

Table of Contents

List of abbreviations	25
General introduction	29
I. Approaching the Animal Across Disciplinary Boundaries	35
II. Distinguishing Animal Law from Animal Rights	40
III. The Fragmented Landscape of Animal Norms	43
IV. Polycentric Tensions and the Drive for Paradigm Shift	50
V. Methodological Framework: Inclusive Positivism and Anthropocentric Otherness	58
Part I International Law's Anthropocentric, Decentralised, yet Functional Approach to Animals	63
Title I An Object of International Law as Such	65
Chapter 1 : The Contingent and Fragmented Legal Representations of Animals in International Law	67
Section 1 : Conceptualising the Animal as a Non-Human in International Law	69
I. Subjecting the Animal to a Property-Based Legal Rationale	70
1. The Transposition of a Proprietary Rationale from National Systems to Treaty Law	70
1.1. The Dominance of Ownership as the Default Legal Paradigm	71
1.2. An Emerging Open Proprietary Approach	74
2. Judicial Enforcement of Proprietary Rights Over Animals	76
2.1. Judicial Reinforcement of Property-Based Approaches in Domestic Law	76
2.2. International Courts' Role in Cementing the Property Status of Animals	77
II. Animals as Individualisable Legal Entities Without Personality	80
	11

Table of Contents

1. Animals as Non-Subjects of Law Despite Legal Recognition	80
1.1. A Gradual Spectrum of Legal Personality Based on Protected Interests	80
1.2. Judicial Expansion of Legal Personality Through Interpretative Approaches	83
2. The Legal Recognition of Non-Human Interests	85
2.1. Substantive Incorporation of Animal Interests in Norm Setting	85
2.2. Procedural Incorporation of Animal Interests in Norm Interpretation	87
Section 2 : The Decentralised Internationalisation of Animal Law	89
I. National Legal Traditions Shaping the Internationalisation of Animal Law	89
1. Biocentric Paradigms Reshaping the Legal Treatment of Animals and Ecosystems	90
1.1. Cosmopolitan Systems Valuing Nature Intrinsically	90
1.2. Legal Recognition of the Animal as an Entity with Inherent Worth	92
2. Sociocultural Factors Driving the Internationalisation of Animal Law	94
2.1. The Singular Conceptualisation of a Legal Object Through its Suffering	95
2.2. The Resonance of Sociocultural Processes Underlying Animal Law	97
II. A Reactive Rather Than Proactive International Legal Response to Animal Issues	98
1. Global Animal Law as an Emergent Framework in Response to Globalisation	99
1.1. The Transnational Nature of Animal Issues	99
1.2. A Phenomenon at the Interface of Many International Law Branches	102
2. International Cooperation on Animal Law in the Absence of Centralised Regulation	104
2.1. The Spontaneous Legal Process of International Animal Law	104

2.2. Incremental Legalisation of Animal Law Through International Health Agreements	109
Conclusion of Chapter 1	111
Chapter 2 : An Anthropocentric <i>Summa Divisio</i> of International Animal Law	113
Section 1 : Wild Animals as the International Community's Common Object	115
I. The Utilitarian Protection of Wild Animals as Elements of Biodiversity Under Res Nullius	117
1. Biodiversity Protection as a Legal Instrument of Economic Governance	117
1.1. The Primacy of Sustainable Exploitation Over Conservation in International Law	117
1.2. The Ecosystem Approach and the Economic Foundations of Biodiversity Law	120
2. Industrial Interests as the Driving Force of Wildlife Preservation	122
2.1. Sustaining Commercial Fisheries Through Selective Species Conservation	123
2.2. Economic Justifications for Environmentally Harmful Practices	125
II. The Rejection of Private Ownership Over Wild Animals Through Res Communis and the Common Heritage of Humankind	127
1. A Renewed Conceptualisation of Animals Through a Biocentric reinterpretation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements	128
1.1. The Evolution of ICRW from Sustaining the Whaling Industry's Interests to Safeguarding Marine Mammals from Whaling Industry's Interests	129
1.2. The Evolution of CITES From Commercial Trade to Species Protection	133
2. A Nascent Collective Ownership of Species	135
2.1. The Exceptional Legal Status of Animal Biodiversity Under the World Heritage Convention	136

Table of Contents

2.2. An Emerging Collective Interest in Animal Conservation	138
Section 2 : Domestic Animals as Legal Objects of Individual and Collective Utility	141
I. Domestic Animals as Commodities in Trade, Science, and Public Health	142
1. The Legal Commodification of Animals in WTO Law	142
1.1. The WTO's Automatic Classification of Animals as Tradeable Goods	143
1.2. The Indifference of PPMs to the Market Apprehension of Animals	145
2. The Legal Sacrifice of Animals in the Name of Scientific Research	146
2.1. The Instrumentalisation of Animals for Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Research	146
2.2. International Law's Fostering of the Utilitarian Use of Laboratory Animals	148
II. Domestic Animals as Sociocultural Commodities of Cultural, Proprietary and Emotional Value	151
1. The Clash Between Cultural Practices and Species Conservation in International Law	152
1.1. Animals as Biological Reservoirs and Vectors of Cultural Identity	153
1.2. Intellectual Property Law's Uneasy Fit with Traditional Knowledge	157
2. The Legal Construction of the Human-Animal Bond	160
2.1. International Law's Recognition of Pet Animals as Objects of Emotional Attachment	161
2.2. The Heightened Legal Consideration of Companion Animals Stemming from Their Integration into Human Society	162
Conclusion of Chapter 2	164
Conclusion of Title I	166
Title II The Relative Normative Density of International Animal Law	169
Chapter 3 : The High Degree of Fragmentation of International Animal Law	171

Section 1 : The Competition Between Legal Qualifications as an Obstacle to the Conceptual Unification of the Animal	172
I. The Lack of an Overarching Recognition of the Animal's Intrinsic Value	173
1. The Fragmentation of Legal Approaches Through Utilitarian Assessments of Animals	175
1.1. The Obvious Denial of Intrinsic Value in Animals Classified as Harmful	175
1.2. The Instrumentalisation of Animals According to Their Contribution to Human Ends	178
2. The Rejection of the Animal's Intrinsic Value by International Adjudication	180
2.1. The Institutionalisation of a Speculative Logic by International Arbitration	180
2.2. The ICJ's Indifference to the Animal's Legal Specificity	184
II. The Absence of a Centralised Normative Body to Compound a Unified Legal Approach of the Animal	187
1. The Polycentricity of International Animal Law as a Barrier to its Legal Cohesion	188
1.1. The Distribution of Animals Across Several Pockets of Normative Autonomy	188
1.2. The Extraneous Nature of Animal Issues for International Institutions Governing Them	191
2. The Fragmentation of Legal Reasoning Due to the Isolation of Judicial Approaches	194
2.1. The Limited Access of Animal Issues to International Justice	194
2.2. The "Clinical Isolation" of Animal Law in Judicial Interpretation	196
Section 2 : The Fragmented Process of Legalisation Diluting the Normative Coherence of International Animal Law	198
I. The Decentralised Development of International Animal Law as a Factor of its Fragmentation	200
1. The Proliferation of Treaty Rules Stemming from the Traditional Structures of International Law	200

Table of Contents

1.1. The Material Diversity of International Animal Law	201
1.2. The Species-Based Approach as a Framework for Legal Recognition	205
2. The Institutionalisation of Specialised Norm-Setting Mechanisms	207
2.1. The Recognition of Nature and Ecosystems in International Norms	207
2.2. The Emergence of a Legal Framework Specific to Non-Human Life	209
II. The Decentralised Implementation of International Animal Law Resulting from its Institutional Fragmentation	211
1. The Alteration of International Norms Through National Enforcement	212
1.1. The Reinforcement of a Dualist Logic by National Legal Adaptation	212
1.2. The Territorialisation of Animal Law as a Consequence of Sovereign Appropriation	215
2. The Institutional Weakness of Monitoring Mechanisms in Ensuring Convergent Application of International Rules applicable to Animals	217
2.1. The Limited Effectiveness of Reporting Obligations in Treaty Implementation	218
2.2. The Lacking Effective Justiciability of International Rules Applicable to Animals	221
Conclusion of Chapter 3	224
Chapter 4 : The Limited Capacity of International Animal Rules to Influence the Behaviour of its Addressees	226
Section 1 : A Fragmented Institutional Framework Inhibiting the Normative Strengthening of International Animal Law	227
I. A Normative Authority Subordinated to Treaties Not Specific to Animal Law	228
1. The Functional Use of Standards to Compensate for the Lack of a Global Conventional Dynamic	229
1.1. A Legal Field Requiring a High Degree of Technical Expertise	229

1.2. Standards as Prefiguration of Hard Law	231
2. The WTO's Role as an Unintended Legal Conduit for the Structuring of Animal Law	233
2.1. The Enforceability of WOAAH Standards Through the SPS Agreement	233
2.2. The Normative Reinforcement of Soft Law Through Cross-Regime Legal Interactions	236
II. The Incomplete Institutionalisation of International Animal Law Around WOAAH	238
1. A Permanent and Universal International Organisation Dedicated to Animal Law	238
1.1. The Evolution from Veterinary Health to Animal Welfare, Exclusive Focus of a Permanent Organisation	239
1.2. The Universality Claim of an Institutional Framework Rooted in State Sovereignty	241
2. The Structural Imbalance Between WOAAH's Technical Expertise and its Limited Normative Authority	243
2.1. A Dominance of Scientific Expertise Over Legal Standard-Setting	243
2.2. WOAAH's Weak and Partial Standard-Setting Power	245
Section 2 : A Façade of Normative Intent Concealing Structural Deficiencies	250
I. A Normative Intention Undermined by the Absence of Enforceable Legal Consequences	252
1. The Dilution of International Animal Law's Normativity Caused by a Disproportion Between Primary and Secondary Norms	253
1.1. An Overrepresentation of Primary Norms Lacking Corresponding Secondary Rules	254
1.2. The Persistence of Ethical References as a Substitute for Legal Bindingness	256
2. The Predominance of Obligations of Means Over Obligations of Result	258

Table of Contents

2.1. Favouring Indeterminate Legal Commitments Through Vague and Discretionary Obligations Imposed on States	258
2.2. The Overuse of Recommendatory Language Inhibiting Legal Effectiveness	264
II. The Structural Repetition of Environmental Law's Shortcomings in Animal Law	267
1. The Residual Place of Animal Related Issues in the Most Binding International Legal Regimes	268
1.1. The Subordination of Animal Considerations to Economic Law and Trade Rationales	268
1.2. The Serendipitous and Instrumental Interest of the UN Security Council in Wildlife Protection	272
2. Treaty Techniques Entrenching State Discretion to the Detriment of Legal Coherence	274
2.1. The Use of COP and Annexe Based Regulatory Frameworks as an Obstacle to the Development of Binding Norms	275
2.2. The Widespread Practice of Reservations and Opt-Out Mechanisms fostering a System of Legal Commitments <i>à la Carte</i>	277
Conclusion of Chapter 4	279
Conclusion of Title II	282
Conclusion of Part I	284
Part II Animals as Sentient Objects Under International Law	289
Title III Human Sentience as the Basis of the Legal Status of the Animal	291
Chapter 5 : Establishing the Animal as a Sentient Object Through the Legal Formalisation of Its Welfare	293
Section 1 : Sentience as the Foundational Criterion of Animal Legal Status	294
I. The Conjectural Association Between the Moral and Legal Statuses of the Animal	295
1. The Legal Relevance of Protecting Animals from Suffering	295

1.1. Sentience as a Threshold for Inclusion in the Moral Community	296
1.2. The Subject of a Life and Therefore a Subject of the Law	298
2. A Morally Relevant Criterion, but Legally Insufficient in and of Itself	300
2.1. The Narrow Scope of Legal Protections Grounded in the Prevention of Suffering	301
2.2. The Contingency of Moral Considerations in Legal Frameworks	302
II. Legal Norms as a Mechanism to Compound Scientific Knowledge on Animal Sentience	304
1. The Empirical Determination of an Animal's Legal Interest in its Own Existence	304
1.1. The Indisputable Ability to Feel Stimuli and Emotionally Respond to Them	305
1.2. Varying Degrees of Sentience in Animals as a Basis for Individual Interests in Legal Existence	307
2. The Legal Recognition of Sentience as the Basis for Humane Treatment of Animals	310
2.1. The Legislative Rationale for Protecting the Welfare of Sentient Animals	310
2.2. The Historical and Contemporary Legal Foundations of Anti-Cruelty Protections	312
Section 2 : The Complex Integration of Animal Sentience into Preexisting Legal Frameworks	315
I. Anthropological Resistances to the Legal Integration of Animal Sentience	316
1. The Selective Use of Scientific Data in Legal Classifications of Animals	316
1.1. The Inconsistent Application of Sentience as a Legal Criterion	316
1.2. The Systematic Omission of Sentience in International Scientific and Technical Committees	318
2. The Influence of Human Perceptions on the Legal Protection of Animals	320

Table of Contents

2.1. The Reduction of Animal Welfare to a Matter of Public Morals in International Trade Law	320
2.2. The Legal Privilege of Companion Animals Based on Emotional Attachment Rather Than Sentience	323
II. Legal Resistances to the Integration of Sentience-Based Animal Law	324
1. The Ontological Contradiction to Recognising the Individuality of Animals in Law	325
1.1. The Absorption of Individual Animal Interests Within Broader Environmental Protections	325
1.2. The Legal Normalisation of Animal Exploitation as Justification for Overriding Sentience	329
2. The Tension Between the Utilitarian Logic of Animal Law and a Holistic Approach to Animal Welfare	331
2.1. The Resolutely Anthropocentric Nature of Environmental Reparations	331
2.2. The Enduring Justification of “Necessary Suffering” in Legal Frameworks Governing Animal Use	335
Conclusion of Chapter 5	337
Chapter 6 : Recognising the Intrinsic Value of the Animal as a Sentient Object	338
Section 1 : The Intrinsic Value of the Animal in the Continuity of Positive Law	340
I. A Legal Protection Strengthened by the Science of Sentience	340
1. Quality of Life as an Empirical Standard for Legal Protection	341
1.1. The Measurable Assessment of Well-Being in Legal Frameworks	341
1.2. The Five Freedoms of the <i>Brambell Report</i> as a Foundational Framework Against Mistreatment	344
2. The Modulation of Contractual Obligations According to Scientific Data	348
2.1. Scientific Indicators as Determining Factors in Conservation Law	348

2.2. The Binding Nature of Scientific Assessments Before the ICJ	350
II. The Legal Duty to Preserve the Integrity of Animal Sentience	353
1. Ensuring Legal Protection for the Animal's Internal Life	353
1.1. A Holistic Approach to Animal Health in Legal Frameworks	353
1.2. An Ethological Approach to Animal Condition in Legal Frameworks	356
2. Protecting the Sentience of a Living Being as an End in and of Itself	358
2.1. The Potential of Animal Sentience to Justify a General Exception under GATT article XX	358
2.2. Recognising the Animal as an Intrinsically Valuable Legal Entity	360
Section 2 : The Humanisation of International Animal Law	361
I. A Community of Sentient Beings Within a Human- Centred Legal Order	362
1. A Mere Objective to Foster the Conditions to Improve and Maintain a Certain Quality of Life	363
1.1. Welfare as a Legal Guarantee Rather Than a Subjective Right	363
1.2. The Sentience of a Legal Object Justifying Human Duties Rather Than Animal Rights	366
2. The Legal Status of the Animal as a Living and Sentient Object	368
2.1. Sentience as a Constraint on Arbitrary Legal Treatment	368
2.2. A Functional Legal Personality Adapted to the Status of Sentient Objects	370
II. The Emerging Humane Legal Principle for the Protection of Animal Welfare	373
1. The Expression of a Jus Gentium in Legal Traditions	374
1.1. A Universal Cultural and Religious Foundation	375
1.2. The Convergence of National Legal Systems Toward Enforcing Animal Welfare	377

Table of Contents

2. The Direct Link Between the Principle of Humanity and the Protection of Animal Welfare	379
2.1. The Extensive and Encompassing Nature of the Principle of Humanity	379
2.2. Humans' Respect for Animals as Sentient Counterparts	382
Conclusion of Chapter 6	383
Conclusion of Title III	384
Title IV The Animal's Dual Status as a Legally Available and Sentient Object	386
Chapter 7 : Constraining <i>Usus</i> : Sentience as a Condition	
Guaranteeing the Right of Humans to Use Animals	388
Section 1 : Treating Animals as Commodities	388
I. Direct Protection of Animals Under Protection of Property	389
1. Turning Sentience Into an Asset	389
2. Subjecting Animals to the Owner's Right to Reasonable Use of their Property	391
II. Indirect Protection of Animals as Part of Protecting Lifestyles Involving Them	395
1. Property at the Threshold of Private Life	395
2. Protecting Cultural Identity Through Property Rights Involving Animals	397
Section 2 : Claiming Ownership of the Animal's Life and Health	398
I. The Anthropocentric Health Objective at the Heart of Animal Health Imperatives	399
1. Zoonoses as a Core Objective of International Law	399
2. The Marginal Consideration Given to the Fight Against Epizootic Diseases in Global Regulation	402
II. The Anthropocentric Health Objective Exempting Scientific Research from Common Animal Protection Laws	406
1. Expansive Freedoms for Scientific Experimentation	407
2. Scientific Ethics Instead of Legally Binding Norms	410
Conclusion of Chapter 7	413
Chapter 8 : Reining in <i>Abusus</i> : Public Order Restrictions to the Free Use of Animals	414

Section 1 : Animal Suffering Recognised as a Matter of Public Interest	415
I. A Growing Global Sensitivity to Animal Welfare	416
1. The Necessity of Debating Animal Suffering in a Democratic Society	416
2. Promoting “Animal Rights” as a Bridge for Intercultural Dialogue	420
II. The Structural Balancing of Fundamental Rights at the Expense of the Animal	423
1. The Structural Overriding of Animal Welfare by Free Trade Imperatives	423
2. The Structural Overriding of Animal Welfare by Cultural Rights	426
Section 2 : A Legal Framework Regulating Human Predation Over Animals	428
I. Advancing Public Order Through Animal Welfare Norms	429
1. Rejecting Social Violence Against Animals	429
2. The Opposability of Animal Suffering to Religious Freedom	433
II. A Broad State Discretion in Reconciling Animal Protection With Public Morality	437
1. A Discretionary Power to Define Moral Values Likely to Justify Exceptions to WTO Rules	437
2. An Unresolved Confrontation Between Zoophilic Practices and Sexual Freedom	439
Conclusion of Chapter 8	442
Chapter 9 : Sustaining Fructus: Animal Continuance for Humanity’s Collective Benefit	444
Section 1 : Peripheral Safeguards for Animals Under Humanitarian Law	445
I. A Resolutely Utilitarian Approach to Animals Under <i>Jus in Bello</i>	445
1. Designating Animals as Military Objectives Whenever Strategy Demands	446
2. Qualifying War Damage Subject to Conditions That Exclude Animal Interests	449

Table of Contents

II. Residual Protection Enforced Through an Anthropocentric Lens	451
1. Asserting the Environment's Intrinsic Value in Symbolic Terms	452
2. The Impossible Extension of the Principle of Humanity to Animals	454
Section 2 : The Limits of Humanist Ecology for the Protection of Animals	457
I. Biocentrism's Unacknowledged Anthropocentric Core	459
1. The Ontological Aporia of Biocentrism	459
2. The Fundamentally Anthropocentric Nature of the Right to a Healthy Environment	462
II. Employing Biocentrism to Relativise Human and Animal Interests	464
1. Protecting Animals Through Human Guardianship of Their Interests	465
2. Animal Consideration as Humanity's Duty to Itself	468
Conclusion of Chapter 9	470
Conclusion of Title IV	472
Conclusion of Part II	474
General Conclusion	477
Bibliography	483