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ARTICLES

- Multilateral Treaties: The Significance of
the Name of the Instrument
John King Gamble, Jr. 1

This article focuses on all multilateral treaties entered into force between 1919 and 1971 to discover the significance, if any, of the names of those treaties. The author presents the views of international legal authorities regarding the legal effect of the name of the instrument and then employs a *macroscopic analysis* of state practice to seek empirical differences in differently named instruments. The author uses contingency tables to discern a correlation between the characteristics of multilateral treaties and their differing names. The five most commonly used instrument names — treaty, convention, agreement, protocol, and exchange of notes — are analyzed in relation to seven specific treaty attributes. The author concludes that “a broader, more thorough understanding of treaties has been hindered by reiterations about the legal insignificance of the name of the instrument, obscuring the fact that there may be very important empirical differences between instruments with different names . . . differences that reveal much about how states exercise their latitude in naming the instruments of multilateral treaties.”

- The Nepal Proposal for a Common Heritage
Fund: Panacea or Pipedream?
William C. Lynch 25

This article is a reply to an article appearing in the Summer 1979 issue, authored by Professor John L. Logue, entitled *The Nepal Proposal for a Common Heritage Fund*. Acknowledging the idealistic appeal of the Nepal Proposal, which would require each coastal state to contribute a percentage of the revenue realized from the exploitation of offshore seabed minerals to an international fund to be used to aid developing nations, the author disagrees with the Proposal, asserting that it overlooks the major political and legal developments in the law of the sea over the last three decades. The author asserts that the principle of coastal state control over resources within a 200-mile zone was established in state practice before the first session of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. The author examines the statements of the developing and developed countries' representatives to the Third United Na-

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tions Conference on the Law of the Sea at UNCLOS III. Associate Professor Logue's contention that the developed countries could have forestalled the incorporation of the 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone in the Informal Composite Negotiating Text. The author reviews the history of continental shelf law and analyzes its current status to suggest that coastal states have a legal right to refuse to share continental shelf resources as contemplated by the Nepal Proposal. The author concludes that the lack of realism in the Nepal Proposal may be harmful to a successful conclusion to UNCLOS III, by raising hopes that will be unrealized.

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