The Other American Colonies: An International and Constitutional Law Examination of the United States' Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Island Conquests

Ediberto Román, Florida International University College of Law

Excerpt
The Other American Colonies: An International and Constitutional Law Examination of the United States' Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Island Conquests is a thorough and thoughtful examination of U.S. overseas expansionism. This work illustrates how, despite its own anti-colonial beginnings, this country is the world's largest overseas territorial power. Román looks at U.S. control and treatment of Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Micronesia, American Samoa, the Northern Marianas, the Marshall Islands, and Palau, as well as the situations in the Philippines, Cuba, and Hawaii. As the international community increasingly calls for the termination of colonialism, the book demonstrates how the United States has inconspicuously maintained its empire. From a constitutional perspective, the second-class citizen status of millions living on these territories is compared with American legal rhetoric concerning citizenship and its precepts of equality and justice. From an international law perspective, the work examines this country's integral role in the development of the international norm of self-determination, paradoxically comparing these efforts with its own conquests. The book will be of interest to internationalist, constitutional scholars, historians, and students of political science, anthropology, international relations, and ethnic studies. « Less

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The colonial history of the United States covers the history of European colonization of America from the early 16th century until the incorporation of the colonies into the United States of America. In the late 16th century, England, France, Castile, and the Dutch Republic launched major colonization programs in America. The death rate was very high among those who arrived first, and some early attempts disappeared altogether, such as the English Lost Colony of Roanoke. Nevertheless, successful in the nineteenth century alone over 50 million people left Europe for the Americas. The post-1492 era is known as the period of the Columbian Exchange. Early conquests, claims, and colonies. Territorial evolution of North America of non-native nation states from 1750 to 2008. The first conquests were made by the Spanish and the Portuguese. Over the first century and a half after Columbus’s voyages, the native population of the Americas plummeted by an estimated 80 percent (from around 50 million in 1492 to eight million in 1650), mostly by outbreaks of Old World diseases but also by several massacres and forced labor (the mita was re-established in the old Inca Empire, and. In the 19th century alone over 50 million people left Europe for the Americas.[2] The post-1492 era is known as the period of the Columbian Exchange. Contents. 1 Early conquests, claims, and colonies. 2 Early state-sponsored colonists. 3 Economic immigrants. 4 Religious immigration. Other European nations soon disputed the terms of the Treaty of Tordesillas, which they had not negotiated. Colonists often faced the threat of attacks from neighboring colonies, as well as from indigenous tribes and pirates. Early state-sponsored colonists. Further information: Portugal in the Age of Discovery, Spanish colonization of the Americas, and First European colonization wave (15th century–19th century).