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This comprehensive work analyzes the causes of the current economic depression in the world's merchant shipping industry, using a "pragmatic and multi-disciplinary approach." The author examines the protectionist philosophy in theory and practice, assessing the traditional methods for establishing and developing national maritime fleets through flag discrimination, flag preference, cargo reservation, state intervention and maritime subsidies. Emphasis in the work is placed on the United States and the developing maritime nations. The author argues that the solution for the depressed industry, given the realities of a non-expanding market, requires methods of cooperation between nations rather than increased competition. Included is an extensive forty page bibliography covering journals, articles, books, legislation and international agreements.


The work consists of two volumes. Volume II.K (book II, part K) is entitled Functional Organizations and Arrangements. It is a collection of statutes, conventions and agreements on a number of international issues, including human rights, commodities, energy, the environment, international watercourses, satellites and space co-operation. References to treaties include the year the treaty was opened for signature as well as dates of ratification, adherence or accession. The latest information received on the particular documents and notes is provided on each page.