

growing middle ground of practice and precedent. The reasons for their emergence are varied, but their implications tend to lie in similar directions.

In the area of human rights the United Nations 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights propounded a series of hortatory principles which essentially claim to govern state practice with respect to its own nationals. These principles have subsequently been converted into treaty law in a series of conventions and covenants, which are binding upon states that have accepted them. Because of mounting international pressure in the human rights area, these treaties have impressive ratification lists, notwithstanding the absence of any effective mechanism to monitor compliance.

Over time, the distinction between obligations arising from acceptance of treaty obligations and moral obligations stemming from adherence to United Nations principles began to erode. In the CSCE process, human rights occupied a central place, notwithstanding the fact that the Helsinki Final Act was deemed not to form part of international law. The attitudinal change since the 1940s, when human rights was a domestic issue, is best illustrated by an excerpt from the concluding document of the 1990 Moscow Meeting on the Human Dimension:

"The participating States emphasize that issues relating to human rights, fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law are of international concern, as respect for these rights and freedoms constitutes one of the foundations of the international order. They categorically and irrevocably declare that the commitments undertaken in the field of the human dimension of the CSCE are matters of direct and legitimate concern to all participating States and do not belong exclusively to the internal affairs of the State concerned."

A similar process of pragmatic evolution has led to increased interventionist practices in a number of areas. In the past five years, the concept of a "right to intervene" has been introduced to buttress the traditional (and controversial) doctrine of humanitarian intervention. In the environment, the landmark 1972 Stockholm Conference determined that one state's environment policies do not necessarily end at its borders. In the field of arms control, the concept of "intrusive verification", long advocated by the strictest proponents of arms control, has in the aftermath of the Gulf War become mainstream thinking. In its purest form ("anywhere, any time"), verification is perhaps the most intrusive component of emerging international law and practice.

Global market forces compel governments to coordinate and harmonize domestic economic, industrial and trade policies to an unprecedented degree. What was once regarded as the preserve of sovereign states is now becoming an accepted subject of international scrutiny (and even direction). The international trade policy agenda is