

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Abbreviations	ix
Table of Cases	xi
List of Treaties	xxi
1 Introduction	1
1 Purpose and Topic	1
2 The Legal Regime for the Interpretation of Treaties as a System of Rules	6
3 Basic Concepts Defined	9
4 Method	13
5 Organisation of Work	19
6 Typographical Conventions Adhered to in this Work	20
2 The Rule of Interpretation	29
1 The Correct Meaning	29
2 How to Determine the Correct Meaning	33
3 How to Determine the Correct Meaning (cont'd)	38
4 How to Determine the Correct meaning (cont'd)	43
5 The Concept of a First-Order Rule of Interpretation	47
6 The Concept of a Second-Order Rule of Interpretation	52
3 Using Conventional Language (“the ordinary meaning”)	61
1 Introduction; in Particular, Regarding the Problem Caused by Social Variation in Language	62
2 Regarding the Problem Caused by Social Variation in Language (Cont'd)	67
3 Regarding the Problem Caused by Temporal Variation in Language	73
4 Regarding the Problem Caused by Temporal Variation in Language (cont'd)	79
5 Regarding the Problem Caused by Temporal Variation in Language (cont'd)	87
6 Conclusions	95

4	Using the Context: The “Text” of a Treaty	101
1	“[t]he text”	103
2	“[t]he text” Put to Use	105
3	“[t]he text” Put to Use: Different Words and Phrases Shall (sometimes) be Given Different Meanings	111
4	“[t]he text” Put to Use: No Logical Tautologies	117
5	Conclusions	124
5	Using the Context: The Elements Set Out in VCLT Article 31 § 2(A) and (B)	133
1	The Meaning of Subparagraph (a): Introduction	134
2	The Meaning of Subparagraph (a): “any agreement”	138
3	The Meaning of Subparagraph (b)	147
4	The “agreement” and the “instrument” Put to Use	151
5	Conclusions	154
6	Using The Context: The Elements Set Out in VCLT Article 31 § 3	161
1	Subparagraph (a)	162
2	Subparagraph (b): Introduction	165
3	Subparagraph (b): The Expression “agreement”	171
4	Subparagraph (c): Introduction	177
5	The Meaning of Subparagraph (c): “applicable”	182
6	The Contextual Elements Put to Use	189
7	Conclusions	192
7	Using the Object and Purpose	203
1	On the Meaning of “object and purpose” in General	204
2	“[o]bject and purpose” – one Concept or Two? Moreover, Regarding the Variation of an Object and Purpose Over Time ..	207
3	Treaties with Several Objects and Purposes	211
4	The “object and purpose” Put to Use	217
5	The “object and purpose” Put to Use (Cont’d)	221
6	Conclusions	227
8	Using the Supplementary Means of Interpretation	235
1	The Meaning of “supplementary means of interpretation”	238
2	“[t]he preparatory work of the treaty”	240
3	“[t]he circumstances of [the treaty’s] conclusion”	246
4	Other Supplementary Means of Interpretation: Ratification Work	249
5	Other Supplementary Means of Interpretation: Treaties <i>in Pari</i> <i>Materia</i>	255
6	Other Supplementary Means of Interpretation: The Context	259

7	The “supplementary means of interpretation” Put to Use.....	265
8	Conclusions.....	269
9	Using Supplementary Means of Interpretation (Cont’d).....	279
1	The Rule of Restrictive Interpretation.....	280
2	The Principle of <i>Contra Proferentem</i>	284
3	Exceptions Shall be Narrowly Interpreted.....	286
4	The Rule of Necessary Implication.....	287
5	Interpretation <i>Per Analogiam</i>	294
6	Interpretation <i>Per Argumentum a Fortiori</i>	297
7	Interpretation <i>Per Argumentum e Contrario</i>	299
8	The Principle of <i>Ejusdem Generis</i>	303
9	Other Claimed Interpretation Rules.....	310
10	The Relationships Between Different Means of Interpretation.....	321
1	The Relationship Between Primary and Supplementary Means of Interpretation: an Introduction.....	322
2	The Relationship Between Primary and Supplementary Means of Interpretation: the Second-Order Rule as a Conclusive Reason or as a Reason <i>Pro Tanto</i>	326
3	The Expression “ambiguous or obscure”.....	331
4	The Expression “leads to a result which is manifestly absurd or unreasonable”.....	334
5	The Expression “leads to a result which is manifestly absurd or unreasonable” (Cont’d).....	337
6	The Expression “leads to a result which is manifestly absurd or unreasonable” (Cont’d).....	340
7	The Relationship Between Primary Means of Interpretation and Supplementary Means of Interpretation, Respectively.....	343
8	Conclusions.....	348
11	The Special Rule Regarding the Interpretation of Treaties Authenticated in Two or More Languages.....	355
1	General Observations on the Methods of Reconciliation.....	358
2	Regarding the Method Described in VCLT Article 33 § 4.....	361
3	Regarding the Method Described in VCLT Article 33 § 4 (cont’d).....	364
4	Conclusions.....	369
12	Reflecting on the Outcome: International Law on a Scale Between Radical Legal Skepticism and the One-right-answer Thesis.....	373
1	Determining the Contents of the Means of Interpretation.....	375
2	Establishing Relationships Assumed in the Rules of Interpretation.....	379

3 Resolving Conflicts Occurring in the Application of the First-Order Rules of Interpretation	384
Annex	387
List of Sources	397
Index	409