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Review of the volume „Elemente de drept internațional public" [Elements of Public International Law], Author – Denisa Barbu, Lumen Publishing, 2022

Constanța MĂTUȘESCU[1]

[1] Associate Professor PhD, Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences, "Valahia" University of Târgoviste, Romania,
constanta_matusescu@yahoo.com

Abstract: This is a review of the book „Elemente de drept internațional public" [Elements of public international law], author – Denisa Barbu, Published by Lumen Publishing, from Iași, Romania, in 2022. The book is a university course, both theoretical and practical, written by an experienced researcher and law scholar, which can be a valuable tool not only for students, even if it is particularly addressed to them, but also to law practitioners.

Keywords: *public international law; university course; Denisa Barbu.*

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The book "Elements of public international law" (Barbu, 2022) is the first volume published by Denisa Barbu after her meritorious promotion to the academic degree of university associate professor. Denisa Barbu is a doctor of law, teaching at the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences of the Valahia University in Târgovişte and a lawyer at the Dâmboviţa Bar, and during her career she has carried out a wide range of research activities, embodied in approximately 100 scientific papers.

In this volume (Barbu, 2022), the author capitalizes on the experience of combining the practical professional activity of a lawyer and her didactic career, as the results from the practical field are used to promote the teaching of law at the highest academic standards, the increase in the professional success of students from the university where she teaches, as well as educating students for a professional life based on the ethics of the legal professions and assuming the courage to engage both in the practical profession and in the research of law as a science.

It is obvious that the volume is written by a teacher with experience in the field, who in the act of teaching makes the most of her experience as a scientist of law, creating a welcomed combination between the theory and practice of law, in order to convey to students an accumulation of skills so necessary for them after the moment of graduation. The rapid changes occurring in international law require a continuous evolution of research, but also of the researchers who carry it out. Many of these changes have a complex meaning, they produce significant changes in law, but especially in practice, which makes it necessary to verify the viability of personal opinions.

As a result, this volume is the continuation of some initiatives already started by the authors, which resulted in the publication of scientific articles in journals indexed in prestigious international databases, or even monographs. The creation of course materials is the business card of any researcher who undertakes to carry out a serious and qualitative activity, and Denisa Barbu does it perfectly, combining scientific rigor with the talent of the teaching staff.

Among the special qualities of the volume (Barbu, 2022) we can list: the quality and relevance of the information transmitted, using the most appropriate methods; the promotion of interdisciplinary research methods that allow a better reception and understanding of the international law system; the interdisciplinary approach to the field and emphasizing its practical values; proposing new research directions, adapted to the current requirements of public international law. The volume has a high degree of originality and is of interest both to specialists and to the general public,

proving that consistency and rigor remain the two coordinates of the author's scientific activity, as she has proven throughout her career.

In a dynamic society in constant transformation, Denisa Barbu's concern for international law and for political-administrative organization models in European states, and not only, makes the subjects she researches have a high degree of interdisciplinary. Among the topics addressed in the book, we list: public international law and international society, sources of international law, subjects of international law, issues regarding population in international law, state territory, law of the sea, outer space and space law, international treaties, international intergovernmental organizations, diplomatic and consular law, the peaceful settlement of international disputes, the international responsibility of states.

We note the clear and synthetic way of presenting information, with the highlighting of the essential elements, so useful for law students, but also the courageous approach to some topics such as the aspect of legal sociology (when the author refers to international society), or fields still considered exotic, such as outer space and space law. All these topics are approached from the perspective of a vast specialized bibliography, which the author synthesizes and critically analyzes.

Among other representative works of the author in the field of international law, we remark the book "Genocide, crimes against humanity and those of war. Landmarks in the Romanian criminal code in relation to the Rome Statute" (Barbu, 2015a) and "Responsibility of the natural person in international criminal law" (Barbu, 2015b), two valuable monographs, which have stood out over the years in the Romanian doctrine.

This volume (Barbu, 2022) is the reflection of a successful activity and the accumulated skills of the author through her professional specialization as a lawyer, the practical activity being a good catalyst for a research that can attract interest in the legal field; collaborative research and partnerships established over the years with various researchers and with prestigious institutions in the field of law; academic writing skills developed and enhanced in the publications she has produced to date. All this recommend Denisa Barbu for the full confidence of her colleagues in the creation of the author's research materials.

I appreciate that the volume makes a real contribution to the field of working tools for students in the field of public international law, and particularly interesting information for legal scholars in lesser-known areas of law (such as space law). I recommend this book and congratulate the author for the scientific success of this book.

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