Comparative and International Policing, Justice, and Transnational Crime

SECOND EDITION

Edited by

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Introduction

The current edition of the book includes five revised and three new chapters (corruption, juvenile justice, and corrections) from a comparative criminal justice perspective. The text is organized into seventeen chapters beginning with “Justice Systems in Selected Countries,” which provides the audience a broad understanding of the origin of four legal traditions, their evolution, and their contemporary context. This topic is followed by a chapter addressing the role of international justice organizations (Chapter 2), including the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court. Specifically, chapter two outlines the jurisdiction of the courts, their current cases, trial processes, and limitations related to enforceability.

The third chapter offers a discussion of “Sovereign Lawlessness,” an interesting and important topic previously underexamined in comparative criminal justice textbooks. The chapter examines the interrelationship between military justice and international criminal justice from historical and comparative perspectives. Using “rendition” as an example, it reviews the involvement of U.S. Intelligence Agencies and other international communities in extrajudicial abductions. Chapter 4 explores international law enforcement organizations (i.e. Interpol and Europol). This chapter also discusses how police autonomy was interrupted by events such as World War I and the Bolshevik Revolution. In addition, highlights include contemporary dimensions of international policing, and how the scope of international policing has been expanded due to a general rise in international crimes.

The next two chapters (Chapters 5 and 6) examine policing topics, including “Policing in Selected Countries,” and “Policing Subordinate Sovereignties.” The latter topic offers a particularly unique contribution with emphasis on neo-colonial societies, specifically American Indians in the United States. The chapter highlights how sovereignty is granted to indigenous tribal groups and how such limited autonomy affected traditional identities and ways of life of native tribal peoples in the United States, Canada, and New Zealand. In addition, fundamental problems of policing subordinate tribal populations are discussed.
The book also includes chapters on correctional systems, philosophies, recent innovations (Chapter 7), and juvenile justice in selected countries (Chapter 8). Chapter 7 provides a thorough description of the goals of corrections, world imprisonment rates, and custodial and non-custodial sanctions in England, China, Japan, and Saudi Arabia. In addition, information is provided on the role of the United Nations in developing guidelines for the treatment of inmates in correctional institutions. Chapter 8 shifts the discussion to juvenile law violators and the role of the United Nations in developing guidelines for their proper treatment. In addition, the four models (i.e., welfare, legalistic, corporatist, and participatory) of juvenile justice and how they are incorporated in the juvenile justice systems of respective countries are addressed.

The next chapter (Chapter 9), “The Global Normative Order,” discusses the important, yet neglected topic of international individual rights. The chapter provides challenging, and at times controversial, arguments whether individual rights can be truly maintained in a democracy. The chapter also presents a thought-provoking debate on whether fundamental rights should be derived at the group level or at the individual level.

The discussion continues with preservation of human rights, and atrocities committed in violation of human rights in Chapters 10 through 12. While Chapter 10 focuses on the international human rights movement, Chapter 11 discusses genocide and war crimes in Bosnia, Herzegovina, Rwanda, and Sudan. Group and minority rights, which are rarely included in comparative criminal justice textbooks, are presented in Chapter 12. This Chapter reviews the deprivation of economic, social, and cultural rights of Dalits in India, and Roma/Gypsies of Europe.

The last five chapters (Chapter 13 through 17) focus on international crimes including terrorism, corruption, drug trafficking, maritime piracy, cybercrime and several other international crimes. Chapter 13 provides a discussion of laws, treaties, and military-led activities related to international terrorism, focusing primarily on political terrorism. Chapter 14 provides an introduction to political, economic and social challenges posed by both public and private corruption. It also discusses specific strategies for controlling increasing transnational corruption. Chapter 15 examines drug trafficking and consumption patterns and trends from a global perspective and its link to organized crime and criminals. It also examines the international responses to the drug problem. Chapters 16 and 17 examine international crimes of piracy, gendercide, maritime piracy, human trafficking, slavery, cybercrime, crimes against cultural heritage, money laundering, and environmental crimes.
INTRODUCTION

Overall, the book includes both essential and traditional topics of international criminal justice as well as several important and emerging novel topic areas that have not been covered in other comparative criminal justice textbooks. This broad and expanded approach gives the audience a deeper understanding of the international criminal justice system, transnational crimes and the role of both international and domestic agencies in past, present, and future crime prevention.