUC	Opérations des Nations Unies au Congo
OJ	<i>Official Journal</i>
OPCW	Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
PCA	Permanent Court of Arbitration
PCIJ	Permanent Court of International Justice
RBDI	<i>Revue Belge de Droit International</i>
RCADI	<i>Recueil des Cours de l'Académie de Droit International</i>
SOFA	Status of Forces Agreement
UN	United Nations
UNAMIR	United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda
UNAT	United Nations Administrative Tribunal
UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEF	United Nations Emergency Force
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNFICYP	United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
UNHCHR	United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMIK	United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
UNOSOM	United Nations Operation in Somalia
UNPROFOR	United Nations Protection Force
UNRIAA	United Nations Reports of International Arbitral Awards

UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East
UNSCOM	United Nations Special Commission on Iraq
UNTAC	United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia
UNTAES	United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium
UNTAET	United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor
UNTEA	United Nations Temporary Executive Authority
US	United States
WHO	World Health Organisation
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organisation
WTO	World Trade Organisation
ZAÖRV	<i>Zeitschrift für Ausländisches, Öffentliches Recht und Völkerrecht</i>