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Bookends

States of Injustice

The latest book by Michael Spencer, States of Injustice: A Guide to Human Rights and Civil Liberties in the European Union, has, in the author's own words, two purposes. One is to provide a "general and comparative study of current problems in human rights and civil liberties in the countries of the EU" (PL&B winter 1990/91 p.25). The other is to serve as "a handbook on how the whole system works; how laws are made at the European level, what the defects of the system are, and what might be done to improve things."

In the first chapter "Europe after Maastricht" the author examines the complex decision and law making machinery of the EU as reformed by the Maastricht Treaty.

The second chapter, "Guardians of Human Rights," gives an overview of the main international organisations and institutions and their role and efforts in promotion of human rights issues.

The following six chapters are each devoted to a particular issue of concern in this area, from measures compensating the abolition of border controls, refugees, immigration, racism, discrimination and social rights to policing, data protection and state control.

Finally, in the eighth chapter, the author gives some real life examples in the above areas from a selection of seven EU Member States: France,

Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom.

The book was extensively researched and is bursting with useful references. These are both contained at the end of each chapter and in the appendix to the book. In addition to its general appeal, the book is very useful for anyone working or researching in the area of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Finally, its chapters dealing with specific human rights concerns are obligatory reading for anyone involved in the area.

States of Injustice: A Guide to Human Rights and Civil Liberties in the European Union, by Michael Spencer, 1995, pp. 234, paperback ISBN 0 7453 0980 1 price £14.95, hardback ISBN 0 7453 0979 8 price £45.00, published by Pluto Press, 345 Archway Road, London N6 5AA, UK. Tel: + (44) 181 348 2724 Fax: + (44) 181 348 9133.

FEDIM's Guide to the EU Data Protection Directive Common Position and its Implications for Direct Marketing

The Federation of European Direct Marketing (FEDIM) has produced a Guide to the Common Position Draft of the EU Framework Directive on Data protection and its Implications for Direct Marketing. The nineteen page Guide gives a detailed analysis of the Directive's requirements as they may affect the direct marketing industry.

Copies of the Guide are available from FEDIM, Place des Chasseurs Ardennais 20, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium. Tel: + (32) 2 735 2252, Fax: + (32) 2 735 4948.

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