national environmental law and practice in Asia may have to look elsewhere for additional information.

Well written, Mushkat’s book offers a philosophical approach to the relationship between Asian culture and international law. The book also addresses Asian cultural values and their impact on international environmental law, and vice versa. This is a smooth read, educating the reader who has no prior knowledge of the history of Asia with sufficient information to grasp the general gist without necessarily delving into the history of Asia.

In brief: the book informs on the impact of free trade and globalization in the region, but has not fully succeeded in depicting how Asian values have hindered the implementation of adequate environmental laws. I would suggest that the major hindrances to the protection of the Asian environment are free trade and globalization, and Mushkat confirms existing knowledge within the international community.

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The book China and the World Trading System arose from a research project funded by the Australian Research Council and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). The 25 contributors to this book are from different parts of the world: the USA, Europe, China, Australia, and Japan. All of their arguments have focused on the topic of the membership of China, the world’s sixth-largest trading economy, of the WTO rules-based international trading system. The implications of the accession of China to the world trading system are addressed; the authors argue that effects will be mutual. As well as the WTO’s effect on many aspects of the domestic sphere of China, China’s membership will affect many parts of the WTO, for example, the WTO’s rules, decision-making, dispute resolution procedures, etc. The collection of 22 essays in this book are divided into seven parts, each of which discusses a different aspect of China’s accession to the WTO: Part I, the world trading system generally; Part II, the accession of China; Part III, China’s domestic economy, and in Parts IV to VII the goods, services, TRIPS, and dispute settlement system, respectively.

The first part, “The world trading system”, contains three essays which examine the impact China’s accession will have upon the overall architecture. It argues that China’s accession to the WTO has the potential to have a significant impact upon the world trading system precisely because it occurs at the time when many of the old verities of geopolitics and law, and law and diplomacy, are being questioned. The contraction of absolute state sovereignty, the pluralization of the centres of legal and state authority, and the growth of a transnational system, the World Trade Organization, would be a key part in these changes. Deborah Cass examines the constitutionalization of the international trade system and argues that China’s entry into the WTO has the potential to influence the phenomenon, whether constitutionalization is conceived of as expanding the trade ‘right’ recognized by international trade, thus strengthening its institutions, or as creating a new demon or community to legitimize the system, in the essay “China and the ‘constitutionalization’ of international trade law”. Sylvia Ostry portrays the scene China confronts entering the world trading system in her essay “WTO membership for China: to be and not to be – is that the answer?” She argues that the old-fashioned notions of market access have expanded since Uruguay, from requiring States simply to remove border barriers to a focus on domestic regulatory policy. States are now more frequently obliged to shift from an emphasis on negative regulation to positive regulation. Also, Ostry claims that China could play a critical role in relation to issues such as the creation of a policy forum to discuss the intersection between international trade rules and legitimate domestic policy intervention, and the role of non-State actors in international trade. Quite similarly, John H. Jackson’s essay “The impact of China’s accession on the WTO” also argues that China may begin to exercise a role as a diplomatic leader on the WTO stage, especially if it participates in the resolution of a number of key policy questions currently facing the organization. In a word, the landscape of the world trading system and China’s role within it were
unsettled, and they seem set to shift in the context of China’s accession to the WTO.

Part II of this book is “The accession”. The authors in this part, Jeffrey Gertler, Secretary to the Working Party on the Accession of China to the WTO, and Graeme Thomson, who led Australia’s negotiations with China, are both experienced observers of the accession process. They examine the accession process and outcomes in detail. Jeffrey Gertler gives “a fascinating account of the longest and most arduous” accession negotiations in WTO history; the primary theme to emerge is that the accession package negotiated represents a significant commitment by China to the disciplines of international trade. Also, “the difficult adjustment continues and is far from completed.” Graeme Thomson outlines the broad parameters of the package and comments on the “tremendous nature and range of China’s various commitments” from the point of view of a negotiator. Both authors conclude that China’s willingness substantially to commit itself to the world trade system is clearly present in the final package negotiated.

The third part of this book, “China – the domestic sphere”, focuses on the question of the way in which accession to the WTO will affect China in its domestic sphere. It is the crucial research question not only in this part, but also in many other sectors of the book. For example, in Part VI, related to goods, Ian Dickson points out that the initial benefits of WTO membership for China will not be great in relation to textiles exports, although over the longer term China will improve. Also, two essays in Part VI, related to intellectual property, contain rather different analyses of the impact of the TRIPS Agreement on China. They all provide excellent analyses of how the WTO will affect China. The five essays contained in Part III principally examine the internal effects of WTO membership in relation to aspects of the Chinese economy, legal system, and human rights. In particular essays in this part, Ligang Song uses a number of figures and statistics to review briefly the nature of, and basic approaches to, structural changes in economic transformation; outlines what has been achieved and what remains to be done in carrying out structural changes, and discusses how the structural changes affect the state of the Chinese economy. He then discusses the implications for implementing China’s WTO commitments and points out some potential risks that exist in certain areas of the economy. Elena Ianchovichina and Will Martin conclude that the bulk of the benefits of membership will accrue to China through a macro-economic analysis of the economic implications for China of the liberalization of trade that will follow upon entry into the WTO with a prognosis that is largely favourable, as far as China is concerned. Meanwhile, Raj Bhala considers accession from the perspective of labour surplus and Marxist models in relation to transition from agrarian to industrial economies in this part. From his perspective, he concludes that the accession of China will give rise to major structural changes to the domestic economy with concomitant serious adjustment problems that the Chinese government must address. Qingjiang Kong points out that the implementation and enforcement of international agreements might be changed as a result of WTO practice, and argues that a host of factors, including a wide variety of aspects of Chinese internal situation, will affect implementation. Alice E.S. Tay and Hamish Redd analyze the domestic sphere by considering links between trade and human rights. They suggest that China has almost no history of government under law and thus assess the mixed evidence of a move towards the rule of law, noting the potential influence of WTO membership in their essay “China: trade, law and human rights”. In short, there is a general idea in this part that China will experience considerable internal change in many areas, but the grand result remains uncertain.

Part IV to Part VII contain the main chapters discussing the respective interactive systems between China and the WTO, and the way in which China’s accession transforms or interacts with WTO institutions, rules, politics, and processes. These sections include a discussion of trade in goods, trade in services, competition policy, intellectual property, and dispute settlement. In relation to goods, Ian Dickson and Ichiro Araki both consider how China’s accession transforms the WTO in the trade of goods. Ian Dickson argues the important role of China in the textiles sector means China has a significant interest at stake in the interpretation of the rules on safeguards and in any further development of those rules. In relation to trade in services, several authors argued the gap between law-in-practice and the law-in-theory. Christopher
Arup discusses the professional service in China. His analysis is that China’s entry to the WTO will stimulate the development of legalized dispute settlement, and will definitely remove restrictions on foreign legal firms doing business in China, in order to attract foreign professional services. Dene Yeaman reviewed various retailing, wholesaling and logistics options to which China has committed itself as regards services, and claims that “China’s accession is the first step on the road leading to full foreign participation in the distribution and logistics sectors and is a significant milestone in the development of distribution and logistics industries, [therefore] foreign suppliers will stay the course”. The GATT and TRIPS are also discussed in these sectors. Macintosh’s essay makes it obvious that China will have a significant role in any further elaboration of the GATT rules. Similarly, Angela Gregory, Daniel Stewart and Brett G. Williams all discuss the fact that the Chinese policy-makers have particular interest in many of the biotechnology issues due for examination by the TRIPS review.

In the last part of this book, the dispute system has been discussed. Michael Lennard provides an anti-dumping case study regarding the use of the principles of interpretation referred to at the DSB; he argues that states seeking to impose anti-dumping duties on China will have the burden of proving, to an objective standard, that Chinese prices are not set under market economy conditions. The focus of Ravi P. Kewalram’s essay is on China’s WTO obligations with regard to the activities of its sub-national entities, whether the WTO Agreement requires China to remove inconsistent sub-national measures, or whether China’s obligation stops at taking available “reasonable measures” to ensure compliance. It is concluded that it may be unreasonable for China to fail to remove a measure, although there are few legal limits, as set out in its Constitution, on the central government’s power in relation to the regions. Among federal WTO members the central government must take all reasonable measures to seek the removal of the sub-national WTO-inconsistent measures, an obligation different from that of removing the measures.

This book is not only about the effects of China’s accession to the WTO and Chinese internal sphere. Rather, it is also a wide discussion of the spur towards legal and economic reform, the far-reaching social, political and distributional consequences in China. According to most authors’ perspectives, Chinese accession facilitates a new role for China in international geopolitical affairs, and alters the shape, structure and content of the world trading system as a whole. Overall, this is a very welcome addition to the body of literature on the WTO and China.

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This highly informative book makes a valuable contribution to the crucial subject of the delimitation of maritime boundaries. It is comprehensive and evidences considerable knowledge of the parameters and complexities of the delimitation of the maritime political boundaries around the world. The subject matter is important for legal and political perspectives on the application of international law of the sea. Delimitation, the setting of boundaries of an area already in principle appertaining to a coastal state, has driven academic and judicial debate since the decisions of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the Anglo-Norwegian Fisheries Case (1951) ICJ Reports 116 and the North Sea Continental Shelf Case (1969) ICJ Reports 3.

As the authors point out, no coastal state can claim its maximum marine sphere without its overlapping with similar claims from (a) neighbouring state(s); allied with the marked increase in maritime space coming under coastal state jurisdiction, the importance of the issue of delimitation of maritime boundaries has in no way diminished. With the increased diversity and intensity of maritime activities, the establishment of Arbitral Tribunals established by the Law of the Sea Convention 1982 and the ICJ’s continuing to play an important role in dispute settlement in this area, the surrounding debates roll on. Although required to do so by law, the reality is that most States are not able to reach agreement on disputed boundaries; the resulting