

UN SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTIONS: **HANDBOOK**

Introduction

This Handbook contains the published legal observations of Mr. Philip Alston during his tenure as UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial Executions (2004 – 2010). The writings in this Handbook are excerpted from the legal, policy, and country mission reports of the Special Rapporteur from the beginning of Mr. Alston's mandate up to November 2009. Also included here, where relevant, are communications between Mr. Alston and the governments of States, concerning allegations which come within his mandate as Special Rapporteur.

The purpose of this Handbook is to provide a collection of the Special Rapporteur's writings organized thematically, for instance, pertaining to the use of force during armed conflict, the use of force by law enforcement officials, a State's obligations to investigate and prosecute killings, etc. It is hoped that the Handbook, by gathering the Special Rapporteur's analysis of a single issue as it manifests in a variety of country-specific contexts, will provide for both a broader and more concrete understanding of the challenges presented in this area of international human rights.

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