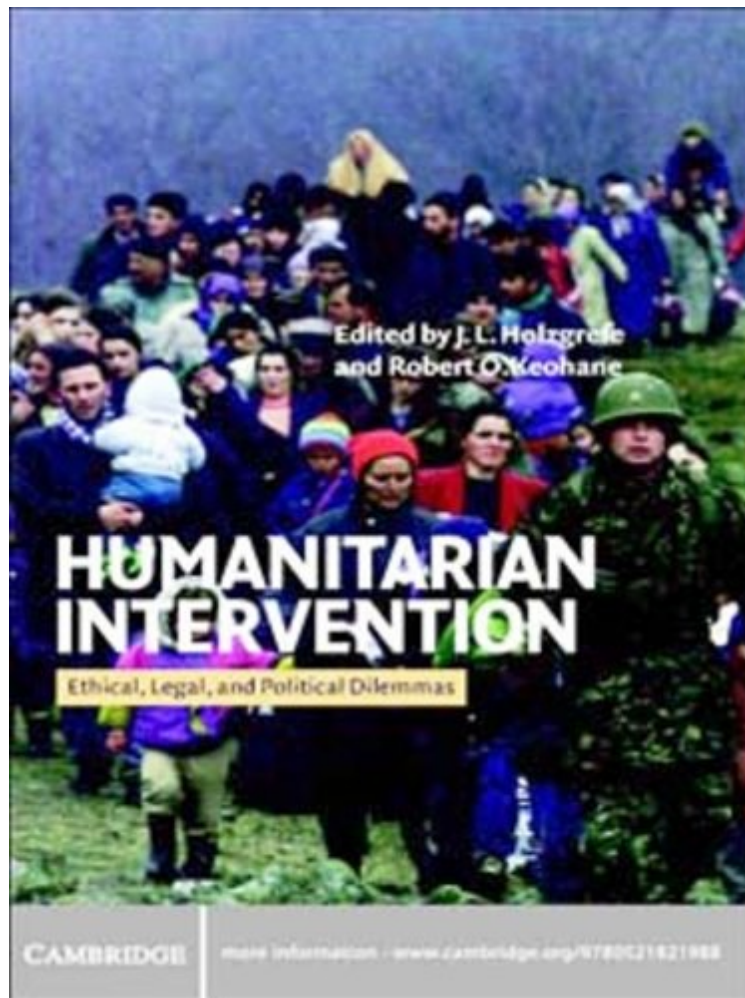


Humanitarian Intervention: Ethical, Legal and Political Dilemmas

Von J. L. HOLZGREFE, ROBERT O. KEOHANE
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Von J. L. HOLZGREFE, ROBERT O. KEOHANE : Humanitarian Intervention: Ethical, Legal and Political Dilemmas before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Humanitarian Intervention: Ethical, Legal and Political Dilemmas:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The best discussion of Humanitarian Intervention availableVon Big Bad AllIt is difficult not to become too enthusiastic about this wonderful collection of articles about the controversial topic of humanitarian intervention. The work is edited by Robert Keohane whose one of the top international relations theorist in the US and the British academic J.L. Holzgrefe. The articles are written by an internationally recognised group of experts and cover the political, moral and legal aspects of humanitarian interventions. J.L. Holzgrefe's introduction to the issue of humanitarian interventionism is the best overview of the topic I have ever read. All the other pieces are of equally high quality. The book is roughly

divided into four parts. The first provides the reader with a general overview of the humanitarian intervention debate, especially in regard to events surrounding 9/11. Part two engages with the moral issues involved in HI and will appeal to students of moral philosophy and political theory. Fernando Teson's quasi-Kantian defence of HI is a fantastic and illuminating read whereas Allen Buchanan's contribution provides one with an interesting ethical assessment of international law from the perspective of one of the leading moral and political philosophers of the US. The third part deals in a sophisticated yet readable way with the legal implications of HI. The writers, all of whom are experts in international law, have very different positions on HI, which makes a close study of the three chapters contained in this section very rewarding indeed --- even for non-lawyers. The last part features two high quality contributions from Keohane (on sovereignty after intervention) and the prolific commentator, journalist and Harvard professor Michael Ignatieff (state failure and nation building), which will appeal to political scientists and scholars of globalisation. One of the contributors to the volume writes that after 9/11 academic work on HI proliferated faster than Weapons of Mass Destruction --- it is easy to see why: the politics of rescue (Michael Walzer) poses a fundamental challenge to the current structure of international affairs. The current (June 2004) situation in Sudan sadly proves that the topic of HI is going to stay on the political agenda for quite a while. Should western countries intervene by force to ensure a minimal respect for human rights? Is HI merely a cloak for western imperialism? Have the HI of the 1990s set a dangerous precedent for unilateral action? These are the questions that are treated in this work. It is an uncomfortable read, for the articles ask us to reflect on what those who live in relative security owe to others who are in danger of being killed in genocide or become victims of brutal ethnic cleansing. HI are a controversial phenomenon --- a fact which is reflected in the diverse opinions expressed in this book. However, it seems that all the writers seem to support HI in appropriate situations. An illuminating and challenging read for all those who are interested in this issue. I should point out that this is an academic text and consequently it requires some knowledge of International Relations and political science to make sense of the articles. Strongly recommended for postgraduates as well as researchers.

Kurzbeschreibung "The genocide in Rwanda showed us how terrible the consequences of inaction can be in the face of mass murder. But the conflict in Kosovo raised equally important questions about the consequences of action without international consensus and clear legal authority. On the one hand, is it legitimate for a regional organization to use force without a UN mandate? On the other, is it permissible to let gross and systematic violations of human rights, with grave humanitarian consequences, continue unchecked?" (United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan). This book is a comprehensive, integrated discussion of 'the dilemma' of humanitarian intervention. Written by leading analysts of international politics, ethics, and law, it seeks, among other things, to identify strategies that may, if not resolve, at least reduce the current tension between human rights and state sovereignty. This volume is an invaluable contribution to the debate on all aspects of this vital global issue. Pressestimmen "The papers in this volume offer an informative analysis of humanitarian intervention with real intellectual coherence. The interdisciplinarity of the contributions, the sensitivity to the phenomenon of weak states, and the recognition of the tensions between human rights and the war on terrorism, combine to make this book both timely and welcome" Charles R. Beitz, Princeton University "This is a powerful and satisfying book. This superb set of essays provides a way to synthesize differing approaches from international law, moral philosophy and politics into a framework to deal with such complex and shattering events as Rwanda, Kosovo and the aftermath of September 11." Antonia Chayes, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University "A learned and stimulating collection of very fine essays on the political, moral and legal aspects of humanitarian intervention." Stanley Hoffmann, Harvard University "Humanitarian intervention lies at the fault line between the international system's commitments to state autonomy and integrity and to the protection of human rights. These original essays are an important contribution to policy clarification and to scholarship." W. Michael Reisman, Yale Law School "For those wondering whether humanitarian intervention has a future after September 11, this outstanding collection is essential reading." Nicholas J. Wheeler, University of Wales "These essays illuminate the ethical, legal and political conditions under which humanitarian intervention can be justified, while revealing the dangers and complexities of such force." Foreign Affairs "Humanitarian Intervention comprises many nuanced debates and contrasting points of view that cannot be summarized in a short review. It is an excellent book and I recommend it highly to all those interested in humanitarianism." International Affairs "This anthology should set a standard because of its comprehensive treatment of the subject - among the most current and most controversial in international law - and because of obstacles to agreeing about legitimate intervention." Library Journal "This is an outstanding volume, rich in detail, commendable well referenced and very engaging." Journal of Humanitarian Assistance "Holzgrefe and Keohane have compiled a very readable, accessible and truly multi-disciplinary volume that both summarizes and spurs today's discussions about humanitarian intervention. The authors make cross-references to each other's views, turning the volume into a true unity without losing the diversity of opinions and perspectives on its topic." Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management "The book provides a comprehensive and important multidisciplinary debate on this contentious issue." Common Law World "The pooled efforts by these scholars

converge to produce an instructive and multifaceted examination of humanitarian intervention.' *Journal of Moral Philosophy*'What this volume does is provide a series of stimulating essays that permit the reader to weigh up the arguments for and against humanitarian intervention, and, as importantly, to gauge the current stage of the debate provides the reader with a spectrum of finely argued views.' Nigel White, *Leiden Journal of International Law*' a rich, consistently well-written, series of articles dealing with humanitarian or human rights intervention. It is an important volume that will be valuable for scholars, students, and policy-makers alike.' *International Journal on Minority and Group Rights* Rwanda, Iraq, and Kosovo have stimulated ethical, legal and political debates about humanitarian intervention - the use of military force to end human rights violations in other states. Leading analysts address key issues, including the implications of the war against terrorism for humanitarian intervention. Of interest to students and researchers.