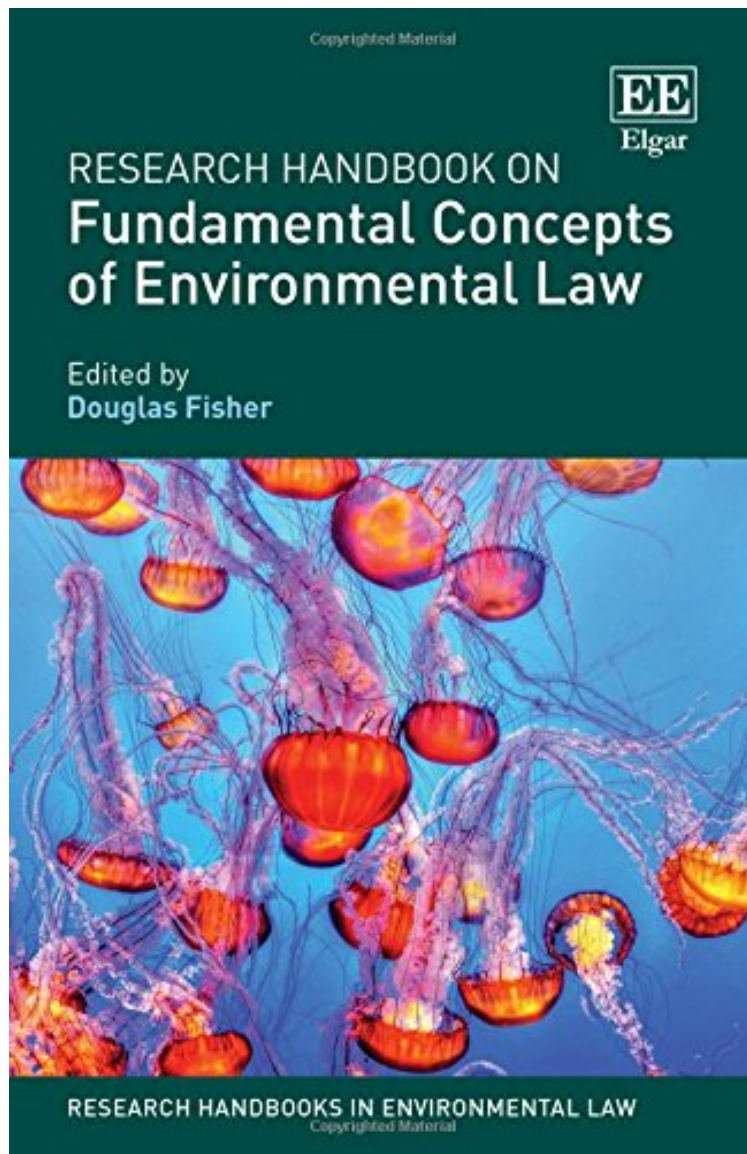


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The quality and the strength of an environmental legal system is a reflection of the conceptual foundations upon which it is constructed. The Research Handbook on Fundamental Concepts of Environmental Law illuminates key aspects of environmental governance through the lens of their underlying dimensions: for example, the form, structure and language of international, regional and national instruments; the function of norms, objectives and standards; and the relevance of economic analysis and of integrated policy formulation. The topical chapters in this timely handbook include analyses of human rights, constitutional rights, property rights, sustainable development, environmental impact assessment and precaution. Perceptive contributions examine the emerging roles played by various concepts, values and objectives in environmental governance. The nature of these emerging concepts and their relationship with traditional rights and duties, which are typically reactive in nature, is of particular significance. The concepts examined go to the heart of environmental law: the capacity of a system of environmental governance to be judicially recognized and enforced. This insightful handbook will be a valuable resource for all students and researchers in environmental law and governance. It will be essential reading for policymakers, legal drafters, and anyone needing to understand the foundations of the modern environmental legal system. Contributors include: A. Akhtar-Khavari, K. Bosselmann, N. Bryner, P. Burdon, M. Faure, D. Fisher, E. Fisher, A. Gear, D. Grinlinton, J.K. Knudsen, L. Kotze, W.M. Lafferty, C. McGrath, B.J. Preston, N. Soininen, C. Soyapi, T. Stephens, P. Taylor, A. Telesesky, J. Verschuuren, A. Wiersema, C. Williams

'We cannot progress on global environmental issues if we fail to endorse a theoretical approach. This Handbook sheds light on how environmental law is underpinned by key concepts and landmark principles and why domestic laws converge.' --Nicolas de Sadeleer, Saint Louis University, Brussels

This edited collection brings together leading experts who reconceptualise environmental governance, the role of international law in the governance regime, and institutional approaches to achieving various environmental goals. It makes a worthwhile and novel contribution to the existing literature in the field.' --Rosemary Lyster, The University of Sydney, Australia

A remarkable book. It assembles 18 contributions on key legal environmental terms, such as sustainable development, precautionary principle, or rights of nature. The contributions are written by experts on the different topics which ably resume, in clear, understandable language, the state of discussion. Though the focus is on international environmental law, the different concepts treated are also relevant in national law and even when you think that you know everything on a specific notion, you will get new insights.' --Ludwig Kramer, European Union Aarhus Centre, Belgium

About the Author Edited by Douglas Fisher, Emeritus Professor, Queensland University of Technology, Australia