

THE REASONABLE DIRECTION OF FORCE

CONCLUSION

The reasonable direction of force in the lives of nations, i.e. the use of international tribunals and international police, will not always be satisfactory, just as the verdicts of our present courts of justice are not always satisfactory. Yet it will be worth while to accept the unsatisfactory for the sake of the satisfactory. We sometimes rail against the law, yet we should do very ill without law.

The reasonable direction of force in the lives of nations will be inadequate, and yet by no means so criminally inadequate as that state of the nations in which they were unable or unwilling to prevent the Armenian massacres, the dismemberment of Poland, the disfranchisement of Finland, the annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the devastation of Belgium, and in which for years they had to condone the Congo horrors. Nevertheless, it is true, it will be inadequate. For when all is said and done, neither reason alone nor force alone, nor the reasonable application of force, will adequately deal with international relations. Situations between nations, as between men, will be insoluble except with the help of the first among the three instruments of living, the most potent of them all—love. Goodwill between nations is the indispensable preliminary to universal peace.