
Lawyers and the Construction of Transnational Justice

Edited by Yves Dezalay and
Bryant G Garth

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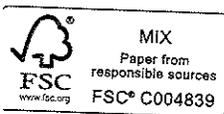
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Judgment at Istanbul

The Armenian Genocide Trials

by

Vahakn N. Dadrian and Taner Akçam



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FOREWORD

This book is a translation of my dissertation published in 2006 by Vittorio Klostermann, the dedicated humanities publisher from Frankfurt am Main. Just like the title of the German edition, *“Rechtsbildung im wirtschaftlichen Weltverkehr. Das Erdbeben von San Francisco und die internationale Standardisierung von Vertragsbedingungen (1871–1914)”*, the English title tries to put the main elements of my research in a nutshell. However, this has once again proven impossible. I hope that the book will find its readers among the legal historians and legal theorists, researchers studying the development of the insurance business or the perception of risk and disaster, and those interested in the standardising impact of the industrial revolution on human culture in general. I have updated this edition by including the literature available by September 2011.

The German version was awarded the prize *“Geisteswissenschaften International—Preis zur Förderung der Übersetzung geisteswissenschaftlicher Literatur”* by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, the German Publishers’ and Booksellers’ Association and the Federal Foreign Office of Germany. The award included financial support for the cost of this translation, aiming at the worldwide dissemination of the German humanities research. I cordially thank the donors as well as the jury which defined “humanities” wide enough to accept a dissertation which was originally handed in at the Law Faculty of Frankfurt’s Goethe University. I am deeply grateful to Vittorio E. Klostermann and his colleagues Anastasia Urban and Christina Müller who proposed the book for the award and dedicated much of their time to this project for over two years, as well as to Rosanna Woensdregt, Hylke Faber and Marti Huetink of Brill Publishers who helped me during this marathon, notably the editing process, until I held the printed result in my hands. I am equally grateful to the series editors Remco van Rhee, Dirk Heirbaut and Matthew C. Mirow, who accepted this publication into the present book series.

The translator deserves special attention. Frederik Heinemann did not just translate this book. He studied the works of Giedion, Trakman and Harriman in order to learn the language of the time and transferred sentences into English which I thought were untranslatable. Fritz, I think the worst was *“Die in dieser Hinsicht wichtigsten Klauseln enthalten neben Haftungsbegrenzungen oder-ausschlüssen und Beweislastregelungen auch*