

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910817090603321
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Titolo	Animals in international law / / Anne Peters
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden, Netherlands ; ; Boston, Massachusetts : , : Brill Nijhoff, , [2021] ©2021
ISBN	90-04-46625-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (656 pages)
Collana	The Pocket Books of the Hague Academy of International Law / les Livres de Poche de l'Academie de Droit International de la Haye
Disciplina	344.049
Soggetti	Animal welfare - Law and legislation Animal rights Animals - Law and legislation
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Sommario/riassunto	The plight of animal individuals and species inflicted on them by human activity is a global problem with detrimental repercussions for all humans and for the entire planet. This book gives an overview of the most important international legal regimes that directly address and indirectly affect animals. It covers species conservation treaties, notably the international whaling regime, the farm animal protection rules of the EU, international trade law and the international law of armed conflict. It also analyses the potential for an international regime of animal rights. Finding that international law creates more harm than good for animals, the author suggests progressive treaty interpretation, treaty making and animal interest representation to close the animal welfare gap in international law. A body of global animal law needs to be developed, accompanied by critical global animal studies.