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NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

# International Law and Justice Working Papers

IILJ Working Paper 2005/2  
**Global Administrative Law Series**

Divergent Legal Conceptions of the State:  
Implications for Global Administrative Law

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Website: [www.iilj.org](http://www.iilj.org)

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ISSN: 1552-6275  
© Janet McLean  
New York University School of Law  
New York, NY 10012  
U.S.A.



**Cite as:**  
IILJ Working Paper 2005/2  
(Global Administrative Law Series)  
([www.iilj.org](http://www.iilj.org))

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Implications for Global Administrative Law

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## **Abstract**

International and domestic public law, in the common law tradition, conceive of the state in fundamentally different ways: the former as a permanent unified entity and the latter as a disaggregated set of competing institutions. The strategies for transnational government most likely to be successful are those that can assimilate these conceptions and apparently eliminate the differences between them. One such strategy is for domestic administrative law courts to enforce the executive's commitments made at international law when the executive exercises its discretion domestically. However, in some cases, even this strategy will have to confront crucial differences in how international and domestic law view a state's fundamental constitutional commitments. Further, and paradoxically, the paper suggests that some of the very strategies that eliminate the conceptual differences between the archetypes of the international and domestic state (thus enhancing the prospects for transnational government) may also threaten the applicability of administrative law techniques and values in the newly created global administrative space.

# Divergent Legal Conceptions of the State: Implications for Global Administrative Law<sup>1</sup>

## *I Introduction*

Different areas of law appear to conceive of the state in fundamentally different ways. In particular, public international law, in its twentieth century guise, has tended to conceive of the state as a unified legal person, a perpetual entity able to bind itself into the future. Domestic administrative and constitutional law in the common law tradition, by contrast, does not contain a conception of the state at all, but rather views the government apparatus as a series of disaggregated entities often competing with each other for power, subject to checks and balances, and enjoying a temporally contingent mandate. Indeed, in many constitutional democracies, it is often the constitution itself that comes closest to a domestic embodiment of statehood.

A central premise of this paper is that the success of the various strategies for the development of transnational systems of governance will depend on how well they integrate or assimilate these differing domestic and international legal archetypes of the state. The paper begins by suggesting different ways in which the competing conceptions have been, and can be, integrated and assimilated. British colonial law's successful integration of the international and domestic law sovereign in the office of the Crown at the point of acquiring new territory is an important historical example, and is considered first. The prevalence of colonial law at earlier times of transnational government has also tended to obscure the significance of the fundamental differences between domestic and international legal conceptions as they sometimes present themselves today. These differences are further masked by the contemporary technique of dualism, upon which the paper need comment only briefly.

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<sup>1</sup> Thanks to Benedict Kingsbury, Treasa Dunworth, Mayo Moran, Paul Rishworth, Tim Mulgan, and the participants at an Expert Workshop on International Challenges to the Australian Legal System, Canberra August 2004, and especially to the organizers Hilary Charlesworth and George Williams.

The following sections of the paper proceed from the premise that the different techniques by which spaces for global governance can be and have been created as important for but distinct from an evaluation of the capacity for a global administrative law to operate within those spaces so created. The sites of global governance are not necessarily the sites of global administrative law. Yet how the global space is created may have an impact on which of the techniques and functions of administrative law are likely to be effective.

Domestic administrative law in the British Commonwealth tradition tends to focus on judge made *ex post* supervision of administration.<sup>2</sup> Information disclosure regimes, access to information, ombudsmen complaint procedures, and the analysis of institutional design have only relatively recently attracted general attention among common law administrative lawyers outside of the United States. For the most part, the *ex ante* notice and comment rule-making procedures that characterize US administrative law have not been embraced, except in a piecemeal statute-specific way, in other common law jurisdictions and are commonly perceived as overly-legalistic.<sup>3</sup> These different techniques of domestic administrative law, then, fulfill different functions and promote different and sometimes conflicting values. *Ex post* judicial supervision of decision-making, for example, may variously fulfill the functions of centralizing control, legitimating both the decision maker and the decision (without necessarily imposing constraints or control), interpolating values into the decision making process, enhancing rationality or enforcing participation. Information and notice and comment regimes have participation as their core concerns. Not all of these techniques or functions of domestic administrative law are equally effective on their own terms, nor are they equally readily translatable to the different sites of global governance.

The paper goes on to identify how two different kinds of global space are created and to evaluate the prospects for certain of the functions of administrative law as we understand it domestically to be effective within those spaces. It identifies domestic administrative law doctrine as having the capacity to assimilate domestic and international conceptions of the state by uniting the

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<sup>2</sup> This is reflected in the focus of David Dyzenhaus, "The Rule of (Administrative) Law in International Law" *IILJ Working Paper 2005/1 (Global Administrative Law Series)*.

<sup>3</sup> There are, of course, many exceptions. For example, consultation processes are commonly adopted and sometimes explicitly imposed by legislation in New Zealand; environmental and planning regimes confer broad notification and participation rights.

executive in its domestic and foreign affairs personas (thus creating a space for global administrative law to operate). Within this space, domestic administrative law has developed disciplines by which it can receive and domesticate fundamental international law norms.

As much as domestic and international public law apparently share similar values, one's views of how those values ought to operate will tend to be affected by one's conception of statehood. In some cases the apparent coherence between domestic and international norms – and particularly human rights norms – may prove to be illusory precisely because the domestic and international systems fundamentally differ in how they conceive of the state. A norm may be differently understood as a consequence of how the state is imagined in the domestic and international spheres.

The second kind of global space on which I briefly focus poses greater challenges for the operation of administrative law values and functions (at least as they are understood in domestic administrative law). It identifies a further strategy for the integration and assimilation of the international and domestic conceptions of the state that creates a space for global governance by disaggregating the state into functional units (both public and private) in both the domestic and international spheres. Paradoxically, however, this very strategy for enhancing the prospects for transnational government may also hinder the applicability of administrative law techniques and values. There is no reason to suppose that the problems that have been encountered about the reach of administrative law techniques and values in the domestic context will be eliminated in the global sphere.

## *II Disguising the differences between conceptions of the state*

The presence of a distinct legal person of the state in its external legal affairs, and the apparent absence of one in the internal governmental order, is striking and not without important implications. It *should* make us uneasy about the relationship between domestic and international public law and about the notions of sovereignty on which they depend. Yet, this striking difference in how international and domestic public lawyers imagine the state as a legal person is not obvious most of the time. This section explores the ways in which the differences in

conception have traditionally been disguised and why these particular strategies are no longer as viable as they once were.

### *A. Colonial law*

The history of empire and colonization reminds us that the distinctions between domestic and international law conceptions of state have not always been either important or apparent. Up until the twentieth century, public international law had been parsimonious about which groups could be accorded international legal personality, and could thus be regarded as having the legal status of states.<sup>4</sup> While relationships between those states belonging to the European Family of Nations were mediated by international law, it was not international but colonial law that governed most of the interactions between sovereigns and the inhabitants of the “new” territories. Relationships now governed by the law of nations, were in the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries governed by, for example, English, Dutch, Belgian, or French colonial law.

A number of lessons can be learnt from the British colonial experience. The British Empire was, after all, a transnational government of an earlier era.<sup>5</sup> The merging of the international and domestic in the Colonial Crown was critical to the legal implementation of colonization. The obvious point at which the internal and external concepts of state collapsed was at the point of the initial colonial encounter itself. On acquisition or conquest of new territory, actions that

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<sup>4</sup> A. Anghie, “Finding the Peripheries: Sovereignty and Colonialism in Nineteenth-Century International Law” 40 HARV. INT’L L.J. 1, 7 (1999), K. ROBERTS-WRAY, *COMMONWEALTH AND COLONIAL LAW* (1966). The number of states has been vastly expanded in the post-colonial era.

<sup>5</sup> Executive government was not territorially defined – at least as far as the law was concerned. According to colonial law, the sovereign governed his subjects outside his territory, and could, by charter, confer on them exclusive rights to trade or settle outside territory that were enforceable at English law (*The Great Case of Monopolies* 36 Charles II 1684). It was still not clear as late as 1698 whether the Crown needed Parliament’s agreement to confer such charters. For example, statute 9 & 10 Gul III c. 44, created a new East India Company. In form the legislation did not directly threaten the Crown’s prerogative. It did not directly grant an exclusive right to trade on the East India Company but instead created the corporation to whom the King was to grant Charters. This allowed the King’s prerogative rights to be retained at the same time as recognizing a role for Parliament. See further SIR WW HUNTER, *A HISTORY OF BRITISH INDIA* (1900) 317, 320.

The Crown was regarded in law as a single and indivisible entity throughout the Empire. The Crown, represented by a single person *and* single office, was sovereign in relation to the whole of the British Empire (notwithstanding the differing democratic and constitutional status of the various territories). Political practice was quite another matter. Executive power was jealously guarded as a measure of political independence in the colonies long before domestic parliaments achieved full law-making powers.

began as an exercise of external foreign affairs power often simultaneously set the terms for the internal governance of that territory. The concept of the Crown enveloped any potential differences between the sovereign's foreign affairs and internal constitutional roles. External prerogative power was simultaneously constituent power.

The sacred prerogative of the Crown under British colonial law included powers to acquire territory and to constitute a local legislature.<sup>6</sup> Promises made to the indigenous people in the process of acquiring territory, whether by way of proclamation, treaty, or charter, were (at least in earlier times) regarded by the courts as binding on the Crown in its subsequent governance of the territory.<sup>7</sup> While it was unclear what status treaties and charters made with indigenous inhabitants would have had at international law, they were efficacious as a matter of colonial law and regarded as proof of the voluntary abandonment of the prerogative rights of the Crown.<sup>8</sup> In the absence of treaties conferring rights of British subjects on local people, for example, the subjects of a ceded or conquered territory would have been treated as aliens under British law.

The Colonial Crown was regarded in these circumstances as capable of being bound by its previous promises simultaneously as a matter of "domestic" and external or "international" law, as well as morality. Crown proclamations, at least those made upon the assumption of jurisdiction over newly "discovered" or acquired lands, were treated as having force and effect. A kind of social contract between the new sovereign and the people, on which sovereignty was conditioned, was overtly recognized in the legal analysis. The constituent aspects of the state, at least in relation to the point of its inception, so often suppressed in our modern law, were able to be recognized. In the twentieth century, Judges have but rarely accorded such instruments the status of the Magna Charta or treated them as the equivalent of an entrenched provision in a

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<sup>6</sup> *Phillips v Eyre* (1870) 6 QB 1, 18; *Campbell v Hall* 1 Cowp 204; 98 ER 1045.

<sup>7</sup> In *Campbell v Hall* (1774) 1 Cowp 204; 98 ER 1045, Lord Mansfield found that a mere proclamation could effect a binding promise. Upon winning Grenada from the French, for example, the English articles of capitulation promised the inhabitants that they should pay no higher duties than those imposed by the French King until the new King's pleasure be known. By a subsequent proclamation and letters patent the Crown stated that an assembly would be the institution to make laws for the territory and appointed a Governor to summon such assembly. Before the Governor had been dispatched from England, the King issued a further proclamation increasing the duty. Lord Mansfield held that the latter proclamation was void to the extent that it contradicted the earlier undertakings. They had binding effect within the territory.

<sup>8</sup> *Mayor of Lyons v East India Co* (1836) 1 Moo PC 175, 287.

constitution.<sup>9</sup> The further we are in time from the initial point of acquisition, the harder it is to give effect to such undertakings in the absence of formal incorporation into a constitutional higher law document.

This distinct conception of the Crown in colonial law is not merely an historical oddity that we need not trouble with today. Questions remain about the status of promises that are part of the constituent act of creating states. The New Zealand political and legal system, for example, continues to struggle with the question of which institutions are committed by the undertakings made by Queen Victoria's representatives to Maori in the Treaty of Waitangi 1840. Even today, Maori appeal for redress of grievances to the Crown as if it were a unified and apolitical entity. This view, that the Crown's commitments under the Treaty of Waitangi are pre-political and constituent of the state itself, and that in fulfilling such commitments the Crown neither engages with nor is bound to engage with democratic processes, is understandable when viewed against the colonial conception of the Crown.<sup>10</sup> We shall go on to discuss how contemporary domestic and international courts consider constituent acts of state. The important point, for now, is to notice how such acts were regarded as a matter of colonial law.

British colonial law may in earlier centuries have created a space distinct from the domains of international and domestic law and camouflaged the differences between them. This should serve as a reminder that statehood, as it is presently understood in international law, is a relatively recent phenomenon that may not be strong enough to withstand, at least in its archetypal form, the proliferation of states over the past century.<sup>11</sup> Archetypes do, however, matter. Many of the current legal controversies concerning indigenous peoples have as one of their causes the

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<sup>9</sup> See, for example, the New Zealand case of *Wi Parata v Bishop of Wellington* (1877) 3 NS) SC 72 in which Prendergast J suggested that the Treaty of Waitangi between Maori and the British Crown was "a simple nullity". Contrast, *R v Secretary of State ex parte Indian Association of Alberta* [1982] 2 All ER 118, 124 per Denning J citing Laskin J in *Calder v Attorney-General of British Columbia* (1973) 34 DLR (3d) 145 at 203.

<sup>10</sup> Some Maori also argue that as a collective entity they *should* be viewed as an international legal person who continues to treat with the Crown. This conception of the Crown is reflected in the parliamentary practice of enacting settlements between government and particular tribes without amendment.

<sup>11</sup> See further, M Koskenniemi, *THE GENTLE CIVILIZER OF NATIONS: THE RISE AND FALL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 1870 – 1960* (2002); A. Anghie, "Finding the Peripheries: Sovereignty and Colonialism in Nineteenth-Century International Law" 40 *HARV. INT'L L.J.* 1, 7 (1999).

differences between the contemporary international law and historical colonial law accounts of statehood.

*B. Contemporary methods that disguise the distinction: dualism*

The most obvious contemporary means for reconciling the distinct conceptions of the state in domestic and international law is dualism. Dualism requires that for an international agreement to have domestic legal effect, it must be incorporated into municipal law. In this way, English legal positivism has limited the Crown's juristic status in both the international and domestic spheres. Parliament retains its (nineteenth century) place as the fount of sovereignty. The attempts to improve parliamentary-based treaty processes can be viewed as part of this continuing dualist tradition.

While there is an important task of adapting and developing these strategies, they will never be a complete answer given the expanding regulatory subject areas that are being confronted at an international level, and the increasing degree to which power is delegated to executive bodies within treaty frameworks.

Two examples from New Zealand help to illustrate this point. The Trade Marks Act 2002 (NZ) so deeply embeds the Paris or TRIPS agreements into the statutory framework that the legislation cannot be understood without reference to the texts of the international agreements. It refers to the Paris or TRIPS agreement without detailing what the agreement says in the text. Indeed, the legislation can never stand on its own because it also refers to the Paris or TRIPS agreements as "revised or amended from time to time". Even more controversial are provisions such as those contained in the Climate Change Response Act 2002 (NZ) that give effect to the Kyoto Agreement. The Act not only incorporates into New Zealand law what has already been agreed to in the Treaty process but also gives any agreements that will be entered into in future the status of law. It incorporates by reference any decisions, rules, guidelines, measures or modifications, or agreements made under the Kyoto Protocol for the future. Under the Act these automatically receive the legal force of regulations.

The problems of reaching agreement at the domestic level are, if anything, exacerbated in the international sphere. Unsurprisingly, this leads to general texts that require further elaboration in individual cases and further rule making by “executive type” processes – either through international institutions or through the cooption of national ones, or both. Many treaties explicitly set up institutions for their own elaboration – either of a judicial or quasi-judicial kind, or of a plenary character. The most interesting of these, at least to a domestic public lawyer, are those that contain provisions empowering the member states freely to amend the original treaty. Though the analogy is not completely apt, these can be likened to Henry VIII clauses in domestic public law where Parliament by statute empowers the executive to change the statute at a later date. Some treaty arrangements require elaboration by resolution of an executive committee. These arrangements are similar to situations in domestic law where an executive order is subject to legislative confirmation.

Domestic administrative law has taught us that we cannot use legislative processes to decide everything. Administrative law is concerned (inter alia) with the implementation of general rules in particular cases and the making of more detailed rules within broad legislative frameworks. We should not expect more from democratic legislative processes at the international level than we do at the national level.

Some would like to carrel the EU experience of institutional dominance by bureaucratic institutions, and to treat it as *sui generis*. From an administrative lawyer’s perspective, the development of strategies for the implementation or elaboration of treaty commitments, either at, demonstrate a paradox. The institutional expansion of the ECJ and EC may be credited, in part, to the onerous procedures required by the Treaty of Rome before it could be amended. The expansion of ECJ jurisdiction may be traced to the requirement for unanimous agreement by member states before amendments to the original treaty could be made and to the stringent internal domestic procedures required by some member states in turn before they could agree to such changes. Unanimity of member states and internal domestic requirements of agreement (including by way of voter referendum) may have contributed to the institutional autonomy of

the bureaucratic and judicial parts of the Union.<sup>12</sup> Whether such delegations are explicit or not, systems will always find elaboration and implementation mechanisms. Either way – whether or not the substantive provisions of a Treaty are more or less “democratically mandated” – institutions for its implementation and elaboration are likely to evolve. To generalize the EU experience may be to predict that making one part of the system more democratic, in an electoral-legislative sense, will contribute to the institutional autonomy of another.

The inherent limitations of dualism as a strategy, in these circumstances, ought to be obvious. The question then is not *whether* processes should be developed for the legislative, judicial and administrative elaboration of treaties but *which* processes are to be preferred and how states and citizens should be represented in such processes. The success of such processes will depend on how well the various contemporary strategies integrate or assimilate the domestic and international legal conceptions of the state.

The paper now turns to consider two possibilities: the capacity for domestic administrative law to embrace international law rules and norms and, the prospects for an international administrative law to apply in the global spaces created by the forces of deregulation and privatization.

### *III The permeability of national administrative law to international norms*

National courts have great potential to act as agents for the elaboration and implementation of international law norms through the doctrines of administrative law.<sup>13</sup> Administrative law in New Zealand, Canada and to a lesser extent, Australia, has become increasingly permeable to both constitutional and international law norms and an important means by which incorporation doctrine has been circumvented in recent years. The “hole in the donut” of executive discretion may well provide a channel for both the integration of the external state and internal executive and of international and domestic law norms.

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<sup>12</sup> See M. SHAPIRO & A. STONE SWEET, *ON LAW, POLITICS AND JUDICIALIZATION* (2002), 267 explaining why member states never overturned the ECJ’s interpretation of treaties.

<sup>13</sup>Of course administrative law also serves other instrumental and normative purposes, some of which will be discussed in a later section.

International norms have increasingly been used to constrain and structure administrative discretion. Courts in Canada, Australia and New Zealand, for example, have founded legal consequences on the act of *ratification* of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.<sup>14</sup> The act of ratification by itself without incorporation is capable of triggering legal standards against which departures from such undertakings must be justified.<sup>15</sup> The question of exactly what the legal consequences of ratification should be has remained a matter for domestic administrative law to decide. The cases differ as to whether the fact of ratification of the particular international obligations in individual cases can give rise to a legitimate expectation,<sup>16</sup> form the basis of a mandatory relevant consideration,<sup>17</sup> or constitute a matter to which the decision-maker ought to be “alert, alive, and sensitive”.<sup>18</sup> Other possible consequences may also be available in other cases involving different international obligations.<sup>19</sup>

Both the *fact* and the *content* of the executive’s international commitments contribute to the permeability of administrative law in these cases. The first element focuses on the desirability for consistency of the executive’s express undertakings as a matter of administrative law. The second element focuses on the desirability of unifying the norms themselves. While in practice these two elements tend to intersect, they shall be kept separate for the purposes of this discussion.

Increasingly as a matter of domestic administrative law, executive undertakings by way of published policies, and specific representations to individuals, have been found by the courts to

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<sup>14</sup> *Tavita v Minister of Immigration* [1994] 2 NZLR 257 (New Zealand Court of Appeal); *Minister of State for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs v Teoh* (1995) 183 CLR 273 (High Court of Australia); and *Baker v Canada (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration)* [1999] 2 SCR 817 (Supreme Court of Canada). On the latter see the book of a conference devoted to consideration of the case: D. DYZENHAUS (ED) *THE UNITY OF PUBLIC LAW* (2004).

<sup>15</sup> D. Dyzenhaus, M. Hunt, M. Taggart, “The Principle of Legality in Administrative Law: Internationalism as Constitutionalisation” (2001) 1 OUCIJ 5.

<sup>16</sup> *Minister of State for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs v Teoh* (1995) 183 CLR 273 (High Court of Australia).

<sup>17</sup> *Tavita v Minister of Immigration* [1994] 2 NZLR 257 (New Zealand Court of Appeal).

<sup>18</sup> *Baker v Canada (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration)* [1999] 2 SCR 817 (Supreme Court of Canada).

<sup>19</sup> C. Geiringer, “Tavita and all That: Confronting the Confusion Surrounding Unincorporated Treaties and Administrative Law” (2004) 21 NZULR 66. The interaction between the wording of the convention in the *Teoh*, *Tavita* and *Baker* cases and the context of the statutory discretion (a dispensing power) makes it difficult to suggest that the Convention could act as a constraint on the scope of the power here, though one can think of other cases in which the wording would not be so constraining. Indeed the UNCRC indicates that the interests of the child are a matter to weighed as “a [primary] consideration” (Article 3).

give rise to legal obligations.<sup>20</sup> Such developments contribute to enhancing the permeability of domestic administrative law to international law values and processes. Commitments made by the executive in the international sphere have at least as much, if not more, claim to legal significance as these domestic undertakings. The common administrative law motivation here is to maintain the consistency and integrity of, and the citizens' ability to rely on, executive undertakings in whichever sphere they are made. The effect, in the international law cases, is to unify the executive qua external state persona and the executive qua internal persona, with the assistance of the domestic courts.

As Mayo Moran has observed, the ideal that “[p]ublic power must [...] at a minimum, exhibit some kind of fidelity to the values it has itself expressly adopted” is present in all of these cases.<sup>21</sup> The executive's voluntary undertaking is the focus of this strand of reasoning. In *Teoh* for example, the majority was concerned that the solemn undertaking at international law should not be dismissed as “merely platitudinous or ineffectual”<sup>22</sup> and in *Tavita* “as at least partly window-dressing”<sup>23</sup>. In a recent New Zealand decision, Justice Glazebrook also emphasized the desirability for consistency within the executive's publicly addressed values. She was concerned that the NZ refugee operational instructions referred to some, but not all, of the UNHCR guidelines.<sup>24</sup> The potential impropriety here was in the executive “picking and choosing” between its international commitments – at least without good reason.<sup>25</sup>

Focusing on the fact of the commitment itself may also contribute to a greater definition of institutional hierarchies at the international level. The *fact* of the commitment sometimes leads directly to questions about the *quality* of the commitment. New Zealand judicial decisions, for example, have begun more finely to differentiate between international law texts.<sup>26</sup> In the case of

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<sup>20</sup> See e.g. R THOMAS, *LEGITIMATE EXPECTATIONS AND PROPORTIONALITY IN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW* (2000); S SORENBURG, *LEGITIMATE EXPECTATIONS IN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW* (2000).

<sup>21</sup> M. Moran, “Authority, Influence and Persuasion: *Baker*, Charter Values and the Puzzle of Method” in D. DYZENHAUS (ED) *THE UNITY OF PUBLIC LAW* (2004), 389, 404.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid* p 402; *Minister of State for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs v Teoh* (1995) 183 CLR 273 (High Court of Australia) p 291 per Mason CJ and Deane J.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid* p 402; *Tavita v Minister of Immigration* [1994] 2 NZLR 257, 266.

<sup>24</sup> *Refugee Council v Attorney-General* [2003] 2 NZLR 577, para 271 per Glazebrook J.

<sup>25</sup> Justice Glazebrook treated the UNHCR guidelines as having the same status as judicial decisions from other jurisdictions (para 272).

<sup>26</sup> T Dunworth, “Public International Law” [2004] NZLR 411, 415-418.

*Refugee Council v Attorney-General*, Justice McGrath was careful to acknowledge that the “executive guidelines” issued by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, (a non-elected UN official), while helpful in interpreting the Convention, did not enjoy the same status as resolutions of the UNHCR executive committee, an assembly of state representatives.<sup>27</sup> This may be regarded as an early attempt to insinuate some kind of institutional separation of powers into the international sphere. The international bodies may, however, be even more difficult to classify in domestic constitutional law separation of powers terms than Justice McGrath acknowledges. The Executive Committee is established by the High Commissioner’s Office, does not include all parties to the Convention, and currently includes four members who are not parties to the Convention.<sup>28</sup> This is, at least, a start. As a general matter, the more seriously international commitments are taken by domestic administrative courts, the greater the incentive for states to be careful and disciplined about the content of decisions and the design of international decision-making processes. These developments may, however, also increase the difficulties of reaching agreement in the international sphere.

Viewed from the perspective of how successfully they rationalize external and domestic conceptions of the state, cases such as *Teoh* (Australia), *Tavita* (New Zealand), and *Baker* (Canada) take on a different significance from that usually ascribed them. Each of these cases was triggered by the fact that the executive had undertaken (in its international persona) obligations under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. In each case the commitment affected the executive’s exercise of its discretion in its domestic persona. There was no direct clash with Parliament here – in each case Parliament had delegated to the executive the decision about what “humanitarian” factors would include. The judges were being asked to give effect to a general norm (otherwise unelaborated) in an international treaty in interpreting a general norm (otherwise unelaborated) in a legislative provision.

None of the above arguments necessarily depends on the *content* of the international agreement – though in practice the content has been an important factor in determining the proper weight to be given those agreements in the administrative decision itself. The second set of arguments

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<sup>27</sup> [2003] 2 NZLR 577, para 111, per McGrath J.

<sup>28</sup> The Committee currently has 66 members including India, Pakistan, Lebanon and Thailand who are not parties to the Convention. My thanks to Treasa Dunworth for assistance on this point.

focuses not so much on the fact of the undertaking, but on the fundamental nature of its content. The motivation here is to use administrative law to unify fundamental constitutional, administrative, and international law norms. According to this line of reasoning, it is the fundamental content of the undertaking that is the source of the commitment. David Dyzenhaus sums up this approach<sup>29</sup>:

*Baker* seems best understood as a decision which conceives of public law as based on a set of fundamental values, which are expressed, sometimes in different ways – in administrative law, in constitutional law and in international law.

One's evaluation of the strength of such a claim will depend on the position one takes in relation to the domestic administrative law controversy about whence administrative law derives its values.<sup>30</sup> Are judges in administrative law cases acting as agents for Parliament and enforcing Parliament's intent and values, as the traditional view tends to portray them?<sup>31</sup> Or rather, is Parliament presumed to legislate against a "rule of law" floor of fundamental values as Lord Steyn has suggested when applying the "principle of legality" in administrative law cases?<sup>32</sup> Or, indeed, are the values of administrative law freestanding and derived from the common law itself, as Lord Cooke has articulated.<sup>33</sup> The declining dominance of the first of these approaches and the ascendance of the latter two – sometimes both embraced by the "principle of legality" — has increased the permeability of administrative law to arguments about fundamental norms. By this means the courts have been able simultaneously to domesticate international humanitarian values and seek external validation of the content of domestic humanitarian norms. International law need not be the source of a norm's authority, but rather evidence of the norm itself. The

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<sup>29</sup> D. DYZENHAUS (ED) *THE UNITY OF PUBLIC LAW* (2004), p 1.

<sup>30</sup> This is not a controversy triggered exclusively by the question of what role international treaty law should play. The changing internal organization of government, privatization, outsourcing and new methods of regulation mean that this question matters in other contexts as well – in order to apply administrative law doctrines to entities that are not based on statute but are nevertheless sufficiently "public".

<sup>31</sup> Richard Stewart's transmission belt theory still retains its adherents in the British Commonwealth: "The Reformation of American Administrative Law" 88 *HARV. LAW. REV.* 1669, 1671-76 (1975).

<sup>32</sup> Lord Steyn describes the "principle of legality" in these terms: "In the absence of contrary indications it must be presumed that Parliament entrusted the wide power to make decisions [to the Home Secretary] on the supposition that the Home Secretary would not act contrary to such a fundamental principle of our law" (*R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, ex parte Pierson* [1998] AC 539, 590).

<sup>33</sup> For Lord Cooke of Thorndon the "common law is sufficient source for the fundamental right": *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, ex parte Daly* [2001] UKHL 26, paras 30-31.

methodology is norm reinforcing. Audrey Macklin describes the process (again from a Canadian perspective)<sup>34</sup>:

When immigration lawyers invoke international law directly in aid of a Charter challenge, they call upon the cosmopolitan antecedents of the Charter. When they invoke international law directly in aid of statutory interpretation, they encourage the internalization of universal normative commitments within the national legal frame.

Developments in administrative law in the British Commonwealth have enhanced its permeability to international norms. Administrative law's interest in maintaining the consistency and integrity of executive undertakings in whichever sphere they are made, combined with its search for unified fundamental values, makes it more likely to be influenced by international law processes and norms. There is a coincidence of common law and international law values and the permeability of administrative law to both.

In the next section, however, we will investigate instances where the seeming coincidence between the values of constitutional, administrative, and international law is likely to run out. It will be suggested that that is because of the different ways in which these areas of law conceive of the state.

#### *IV The limits of coordinating norms*

While there is a seeming cohesion between administrative, constitutional, and international law norms, there are sometimes significant obstacles to translating these norms across the conceptual divide between domestic and international spheres. The apparent or potential coherence between international and domestic constitutional norms sometimes unravels exactly because of the different conceptions of state operating in domestic and public international law. The constituent elements of statehood tend to be even more suppressed in international law than in domestic constitutional law.

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<sup>34</sup> "The State of Law's Borders and the Law of State's Borders" in D. DYZENHAUS (ED) *THE UNITY OF PUBLIC LAW* (2004), 173, 175. We should notice, however, that the Canadian Charter did not protect the rights of children but nevertheless the Supreme Court found a way to give effect to children's interests in *Baker*.

### *Constitutions as constituent acts*

A Canadian example may help to make the point. Canada has explicitly incorporated the norms contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in its Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Both texts guarantee equal protection of the law, and freedom of conscience and religion (among other things). Domestic and international courts have been asked on a number of occasions to determine whether such human rights guarantees clash with other constitutional commitments.<sup>35</sup> In these cases, the differences between international and domestic conceptions of state can be material to the result.

The 1867 Constitution created a United Canada and implemented and incorporated important compacts made at the time of Confederation. The constitutional text documents the promises that were constitutive of nationhood (including, inter alia, special guarantees to the indigenous peoples). Importantly, for present purposes, it guaranteed certain rights and privileges to the Roman Catholic minority in Ontario and reciprocal rights and privileges to the Protestant minority in Quebec. Section 93 granted each province exclusive jurisdiction to enact laws regarding education. In Ontario, these powers were exercised for the public funding of Roman Catholic elementary schools at the same level as public secular schools. In the 1980s legislation was proposed in Ontario that sought to extend the provision of publicly funded Roman Catholic schools to include secondary as well as primary education. This was on the basis that when the constitutional arrangements were first made, most people received only primary education and that the changes were necessary to fulfill the spirit and intention of the agreement. In Ontario, Roman Catholic Schools were the only religious schools entitled to the same public funding as public secular schools. A legal challenge was brought on the basis that these provisions discriminated against non Roman Catholic parents who wished their children to have a religious education. The question for the Canadian Supreme Court in *Re: An Act to Amend the Education Act* was whether the adoption of the Charter could change the Confederation bargain.<sup>36</sup>

Section 29 of the Charter itself seems to have anticipated exactly this kind of challenge. It says:

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<sup>35</sup> For example: *Re: An Act to Amend the Education Act* [1987] 1 SCR 1148 [*Bill 30 Act*]; *Adler v Ontario* [1996] 3 SCR 609; *Public School Boards Association v Alberta (A-G)* [2000] 2 SCC 410; *Waldman v Canada* 7 IHRR 368 (2000).

<sup>36</sup> *Re: An Act to Amend the Education Act* [1987] 1 SCR 1148.

Nothing in this Charter abrogates or derogates from any rights or privileges guaranteed by or under the Constitution of Canada in respect of denominational, separate or dissentient schools.

The Supreme Court of Canada upheld the proposed legislation but made clear that it did not need to rely on section 29 of the Charter in order to find that the Constitution prevailed over the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. According to Wilson J<sup>37</sup>:

Their protection from Charter review lies not in the guarantee of rights and privileges conferred by the legislation but in the guaranteed nature of the legislature's plenary power to enact that legislation.

She had earlier stated:

It was never intended ... that the Charter could be used to invalidate other provisions of the Constitution, particularly a provision such as s 93 which represented a fundamental part of the Federation compromise.<sup>38</sup>

Estey J concurred saying<sup>39</sup>:

Section 93 is a fundamental constitutional provision because it is part of the pattern of the sharing of sovereign power between two plenary authorities created at Confederation.

He likened it to the special provisions made for the preservation of Indian lands at confederation.

The Supreme Court considered that s 93 was fundamentally constitutive of Canada as a nation. Without it, there would not be a nation. It could not, therefore, be subordinated to the Charter equality protections. To paraphrase the Supreme Court, the (internal) nation state, and the original compact under which it was formed, came first. One could not use the Charter of Rights to undermine the very nature of the nation state itself as originally founded. There is recognition here of the historical and the constitutive elements of statehood on which other rights may

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<sup>37</sup> Ibid at 1198.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid, at 1197.

<sup>39</sup> Ibid, at 1206.

depend.<sup>40</sup> The Constitution, in this case, is symbolic of a shared history and values and represents an idea of nationhood. It is an attempt to forge coherence between nationhood as a political, social and legal phenomenon. As such, it does not serve merely instrumental ends. As Justice Robert Jackson observed in another context, the Constitution is not a suicide pact.<sup>41</sup>

In 1999, a Jewish parent challenged the Ontario education funding provisions before the Human Rights Committee under the Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.<sup>42</sup> The challenge again alleged that the provisions were discriminatory and denied equal protection of the law to parents wishing to send their children to other religious schools. This time the government was not prepared to concede (as it had earlier) that, but for the provisions of the 1867 Constitution, the education legislation breached the Charter. The State Party relied on the arguments of Wilson J in the Supreme Court and explained that<sup>43</sup>:

[W]ithout the protection of the rights of the Roman Catholic minority, the founding of Canada would not have been possible and that the separate school system remained a controversial issue, at times endangering the national unity in Canada. The State Party explains that the funding is seen by the Roman Catholic community as the correction of an historical wrong.

The State Party added that undoing the bargain made at Confederation would lead to outrage and economic turmoil.

The Human Rights Committee made short work of these arguments<sup>44</sup>:

The Committee begins by noting that the fact that a distinction is enshrined in the Constitution does not render it reasonable and objective.

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<sup>40</sup> Though it is latent in the reasoning, some calculation of the risk of Quebec succession may have been operating.

<sup>41</sup> *Terminiello v City of Chicago* 337 US 1 (1949) 37 (diss) quoted in M LOUGHLIN, *THE IDEA OF PUBLIC LAW* OUP 2003 p 91.

<sup>42</sup> *Waldman v Ontario* Human Rights Committee 67<sup>th</sup> Session 1999. CCPR/C/67/D/694/1996. Notice that subsequently in *OEETA v Ontario* [2001] 1 SCR 470, 494 Iacobucci J described s 93 as animated by principles of “religious freedom and equitable treatment” and (at 510) as guaranteeing similar rights to those protected by s 23 of the Charter.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid*, at para 8.3.

<sup>44</sup> *Ibid*, at para 10.4.

The material before it did not show that Roman Catholics were *now* in a disadvantaged position compared to the Jewish Community. Canada's own fundamental commitments, including the pre-conditions of its founding, were treated as irrelevant. The Committee appeared to assume that an individual's right to be free from discrimination is not preconditioned by the existence of a state, even if the state is the unit on which international law depends for the enforcement of such rights. A finding of discrimination does not depend on the nature of the state or its constituent elements. The only realm for shared values is the international community itself.

How instead does the Human Rights Committee, working from within our archetypal version of the state tradition of international law, conceive of the state? One reading of the decision would suggest that in order to preserve the unified permanence that is central to the idea of the state at international law, it is necessary for a state to be conceived as an empty, abstract and ahistorical concept. Alternatively one could locate this decision within a particular historical frame or system of shared values – that is the post World War II Human Rights system.

Despite the seeming agreement about substantive human rights values in these cases, one's conception of the state is clearly crucial. Higher law constitutions do not only serve instrumental ends. They also express shared values and come close to a domestic embodiment of statehood.

### *B. A hybrid version of statehood*

Perhaps unsurprisingly, Europe seems to offer a hybridized version of the state in the human rights context. In the case of *Refah Partisi v Turkey*<sup>45</sup>, the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights acknowledged democracy as the relevant constituent element of statehood. The case involved a human rights challenge to the decision of the Turkish Constitutional Court to have the Refah political party dissolved on the basis that it was a “centre” of activities contrary to the principles of secularism. The Refah party, among other things, supported a system based on sharia law. The Grand Chamber reiterated its view that democracy is a fundamental feature of the ‘European public order’<sup>46</sup>. It considered that there could be no democracy without

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<sup>45</sup> *Case of Refah Partisi (The Welfare Party) and Others v Turkey* European Court of Human Rights Grand Chamber, hearing 19 June 2002, Application numbers 41340/98,41342/98 and 41344/98.

<sup>46</sup> *Ibid*, at para 86.

pluralism”<sup>47</sup> and viewed the state’s role as the “neutral and impartial organizer of the exercise of various religions, faiths and beliefs”.<sup>48</sup> Most clearly, the Court said that the freedoms guaranteed in the convention “cannot deprive the authorities of a State in which an association, through its activities, jeopardizes that State’s institutions, of the right to protect those institutions.”<sup>49</sup> Human rights protection then, is subject to the state’s ability to survive as a democratic institution. Some compromise between defending democratic society and individual rights is inherent: “no-one must be authorized to rely on the conventions provisions in order to weaken or destroy the ideals or values of a democratic society.”<sup>50</sup>

The argument that a democratic system is entitled to defend itself against political movements that seek to destroy it (described in the tribunal below as “militant democracy”<sup>51</sup>) is at odds with “pure” international legal conceptions of state.<sup>52</sup> International law does not precondition whether a state exists at all on whether it is democratically ordered. International law, moreover, appears to exhibit little interest in a state’s ability to survive in a particular constitutional form — as was demonstrated in the *Waldman v Ontario* decision of the Human Rights Committee.

We might be inclined to explain the differences of approach between the Canadian and Turkish cases on the basis that the recent history, the size and success of the Refah Party and Turkey’s role as a model of a secular Islamic state, made the threats to the state’s very existence more real in the latter case. However, at least in the Tribunal below, the Court went further and referred explicitly to the European experience of the use by totalitarian movements of democratic processes to do away with democracy. It presented the German and Italian Constitutions as positive examples of the principle that to outlaw certain political movements is acceptable, even when there is no immediate threat.<sup>53</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> Ibid, at para 89.

<sup>48</sup> Ibid, at para 91.

<sup>49</sup> Ibid, at para 96.

<sup>50</sup> Ibid, at para 99.

<sup>51</sup> *Refah Partisi (The Welfare Party) and Others v Turkey* Third Section Judgment of 31 July 2001, at para 62.

<sup>52</sup> Of course there are more nuanced versions within the international law tradition —see, e.g. M KOSKENNIEMI, *THE GENTLE CIVILIZER OF NATIONS: THE RISE AND FALL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW* (2001), 205-206.

<sup>53</sup> *Refah Partisi (The Welfare Party) and Others v Turkey* Third Section Judgment of 31 July 2001, at para 62.

The better view is that the approach taken to statehood by the Grand Chamber in *Refah Partisi* is quite distinct from the approach taken by the Human Rights Committee in *Waldman v Ontario*. The Grand Chamber portrayed Europe as a community of shared values and shared history – for which secularism and democracy are central principles. The European Court conceived of rights from within a community of shared values among individual states: a kind of hybridized version of statehood, situated between the domestic and international legal conceptions, is operating here.

The purpose of this part of the paper is not directly to raise large questions about cultural relativism or the universalism of human rights but rather to emphasize how important our conception of the state is to the analysis of the content of fundamental norms.<sup>54</sup> The tension between how international law, domestic law and the emerging law of Europe paradigmatically conceives of the state is all the more important given that international law traditionally frames the state as the primary enforcer of rights. The state may not be prior to the law, and yet, enforcement of the law depends on the state for international law purposes. This is a very unstable framework.

How courts conceive their role as elaborator and implementer of humanitarian norms may differ depending on whether they are operating within an international or domestic model of the state. The idea of unified norms will always be moderated through a particular conception of the state. Notwithstanding the permeability of the domestic and international systems to shared fundamental norms, difficult questions of translation will sometimes remain.<sup>55</sup>

Nonetheless the technique of creating global space by domestic courts enforcing the normative commitments of states in both their domestic and international personas, invites possibilities for a global administrative law. In that sense it is a technique to engage national actors (judges) in the ex post administration of commitments made under treaty regimes. How thoroughgoing it

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<sup>54</sup> Another example where the difference in domestic and international conceptions of the state matters is in situations where the fragmented parts of the state are unified for the purpose of bringing a human rights claim but where a government entity might itself wish to bring an administrative law challenge against another part of the state on the basis that it had overreached its powers.

<sup>55</sup> N Walker, “Postnational Constitutionalism and the Problem of Translation” in J.H.H. WEILER & M. WIND (EDS), EUROPEAN CONSTITUTIONALISM BEYOND THE STATE (2003), p.27-54.

will be, will depend on how much the *substantive content* of the commitment matters in addition to the *fact* of the commitment itself.<sup>56</sup> The impact of this technique on the content of and broader participation in those treaty regimes is more uncertain and indirect.<sup>57</sup> That may depend on the ability of judges to create their own coordinated networks and on the feedback loops that can be established between judicial communities and the other actors involved in treaty making and elaboration. In New Zealand and Australia, these developments have resulted in calls for greater transparency of treaty making processes as a matter of both domestic and international law. Responses to such pressures have been limited.

So far we have only been considering the individual in her role as enforcer of pre-agreed commitments at both the international and domestic levels. These examples engage with familiar actors and processes that both international and domestic lawyers would recognize as “governmental”. My next example of the creation of global space takes us to more unfamiliar territory.

#### *V. Permeability of Public-Private institutions to administrative law values: a brief sketch*

There is of course, a range of techniques for global governance as Kingsbury, Krisch and Stewart have identified.<sup>58</sup> I consider two of the ideal types that they describe, to be particularly problematic for the operation of a global administrative law: administration by hybrid intergovernmental–private arrangements; and administration by private institutions with regulatory functions. As before, rather than identify the technique for creating space for global governance as *necessarily* the same as identifying the site for global administrative law I intend to evaluate which of the functions and techniques of administrative law that I earlier identified are likely to be effective, given the technique by which the global space has been created.

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<sup>56</sup> This is a question which David Dyzenhaus addresses in “The Rule of (Administrative) Law in International Law” *IILJ Working Paper 2005/1 (Global Administrative Law Series)*.

<sup>57</sup> In terms of Kingsbury, Krisch and Stewart’s ideal types it is an example of distributed administration and may also indirectly give rise to collective action by government officials.

<sup>58</sup> B Kingsbury, N Krisch and R Stewart, “The Emergence of Global Administrative Law” *IILJ Working Paper 2004/1 (Global Administrative Law Series)* p 8.

An important strategy that facilitates the integration of domestic and international conception of the state has been to disaggregate the state within both spheres into functional units and to divest some of those functions to private entities or public-private hybrid entities. This particular strategy for the creation of global space may, however, pose the largest challenge for the application of administrative law values and techniques. Indeed, the risk is that to suggest that administrative law operates in such a space may be merely to invoke administrative law's legitimacy conferring function without much more.

This process began domestically with the functional reorganization of the institutions of domestic government across most of the OECD, the fragmentation and outsourcing of formerly governmental activities, and the "corporatization" or divestment of formerly public utilities and other "commercial" activities. Simultaneously, these are the very processes that have facilitated the increased reach of transnational corporations, the development of networks and epistemic communities and, in short, enhanced the prospects for transnational forms of government. Transnational governance would not be possible if it were not for the functional reorganization of the domestic state. The labels "domestic" and "international" are no longer apt. "Government" has been replaced by the deliberately ambiguous word "governance".

Given that the reorganization of the state into functional units and subsequent divestment of "public" functions to private or hybrid entities began as a domestic phenomenon, much can be learned from the response of domestic administrative law to the challenges these developments have posed. That is not to identify the "problem" as being that such global spaces cannot be reached by domestic administrative law, but rather to question whether administrative law, as we know or are able to imagine it, has or will have the capacity to respond. The focus of the critique is not so much the *global* nature of the administrative law project but on the nature and content of administrative law itself.

Because all administrative law is quite sector-specific, it is important to be as specific as possible here in terms of examples. Let us start with the domestic example of the divestment of direct government ownership and control of utilities and other commercial functions within New Zealand. Some commercial functions were completely privatized (many being transferred to

transnational corporations) and thus put beyond the reach of domestic administrative law. Most were, at least for a time, transferred to hybrid public private bodies. The effect was that when politically unpopular decisions needed to be made, government was able to distance itself from such decision-making and to attribute unpopular decisions to separate entities invoking commercial imperatives. However, when government really did want to intervene (this time invoking political imperatives), for example, to repudiate logging contracts for scarce native timber, it was able to do so without administrative law constraints or ordinary contractual consequences.<sup>59</sup> Locating power and accountability within this institutional form has proved difficult in the extreme.

And yet the problem has not been that administrative law did not *reach* such bodies. Indeed there has been a series of cases in which claimants sought to establish whether the ex post constraints of judicial review would apply in the hybrid public-private setting. After a judicial tussle, the Privy Council reversed the Court of Appeal and found that such bodies were subject to the disciplines of judicial review.<sup>60</sup> In acknowledgement of the commercial context, however, it made clear that it would only intervene in the most limited and non-commercial settings, and only in circumstances in which the most extreme abuses of power had occurred. For all real purposes the limited circumstances under which such bodies could be restrained rendered judicial control illusory. No further “successful” challenges have been brought.

What of the other devices of administrative law? Fierce debates have taken place on the question of whether the public should have access to the information held by these hybrid bodies. A Parliamentary select committee was successful in forestalling their removal from the coverage of the access to information regime. In practice, however, much of the content of such information has been withheld on the basis that disclosure would adversely affect the commercial interests of such bodies. It may be that the application of these various administrative law mechanisms lends legitimacy but not much else to the governance of such bodies.

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<sup>59</sup>See further J McLean “The Transformation from Government to State: Globalisation and Governments as Legal Persons” 10 INDIANA JOURNAL OF GLOBAL LEGAL STUDIES 173, 186-188 (2002).

<sup>60</sup> *Mercury Energy Ltd v Electricity Corporation of New Zealand* [1994] 1 WLR 521 [PC] reversing *Auckland Electric Power Board v Electricity Corporation of New Zealand* [1994] 1 NZLR 551, 559 [CA].

The British experience of the application of administrative law disciplines to private entities that exercise regulatory functions is potentially even more instructive. The leading case of *R v Panel of Mergers and Takeovers, ex parte Datafin plc*<sup>61</sup> involved an attempt to impugn a decision of the Panel of Mergers and Takeovers ex post on the basis that it has misapplied its own rules when approving a merger. The Panel is a private entity without “visible means of legal support” whose members are important players in the London financial markets. After much judicial exegesis, the Court found that the Panel was subject to the disciplines and constraints of judicial review. However, Sir John Donaldson MR added that intervention in the work of such a body should be restricted to allowing prospective declarations concerning the meaning of the Panel’s rules (rules incidentally that the Panel was able to make and change without notice or comment). There was no question of the court intervening to unravel decisions already made. To allow more by way of potential judicial intervention would have undermined the very reasons for reposing such decisions in the Panel in the first place. Timely, expeditious, market informed and expert decision-making would be undermined by anything more by way of administrative law constraints. Again, the main function of administrative law here seems to be to legitimate as “governance” the functions of the Panel.

These examples raise a number of questions about how administrative law will operate in relation to the global versions of similar entities. A central question will be: why was the mode of governance selected in the first place, and how much will that choice of instrument or institution be undermined by the constraints and disciplines of administrative law. Institutional choices themselves convey and commit to particular norms of decision-making.

It will also be important to identify the kinds of claims to expertise that are operating in a particular institutional setting. Are the claims to “expertise” also claims to information neither shared nor able to be shared with the general public, governments or courts? If so, the techniques of administrative law are likely to have a limited impact. Expert institutions are often regarded as avoiding the worse kinds of political behaviour and as bringing both technical expertise and deliberative processes to the resolution of problems. But, as in the domestic

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<sup>61</sup> [1987] 1 QB 815.

system, the very qualities that make the use of bureaucratic institutions attractive are also the factors that present the greatest challenges.

It may well be that, to paraphrase Eyal Benvenisti,<sup>62</sup> administrative law accurately reflects the balance of power in any given system. That is not necessarily to derogate from my central thesis that the ways that global space is created are important to if distinct from the application of administrative law within those spaces. Indeed it may be argued that certain power dynamics further the creation of particular global spaces in the first instance.

Administrative law is facing fundamental challenges to its relevance and effectiveness in the domestic sphere. These challenges have their source in some of the central forces for the creation of transnational government itself. The challenges for administrative law will be even greater in these new international and transnational regulatory spheres.

## *VI Conclusion*

This paper posits that there are radically different conceptions of the state at international and domestic law. Colonial law and dualism have, for a time, disguised these differences. The strategies for transnational government most likely to be successful are those that integrate the state in its international and domestic personas. One such strategy is the use of domestic administrative and constitutional law as a channel for fundamental norms. However, in some cases, even this strategy will have to confront how the constituent elements of the state differ under these competing conceptions. Further, and paradoxically, the paper suggests that some of the very strategies that enhance the prospects for transnational government may also threaten the applicability of administrative law values at both the domestic and international levels.

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<sup>62</sup> E Benvenisti, "Factors Shaping the Evolution of Administrative Law in International Institutions" *IILJ Working Paper 2004/3 (Global Administrative Law Series)*.