

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THE AUTHOR would like to acknowledge the influence that the European Public Law Center has had on the inspiration and preparation of this book, as is explained in Chapter I, fn. 9, and in the Annex, p. 145, fn. 1 and text. Its importance cannot be overrated, neither that of the Editing Secretariat of the EPLC, whom the Author has already thanked in his previous book, *An Introduction to Law*.

So, even though I will not now fully repeat my previous acknowledgements, they are no less real and present. This book would not have been born without the EPLC.

I want to also thank numerous friends and colleagues from Europe and the Americas, who have generously helped me with their criticism of the infinitely changing drafts. The usual phrase that they should not be faulted for my mistakes has to be strengthened here: practically all of them in fact *disagree*, one way or another, with almost everything I say, for various reasons that I explore in the book.

Yet they have encouraged me to go on: although they disagree with the conclusions as well, and think I am not on the mark, they do seem to think that the matter merits thought and controversy.

So with all my heart, and with all my excuses, I would like to acknowledge the intelligent observations and criticisms I received, at various stages of the draft, from countless friends and colleagues: SPYRIDON FLOGAITIS (for his comments on the initial idea, for his encouragement to go on, for his help at all times), KATERINA PAPANIKOLAOU (for her always unfalteringly right suggestions at each line of the text), MARGHERITA DEAN, LORIN WEISENFELD (who made me change my mind from an initial “the time for action is now”, to the current “the time for action is not now”; among other generous, sympathetic, kind and perceptive ideas); LUIGI MANZETTI, PEDRO ENRIQUE ANDRIEU, FLORENCIA OLDEKOP (all three of them provided me with a lot of crucial information, and also fruitful commentaries, in different parts of the book), GORDON ANTHONY (who gave me quite an important dose of legal analysis, legal information, clever insight and deep thought), PHILIP BEAUREGARD (who did a very detailed reading and comments on one of the drafts), LINN HAMMERGREN, GERHARD GUNZ, LUIS ARMANDO CARELLO, MARÍA ANGÉLICA GELLI, MARIO REJTMAN FARAH, CAROLINA FAIRSTEIN (a former pupil who thankfully reversed roles and sent me from the US very detailed, profound

and most helpful criticisms, continuously, during the permanently changing former versions of this work), JULIO RAFFO, IBERÊ GRIMONI, GERMÁN GONZÁLEZ CAMPAÑA, DANIEL PRIERI, HERNÁN CELORRIO, DIEGO SARCIAT, MIRTA SOTELO DE ANDREAU, CLAUDIA CAPUTI, MARÍA EVA MILJIKER, ESTELA SACRISTÁN (who read and criticised almost *all* versions of the draft), MARÍA FERNANDA PÉREZ SOLLA, DANIELA ALETTI, MARÍA MARTA NEUMANN, EDUARDO BAUZÁ MERCERE, DANIEL ENRIQUE BUTLOW. I borrowed ideas from them all, sometimes as they were given, sometimes to try to counter their criticism with my dissimilar reaction to the problems they posed. I am also thankful to all those that I choose not to mention here: they read the work, made comments and implied suggestions, which I used: I am not forgetting you, my friends, I am just protecting you, as a journalist protects his sources.

Last, and most certainly not the least, I would like to thank especially my eldest son, GASTÓN GORDILLO, who currently teaches anthropology at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. A large part of his personal library is still at home (so it is surely not his best choice) and I used it extensively, as any one reading the book can easily observe. I bought some books myself, too, but most of the citations come out of his library. Should I state that he disagrees with everything I say here? Gastón, with all my love, do thank God that you have only one father! Anyway, all the books are back in place, Junior.

Agustín Gordillo