



## Rawls's Law of Peoples: A Realistic Utopia?

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This volume examines Rawls's theory of international justice as worked out in his controversial last book, *The Law of Peoples*.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

John Rawls's final book, *The Law of Peoples* (1999), receives the rigorous, balanced, multifaceted treatment it deserves in this important volume of articles by leading moral and political philosophers. Each set of essays, from those explicating the background to Rawls's controversial theory of international justice, to those exploring liberaldemocratic foreign policy, nationalism, human rights, and economicjustice, is uniformly excellent. Based on the quality of its content, its influence is sure to be positive. **Summing Up:** Essential. R. Parrish, West Texas A&M University, for **CHOICE**

Rawls's *The Law of Peoples* addresses in a systematic way a host of urgently important political questions such as immigration, trade policy, globalization, and foreign policy, including war and peace, to name a few. Martin and Reidy have collected an outstanding group of responses to Rawls's attempt. Every essay sheds new light not only on Rawls's book but also on the philosophical issues at stake in the nature of his project. Taken together, the essays paint a comprehensive and revealing portrait of a vitally important area of political philosophy. Daniel Bonevac, University of Texas, **Human Rights Review**

"Like his conception of social justice, John Rawls's vision of a just world has been the subject of heated debate, but its real strengths and weaknesses are becoming apparent only gradually. This excellent volume substantially advances that process, and will benefit anyone hoping to understand how one of the greatest political philosophers addressed some of humanity's most pressing problems." *Andrew Williams, University of Reading*

A Choice Magazine's Outstanding Academic Book for 2006

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*—Andrew Williams, University of Reading*

#### From the Back Cover

John Rawls is considered the most important theorist of justice in much of western Europe and the English-speaking world more generally. This volume examines Rawls's theory of international justice as worked out in his last and perhaps most controversial book, *The Law of Peoples*. It contains new and stimulating essays, some sympathetic, others critical, written by pre-eminent theorists in the field. These essays situate Rawls's *The Law of Peoples* historically and methodologically, and examine all its key ingredients: its thin cosmopolitanism, its doctrine of human rights, its principles of global economic justice, and its normative theory of liberal foreign policy. The book will set the terms of the debate on *The Law of Peoples* for years to come, thereby shaping the broader debates about global justice.

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