policies are met. The sanctioning strategies of prevention, deterring, restoring, correcting and rehabilitating are imperfectly performed. International law is dynamic and prescriptions do not remain constant. Conflicting demands and expectations, and variable official appraisals of international incidents can lead to the corrosion of existing counter-piracy prescriptions. An important factor is elite response to critical piracy incidents. Hence vigilance coupled with action is key.

Ultimately, eradicating piracy will require addressing the root causes on land and sea, integrating development into the existing counter-piracy maritime security program. For all the necessary focus on the oceans, piracy is also a land-based problem. Poor economic development and socio-political instability are the continuing conditions that spawn piracy. In addition to maritime security efforts, eradicating piracy requires capacity building. This means penal system capacity, legal capacity, maritime protection capacity, and economic capacity including alternative livelihoods in the places that spawn piracy, notably Somalia. Piracy roots must be attacked on land while the symptoms are attacked at sea.

This book demonstrates that the counter-piracy framework is fraught with pathologies. If conditions remain unchanged, the trends will generate drastic interruptions of global shipping, spiralling costs for industry and consumers, and heavier burdens falling upon seafarers and their families. Dr. Kraska helps the reader understand these challenges and the instruments and mechanisms to reverse existing conditions. This book is a work of deep research and thoughtful analysis, containing relevant maps and documents. The effort to combat maritime piracy is at a critical juncture and thus this treatise appears at a critical moment. Contemporary Maritime Piracy: International Law, Strategy, and Diplomacy at Sea, is a complete treatment of the subject. It is a work of nuance and deep insight produced by a first rate scholar who brings to bear years of first-hand maritime security experience. For students, laymen and experts concerned about maritime piracy, this book is essential reading.

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airspace above them and the resources below. Together, these six volumes document the concerns and compromises embodied in the Convention and the negotiating history that led to its final provisions. This is increasingly important because now, 30 years after the conclusion of the Convention, there remain only a few of the leaders, participants and observers who saw first hand the evolution of the Convention and who remain professionally engaged and accessible to contemporary practitioners and researchers. This series captures the experience, knowledge and insight of the past that is needed today and in the future.

The seventh volume of the series addresses one weakness of the previous volumes. Reflecting the Convention’s structure as an integrated approach to modern ocean law, Volume VII integrates the first six volumes of the Commentary series with a consolidated view of both the Convention and the indices to the preceding volumes. In doing so it empowers researchers and practitioners in understanding the interrelated nature of the Convention, the compromises it embodies and the negotiators’ intent.

Part I of the volume combines two important agreements into a consolidated version of the 1982 Convention that incorporates provisions of the 1994 Agreement on Implementation of Part XI into the text of the Convention alongside the articles that it modifies. This provides a single reference that reflects the governance of the seabed beyond national jurisdiction post-1994. Part II provides the 1995 “Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 Relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks and Final Act of the UN Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks,” also referred to as the “1995 Fish Stocks Agreement.”

Part III provides consolidated lists of the cases and treaties that are referenced in the individual volumes of the series. Many of the cases and treaties are addressed in more than one volume of the series, so this index, which is organized both by issue and by volume, is valuable as a research tool.

Part IV is the capstone of the Commentary series. It provides a consolidated index for the entire series, guiding readers to issues addressed in multiple parts and articles of the Convention and across volumes of the Commentary.

Volume VII of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982: A Commentary is an essential tool to any user of the Commentary and to anyone who seeks to understand the issues, intent and compromises of the negotiators of the Convention. Every holder of the first six volumes will benefit from acquiring the seventh. It also is valuable on its own. With the consolidated copy of the 1982 Convention and 1994 Agreement, the 1995 Fish Stocks Agreement and the consolidated indices of cases and treaties references in the preceding volumes, it is the starting point for any student or practitioner examining the meaning and intent of the 1982 Law of the Sea Convention and related agreements.

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