

THE HISTORY AND THEORY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW



A HISTORY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW IN ITALY

Edited by Giulio Bartolini

OXFORD

THE HISTORY AND THEORY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

General Editors

NEHAL BHUTA

Chair in International Law, University of Edinburgh

ANTHONY PAGDEN

Distinguished Professor, University of California Los Angeles

BENJAMIN STRAUMANN

Alberico Gentili Senior Fellow, New York University School of Law

In the past few decades the understanding of the relationship between nations has undergone a radical transformation. The role of the traditional nation-state is diminishing, along with many of the traditional vocabularies which were once used to describe what has been called, ever since Jeremy Bentham coined the phrase in 1780, 'international law'. The older boundaries between states are growing ever more fluid, new conceptions and new languages have emerged which are slowly coming to replace the image of a world of sovereign independent nation-states which has dominated the study of international relations since the early nineteenth century. This redefinition of the international arena demands a new understanding of classical and contemporary questions in international and legal theory. It is the editors' conviction that the best way to achieve this is by bridging the traditional divide between international legal theory, intellectual history, and legal and political history. The aim of the series, therefore, is to provide a forum for historical studies, from classical antiquity to the twenty-first century, that are theoretically-informed and for philosophical work that is historically conscious, in the hope that a new vision of the rapidly evolving international world, its past and its possible future, may emerge.

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