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International Legal Problems of the Environmental Protection of the Baltic Sea

by **M. Fitzmaurice**

INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY

This book is the first to contain an in-depth study of environmental issues relating to the Baltic Sea, a body of water bordered by the USSR, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Poland and Germany.

It analyzes the Helsinki Convention, the principal legal instrument on the protection of the Baltic Sea, and gives a unique insight into the practice developed on the basis of the Convention. The reader is presented with an overall picture of the contemporary activities of the Helsinki Commission, and with all the latest developments, including the pending revision of the Helsinki Convention. The main bulk of the book is based on documents issued by the Helsinki Commission, but is also a result of interviews conducted by the author with experts on the Baltic Sea environment from the coastal states.

The detailed analysis of the Helsinki Convention is accompanied by a consideration of Conventions which protect the North Sea, such as the Paris and Oslo Conventions. The link between the Helsinki Convention and the European Community due to the participation in both Denmark and Germany is of great significance, and it means that a quite extensive picture of EC environmental policy, itself a very topical subject, is to be found in the book.

The environmental protection of the Baltic Sea is put into the context of general issues of the theory of international law, and an analytical survey of the legal character of the acts of the Helsinki Commission is given, ensuring that the book will become the standard treatise on its topic.

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