

INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE POLITICS OF HISTORY

As the future of international law has become a growing site of struggle within and between powerful states, debates over the history of international law have become increasingly heated. *International Law and the Politics of History* explores the ideological, political, and material stakes of apparently technical disputes over how the legal past should be studied and understood. Drawing on a deep knowledge of the history, theory, and practice of international law, Anne Orford argues that there can be no impartial accounts of international law's past and its relation to empire and capitalism. Rather than looking to history in a doomed attempt to find a new ground for formalist interpretations of what past legal texts really mean or what international regimes are really for, she urges lawyers and historians to embrace the creative role they play in making rather than finding the meaning of international law.

ANNE ORFORD is Redmond Barry Distinguished Professor and Michael D. Kirby Chair of International Law at the University of Melbourne. She has held visiting professorships at Harvard, Lund, Gothenburg, and Paris 1, and lectured at the Hague Academy of International Law. Her publications include *Reading Humanitarian Intervention* (2003), *International Authority and the Responsibility to Protect* (2011), *Pensée Critique et Pratique du Droit International* (2020), and the co-edited collections *The Oxford Handbook of the Theory of International Law* (2016) and *Revolutions in International Law: The Legacies of 1917* (2021).

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ANNE ORFORD
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