Part I – **The dimension of international human rights law** (IHRL). IHRL has an overarching dimension. It binds States through their agents, irrespective of where they act. The basic rules of IHRL, including the right to life, the prohibition of torture (also as regards questions of extradition or deportation), fully apply to immigrants at sea.

Part II – **The dimension of international law of the sea** (ILS). ILS includes some special provisions that apply to immigration at sea, such as those on the contiguous zone, innocent passage or hot pursuit. But ILS is subject to IHLR. In particular, the obligation to protect human life at sea, in particular the obligation to search and rescue, can be considered as the application to marine spaces of the human right to life. It fully applies to immigrants at sea.

Part. III – **The dimension of international refugee law** (IRL). IRL can be considered as a special aspect of IHRL. International rules on asylum-seekers and refugees, including the 1951 Refugees Convention, its 1967 Protocol and the principle of *non refoulement*, must be complied with when States adopt measures of interception against immigrants at sea. ILS cannot be used for the purpose of avoiding the application of IRL, in particular the duty to process refugee claims. The question of disembarkation and resettlement of asylum-seekers at sea.

Analysis of some relevant cases, in particular the *Kater I Rades* case, the *Tampa* case and the *Cap Anamur* case.
Reading Materials Available in Electronic Format


Short Bibliography