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Since the Collapse of the Soviet Union"; "1.2 New Phase of Caspian Negotiations Defines the Importance of Research"; "1.3 Present State of Research into the Status and Regime of the Caspian Sea"; "1.4 Structure of the Book"; "References"; "Chapter 2: Geography, Politics and Economy in the Caspian Region"; "References"; "Chapter 3: Legal History and the Present State of Use of the Caspian Resources"; "3.1 Introduction"; "3.2 Russian-Persian Treaties Concluded Until the Nineteenth Century"; "3.3 Legal Heritage of the Twentieth Century in the Caspian Region"; "3.4 State Succession and the Soviet-Iranian Agreements"; "3.5 Legal Interpretation of the Soviet-Iranian Treaties"; "3.5.1 Caspian Sea as `SeaA?A?"; "3.5.2 Caspian Sea as `LakeA?A? in Legal Terms"; "3.5.3 The Caspian Sea as `CondominiumA?A? in Legal Terms"; "3.5.4 Assessment of Possible Legal Solutions for the Caspian Status"; "3.6 Legal Confusions in State Practice Regarding the Use of Resources in the 1990s"; "References"; "Chapter 4: Cooperation Levels in Caspian States A Practice in the 1990s"; "4.1 Challenges for the Caspian Region After the Dissolution of the Soviet Union"; "4.2 Peaceful Settlement in International Law"; "4.3 Five-Party Negotiations on the Convention on the Legal Status of the Caspian Sea"; "4.4 Step-by-Step Conclusion of Agreements on the Use of Natural Resources"; "4.5 Step-by-Step Multilateral Regulations of the Legal Regimes in the Caspian Sea"; "4.5.1 Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea"; "4.5.2 Security Cooperation in the Caspian Sea"; "Conclusions"; "References"; "Chapter 5: Interrelations Between Territorial Delimitation and the Regime of the Use of the Caspian Sea"; "5.1 Non-legal Aspects of Settlement of the Seaward Boundaries in the Caspian Sea"; "5.2 Territorial Delimitation and State Sovereignty in the Caspian Sea"; "5.3 State Practice in Delimitation of the Caspian Sea"; "5.4 Prospects for the Future Division of the Caspian Sea"; "5.5 Future Maritime Zones in the Caspian Sea"; "5.5.1 Base Lines"; "5.5.2 Internal Waters"; "5.5.3 Coastal Sea"; "5.5.4 Fishery Zone"; "5.5.5 Zone of National Jurisdiction"; "5.5.6 High Sea"; "5.5.7 Methods of the Future Maritime Delimitation in the Caspian Sea"; "Conclusions"; "References"; "Chapter 6: The Regime for the Use of Non-living Resources in the Caspian Sea"; "6.1 Reserves of Non-living Resources in the Caspian Sea"; "6.2 International Legal Regulation of Non-living Resources"; "6.3 Controversial Claims on the Rights to Use Non-living Resources in the Caspian Sea"; "6.4 Prospects of Adopting Relevant Legislation on the Use of Non-living Resources in the Caspian Sea"; "Conclusions"; "References"; "Chapter 7: The Legal Regime of the Living Resources of the Caspian Sea";

## Sommario/riassunto

This book analyzes the legal and economic situation concerning the removal and allocation of the natural resources in the Caspian Sea – the largest enclosed body of salt water in the world, which not only constitutes a fragile ecosystem with great fishery resources, but is also rich in oil and gas deposits. The economic advantages gained from the development of oil and gas are the basis for the economic and social development of the riparian states, but also cause significant transboundary harm to the ecosystem of the Caspian Sea. The book contends that, if the local environment grows more heavily contaminated through the extraction of mineral resources, it could lead to environmentally induced violence. It describes the ongoing conflicts, which are primarily due to various riparian states' territorial claims concerning the extraction of oil and gas resources, and argues that the

current legal framework on the use and protection of the Caspian Sea is obsolete. Thus, the main objective of the book is to point out corresponding international legal mechanisms that could be used in order to settle these disputes and protect the Caspian Sea's fragile environment from transboundary harm.

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