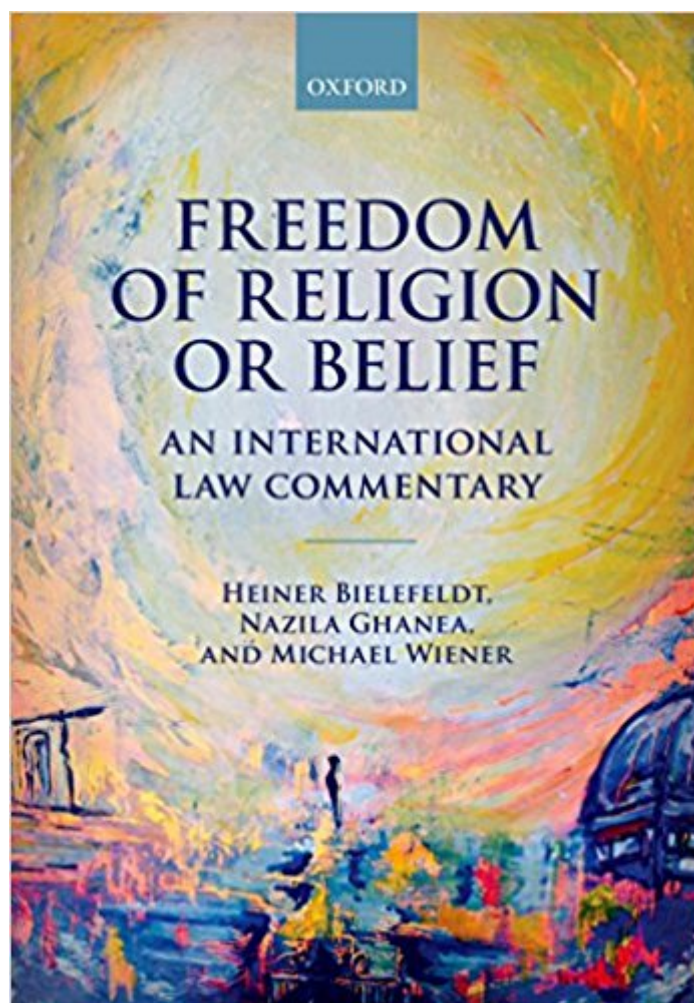


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# Freedom Of Religion Or Belief: An International Law Commentary



## Synopsis

Violations of religious freedom and violence committed in the name of religion grab our attention on a daily basis. Freedom of religion or belief is a key human right: the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, numerous conventions, declarations and soft law standards include specific provisions on freedom of religion or belief. The 1981 Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief has been interpreted since 1986 by the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief. Special Rapporteurs (for example those on racism, freedom of expression, minority issues and cultural rights) and Treaty Bodies (for example the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Committee on the Rights of the Child) have also elaborated on freedom of religion or belief in the context of their respective mandates. *Freedom of Religion or Belief: An International Law Commentary* is the first commentary to look comprehensively at the international provisions for the protection of freedom of religion or belief, considering how they are interpreted by various United Nations Special Procedures and Treaty Bodies. Structured around the thematic categories of the United Nations Special Rapporteur's framework for communications, the commentary analyses, for example, the limitations on the wearing of religious symbols and vulnerable situations, including those of women, detainees, refugees, children, minorities and migrants, through a combination of scholarly expertise and practical experience.

## Book Information

File Size: 2488 KB

Print Length: 704 pages

Publisher: OUP Oxford (January 21, 2016)

Publication Date: January 21, 2016

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01CSTI7J6

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #623,938 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #18

inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Law > Administrative Law > Public #116 inÂ Books > Law > Administrative Law > Public #201644 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality

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