

IN MEMORIAM

VALERIY IVANOVICH KUZNETSOV (1940–2002)

One of Russia's most prominent international lawyers died during the past year. Valeriy Ivanovich Kuznetsov, the head of the chair of international law at the Diplomatic Academy of the Soviet, and then Russian, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, played an active role in a range of UN projects, including the International Law Commission, and advised the Soviet and Russian governments on a wide range of international law questions. He also was largely responsible for opening up the Diplomatic Academy to Western academics during the *perestroika* period and co-edited one of the first U.S.-Soviet academic collaborations on international law.

Kuznetsov received his first degree from Moscow State University in 1963 and his candidate and doctorate degrees in juridical science from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO). In 1968 he began his career on the MGIMO faculty but moved to the Diplomatic Academy in 1983 to take up its international law chair, a position he held until his death. While at the Diplomatic Academy he also served as deputy rector, first deputy rector, and acting rector. In 1988 he became a member of the UN Committee for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, chairing its Fifth Session. He left that Committee in 2001 to join the International Law Commission. Earlier he was legal advisor to the Soviet delegation that participated in the drafting of the 1970 Declaration on the Principles of International Law, as well as taking point or advising other Soviet delegations to the United Nations. He was a member of the executive committee of the Russian Association of International Law and of the editorial board of the *Moscow Journal of International Law*.

Kuznetsov had an extensive and influential career as a scholar and publicist, including serving in 2001 as editor-in-chief of the *Manual of International Law*. In the United States, he may be best known for helping to initiate, in 1989, a collaboration between Soviet and U.S. scholars, most of whom held or had held governmental positions involving international law. Kuznetsov served as a co-editor of the work that resulted, *International Law and International Security* (1991), as well as authoring one of the essays. Ten members of the Society contributed to this study, which remains a standard text in Russian law schools.