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Preliminary Observations

1. There is a great diversity among languages and authors concerning the use of capital or lower case letters (as some quotations in this book by themselves document). Some are minimalist, other are maximalist. This writing takes the following criterion: to respect, as a rule, the options of the quoted authors but to use capital letters for highlighting certain concepts (Ethics of Human Rights, Rule of Law, for example), to distinguish between different semantic uses of a term (such as 'state' and State, 'law' and Law), or to designate disciplines of knowledge.
2. As the form of the bibliographical references is concerned, they are manifold and may be confusing, especially when quotations include quotations. This writing follows basically the *Chicago Manual of Style,* but no standard style is a bible and adaptations may be needed. Notes inside quotations are suppressed, as usual, and inside double quotation marks may be changed into single quotation marks. When an author is cited for the first time, his or her first name is referred to in full.
3. Nowadays, the Internet serves as an increasingly valuable, easily accessible and frequently unavoidable documental source[1]. In this writing, when an exclusively electronic source is quoted, it is, as a rule, referred to only as footnote: without access date, if originated from an electronic site institutionally stable; indicating month and year of access, if the presumption of stability is uncertain. Anyway, there are no immortal links… their volatility is great (but it is always possible to try to find the documents elsewhere, if they remain available on the WEB). When a document included in the references is available electronically too, its source is mentioned.
4. The use of acronyms is rather pragmatic. A list of frequent acronyms in writings on human rights is included, but only the most frequent are used in this study, following a context criterion, as no uniform criterion would be advisable. Their first appearance is accompanied, as usual, by the full denomination.

[1] As evidenced, for example, by *Conducting Research in International Human Rights Law–Legal Research Guide Series–Specialized Research Guide # 8*, George Washington University, Law School, Jacob Burns Law Library, 2012. (www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research/Documents/Guides/Human%20Rights%20Guide%20(2013).pdf)

5. While the manuscript strives to use gender inclusive language, historical expressions such ‘rights of man’ are retained, without attempting to *amend* history, and the options of the quoted authors are respected.
6. Each chapter begins with an abstract and includes its own references.



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