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**Book Review La construcción jurídica de un espacio marítimo común europeo (coord. by Jose Manuel Sobrino Heredia, Gabriela A. Oanta, Bosch Editor, Barcelona, 2020, 1052 pages)**

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## Recenzie de carte / Book Review

### **La construcción jurídica de un espacio marítimo común europeo**

**(coord. by Jose Manuel Sobrino Heredia, Gabriela A. Oanta,  
Bosch Editor, Barcelona, 2020, 1052 pages)**

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Jose Manuel Sobrino Heredia is Professor of public international law at the University of A Coruña (Spain), former clerk at the Court of Justice of the European Union, former President of the *Asociación Española de Profesores de Derecho Internacional y Relaciones Internacionales* (AEPDIRI) and author of numerous books and articles on international and EU Law.

Gabriela A. Oanta is an associate professor of public international law and international relations at the University of A Coruña (Spain) and currently holds the position of Director of ‘Salvador de Madariaga’ University Institute of European Studies within the same university.

We strongly believe that both experts and students will find this book very useful, taking into account, on the one hand, the complexity of the subject at stake and, on the other hand, the fact that very few publications manage to address so easily a broad range of audiences at once.

This publication, the result of the activity of the Network of Excellence for Legal-Maritime Studies (REDEXMAR), which is formed by more than 50

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researchers and professors of public international, private international law and of labor law from France, Greece, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom seeks to analyze the legal, public and private consequences, both national and international, derived from the progressive creation by the EU of this European common maritime space.

The launch by the EU, in 2007, of an Integrated Maritime Policy, with the aim of supporting the sustainable use of the seas and oceans and developing a coordinated, coherent and transparent decision-making process on all sectoral policies existing at EU level, together with the evolution of the law of the sea, stands proof as a great contribution for contouring the European maritime space. This book comes to highlight and thoroughly analyze the challenges, threats and advantages in the creation of this common space.

This collective book also tries to echo this evolution and the current issues related to sensitive and controversial issues like migration or Brexit, from a legal perspective. Furthermore, the recent jurisprudence of the ITLOS (International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea) is not left out. In addition, a thorough analysis of the *Ukraine v. Russian Federation* (case no.26, ITLOS, PV. 19/C26/Rev.1) and *Panama v. Italy* (M/V Norstar Judgement, ITLOS Reports 2019) cases is provided.

When it comes to the structure of the book, we may notice that it is divided in three parts addressing different topics, all having in common the European maritime space: Part 1- The common European maritime space as a confluence of the different maritime sectorial policies of the European Union, Part 2- The common European maritime space as a setting for work at sea and human rights in the maritime environment and Part 3- The European maritime space as an area of maritime protection and safety in an international environment. The chapters within the three parts are independent one from another, since it is a collective volume encompassing more authors' contributions, which in our view comes to add a plus to this publication.

Another plus of this publication resides in the fact that it is bilingual and some of the articles are in Spanish and some in English.

Some of the articles are accompanied by several excerpts taken from relevant case law, relevant legislations and even maps, which contribute to persuading the reader on the study of the Law of the Sea. The wide array of supporting documents and the dynamic way of presenting each topic shows the authors' desire to combine the theoretical with the practical approach.