

# Preface

This work is based on my doctoral thesis, which was accepted at Humboldt-University Berlin in 2014. It is closely linked to a large-scale research project on ‘Treaties and Subsequent Practice’. This project was funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and contributed to a project of the United Nations’ International Law Commission (ILC) on ‘Subsequent Agreements and Subsequent Practice in Relation to Interpretation of Treaties’ led by Special Rapporteur Georg Nolte.

The interrelationship between these projects generated valuable synergies. On the one hand, the thesis informed part of the Special Rapporteur’s final report on the topic. On the other hand, it profited from deep insights into the ILC’s work. Being part of the Special Rapporteur’s research staff, I was fortunate to have had the chance to substantially contribute to various stages of the ILC’s project and to coordinate reports for the earlier ‘Study Group on Treaties over Time’.

An academic work may label one single author. However, it will always be the product of many people: First of all, I wish to thank Professor Georg Nolte for entrusting me with an ambitious and demanding position within the research project on ‘Treaties and Subsequent Practice’ and for having supervised my doctoral thesis. Professor Nolte continuously encouraged me to develop my own thoughts and ideas and to always remain critical towards simplistic truths.

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