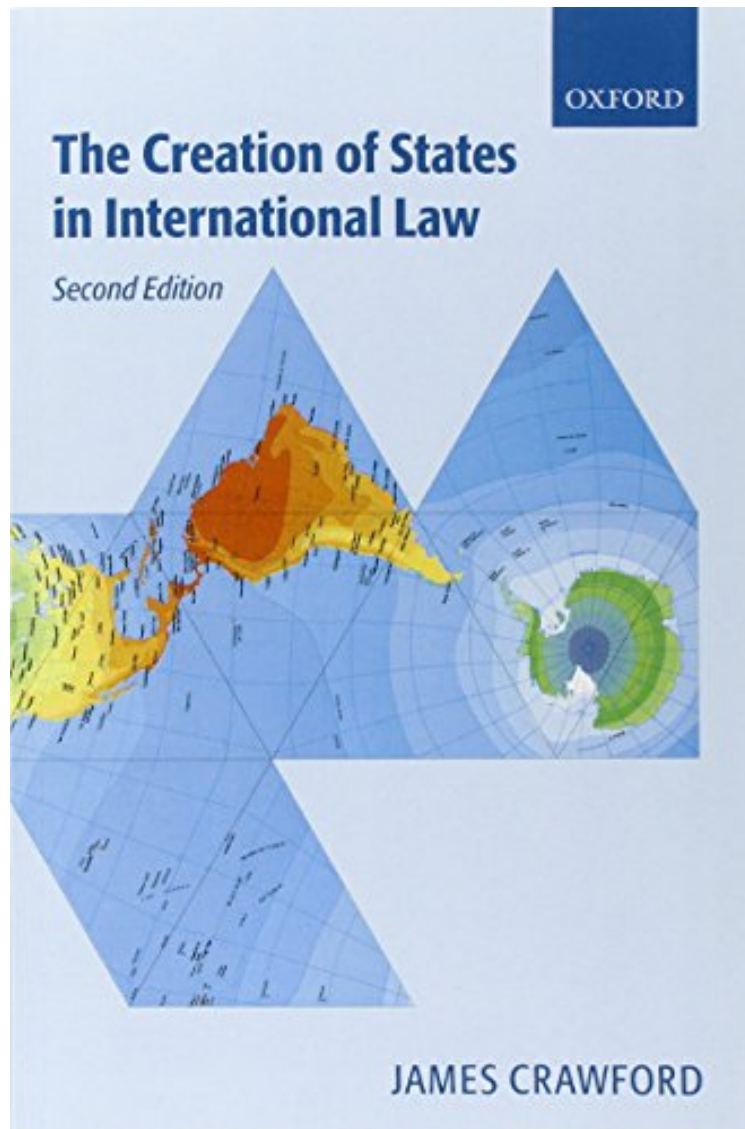


# The Creation of States in International Law

*James R. Crawford*

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international law students or those who are interested in this subject. This book is quite thick, but it is well sorted into sections and subsections and it is easy to orientate in it. You will learn everything about the creation of states in past and also very recent present. The language is a bit difficult (it is a real law textbook) but the subject makes up for it more than sufficiently.

Statehood in the early 21st century remains as much a central problem now as it was in 1979 when the first edition of *The Creation of States in International Law* was published. As Rhodesia, Namibia, the South African Homelands and Taiwan then were subjects of acute concern, today governments, international organizations, and other institutions are seized of such matters as the membership of Cyprus in the European Union, application of the Geneva Conventions to Afghanistan, a final settlement for Kosovo, and, still, relations between China and Taiwan. All of these, and many other disputed situations, are inseparable from the nature of statehood and its application in practice. The remarkable increase in the number of States in the 20th century did not abate in the twenty five years following publication of James Crawford's landmark study, which was awarded the American Society of International Law Prize for Creative Scholarship in 1981. The independence of many small territories comprising the 'residue' of the European colonial empires alone accounts for a major increase in States since 1979; while the disintegration of Yugoslavia and the USSR in the early 1990s further augmented the ranks. With these developments, the practice of States and international organizations has developed by substantial measure in respect of self-determination, secession, succession, recognition, de-colonization, and several other fields. Addressing such questions as the unification of Germany, the status of Israel and Palestine, and the continuing pressure from non-State groups to attain statehood, even, in cases like Chechnya or Tibet, against the presumptive rights of existing States, James Crawford discusses the relation between statehood and recognition; the criteria for statehood, especially in view of evolving standards of democracy and human rights; and the application of such criteria in international organizations and between states. Also discussed are the mechanisms by which states have been created, including devolution and secession, international disposition by major powers or international organizations and the institutions established for Mandated, Trust, and Non-Self-Governing Territories. Combining a general argument as to the normative significance of statehood with analysis of numerous specific cases, this fully revised and expanded second edition gives a comprehensive account of the developments which have led to the birth of so many new states.

"One of the classic monographs of international law."--*Cambridge Law Journal*"Of great value not only to international lawyers but also to students of the impact of new states and nationalist movements on world politics."--*Times Literary Supplement*"Not only a masterful compilation of state practice and a minutely detailed review of the literature but a thoughtful analysis of one of international law's most perplexing problems."--*International Affairs*"This book stands alone in its field. It will be the first point of reference for anyone seeking information or enlightenment on how States have come into being, how they change, and how - sometimes - they disappear. It is an essential... purchase for all international law and international relations libraries."--*International and Comparative Law Quarterly*  
About the Author James Crawford is the Whewell Professor of International Law at the University of Cambridge, where he is Chair of the Faculty of Law, 2003-06. He was formerly Director of the Lauterpacht Research Centre for International Law, 1995-2003. Before moving to Cambridge in 1992 he was a Member of the Australian Law Reform Commission; from 1992 he was a member of the International Law Commission, and was responsible in that capacity for the ILC's Draft Statute for an International Criminal Court (1994) and the ILC's Articles on State Responsibility (2001).