

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910826137703321
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Titolo	International law relating to islands // Sean D. Murphy
Pubbl/distr/stampa	[Leiden] : , : Brill Nijhoff, , 2017
ISBN	90-04-36154-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (370 pages)
Collana	Pocketbooks of the Hague Academy of International Law
Disciplina	341.42
Soggetti	Islands - Law and legislation
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Full text of the lecture published in September 2017 in the Recueil des cours, volume 386.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 340-364).
Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- Introduction -- Selected contemporary disputes concerning islands -- Definition of an "island" -- Methods for acquiring sovereignty over an island -- Islands within boundary rivers or lakes -- Islands in relation to maritime zones -- Effects of islands on maritime boundary delimitation -- Changes in islands over time -- Pacific settlement of island disputes -- General conclusions -- Bibliography -- About the Author -- Publications of the Hague Academy of International Law -- Printing Information.
Sommario/riassunto	This monograph considers the application of general rules of international law to islands, as well as special rules focused on islands, notably Article 121 of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. Such rules have been applied in several landmark cases in recent years, including the International Court of Justice's judgments in Territorial and Maritime Dispute (Nicaragua v. Colombia), and arbitral awards in the Chagos Marine Protected Area Arbitration (Mauritius v. United Kingdom) and the South China Sea Arbitration (Philippines v. China). Among other things, this monograph explores: the legal concepts of "islands", "rocks" and "low-tide elevations"; methods of securing sovereignty over and the maritime zones generated by islands; islands and historic titles, bays and rights; problems of delimitation in the presence of islands; legal issues arising from changes in islands over time (notably from climate change); and contemporary techniques for resolving disputes over islands.

