

The Internationalisation of Administrative Law: Balancing Universal Standards and the Particularities of National Legal Systems

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Abstract

The article examines the internationalisation of administrative law as a response to globalisation and the growing influence of international and transnational governance. It explains how administrative law, traditionally rooted in national legal systems, is increasingly shaped by international organisations, regulatory networks, soft-law instruments, and principles of good governance. Common standards such as legality, transparency, accountability, public participation, procedural fairness, and the right to good administration are gradually gaining international recognition. At the same time, international regulatory processes may create concerns regarding democratic legitimacy, parliamentary oversight, judicial control, and the protection of individuals when decisions operate beyond traditional national legal frameworks.

The article argues that the internationalisation of administrative law should not result in the simple imposition of uniform global rules because administrative systems remain deeply influenced by national constitutions, legal traditions, institutional structures, political conditions, and local customs. The central challenge is therefore to reconcile universal administrative standards with national particularities. The authors favour a gradual and flexible process of alignment in which internationally recognised principles are adapted to domestic legal systems without undermining national autonomy. Such a framework should preserve legitimacy, legality, democratic compliance, stakeholder participation, and effective accountability while promoting greater coherence among national, regional, and international administrative systems.

Key words: Administrative Law; Internationalisation; Global Governance; National Specificity; Legitimacy; Accountability.

1. Introduction

The field of administrative law has experienced both a notable emergence and a swift globalization, enhancing its relevance in contemporary governance. Its emergence is intricately linked to the rise of vast bureaucratic states that marked the end of the nineteenth century, intertwined with the invention and spread of democratic principles. The discipline addresses the central and pressing challenge of modern governance—how to sustain democracy and ensure democratic legitimacy while enabling an expert, neutral administration to effectively engage in large-scale policy implementation. With the emergence of democratic norms, there arose a significant demand for transparency and meaningful participation in policymaking, as well as for accountability, checks, and limits on the powers of offices that carry out substantial executive functions under a democratic regime. Administrative law aims to establish these vital guarantees without necessitating a formal separation of powers, whether at the national or international level, thereby facilitating more effective governance. (Alkharafi & Alsabah, 2025)

However, the specific legal rules and mechanisms that underpin administrative law can vary greatly across different countries and regions, reflecting unique political, cultural, and historical contexts. In light of the global project of governmental cooperation, particularly against the backdrop of a world that is increasingly subject to ever more systematic and complex regulations, lawyers, scholars, and policy-makers across many nations are showing a keen interest in the internationalization of administrative law. This trend signifies a growing acknowledgment of the interconnectedness of legal frameworks and the importance of developing shared understandings and practices in this vital area of governance. (Bignami, 2012)

2. Conceptual Foundations

A major challenge for administrative law arises from globalisation—the free flow of capital and international trade, the cross-border movement of people, and multinational businesses—which continues shaping the everyday lives of people by fundamentally changing the nation-state's supremacy to govern. Such changes stimulate the most important phenomenon in contemporary law: the emergence of global or international administrative law properly understood. The objective is to analyse the internationalisation of administrative law from the perspective of administrative legal systems existing throughout the world. The conceptualisation of global administrative law distinctively differs from that of comparable notions such as «transnational», «supranational», or «international» control. The broader concept of global administrative law opens up a serious debate concerning its viability, though the term should continue to be employed in the meantime since administrative law and the economy are inextricably linked and the governance of economic affairs is an inevitable aspect of global administrative law. The concept of global administrative law denotes the exercise of law by a state or an international organisation that extends beyond its respective territory yet does not undergo a change in the concept of state border. The requirement for such a distinction arises from a conceptualisation of globalisation

considered not in terms of «states» and «territories» but in terms of «issues» or «problems» (Kuo, 2009).

2.1. Defining Administrative Law in the Global Context

Administrative law serves as a comprehensive system of rules, foundational principles, and established procedures that govern public administrative activities with a clear purpose: to ensure legality, promote transparency, and facilitate meaningful public participation in the decision-making process. This area of law meticulously regulates the actions and behavior of administrative agencies and state bodies that possess delegated authority as they manage various programs and provide essential services to the public. The role of courts in this framework is crucial; they act as impartial arbiters between the state and society, ensuring that the actions of administrative bodies abide by established statutory limits and that the rights of citizens are duly respected and protected. (Alkharafi & Alsabah, 2025)(Abbas et al.2024)The concept of administrative law has its roots in Europe, yet it has been extensively adopted and implemented across countries worldwide. As a result, its fundamental principles have transcended national boundaries and increasingly found relevance in regional and global governance contexts. This evolution has led to calls for the creation of what is often referred to as ‘international administrative law.’ Such initiatives reiterate the core objectives of the national framework, fundamentally aiming to enhance fairness, integrity, and legality in official decisions. Furthermore, the adoption of a ‘good governance’ approach is intended to bolster the legitimacy of international institutions and significantly improve the quality of service delivery, particularly in the Global South, where the challenges of governance are often more pronounced. This multilayered approach emphasizes the importance of a fair and accountable administrative process in both national and international settings, underlining the necessity for effective mechanisms that uphold the rights of individuals while promoting public interest and good governance principles across the globe. (Xavier, 2017)

2.2. The Notion of Internationalisation and Its Mechanisms

The notion of internationalisation involves the emergence of international administrative law, facilitated by mechanisms such as international organisations that include review procedures or enforcement regimes. Administrative law is relevant because many decisions taken by international organisations have a significant impact on private parties, yet these rules and decisions often escape the national judicial architecture. Unlike the WTO, which rests upon traditional public international law concepts of state membership and obligations, the OECD follows a network model. Informal inter-agency networks among various international organisations also play a role. The internationalisation of regulatory systems therefore subjects individuals to executive rule-making that escapes the procedural frameworks of their home jurisdictions. Sovereignty is routinely dismissed as outdated, but regulatory dialogues increasingly bypass parliamentary oversight based on an expansive notion of executive orders. National administrations and courts are compelled to deal with foreign measures lacking regional legislative

support or, in some jurisdictions, even any legislative approval whatsoever. The process leads to de-constitutionalisation and the disempowerment of parliaments and judiciaries in favour of free trade agreements, memoranda of understanding, and technical regulations. Rule-making attributed to thirty parties or experts supplies technical accounts justified on grounds of efficiency, yet the necessary functions of law and legitimacy remain unaddressed. International regulatory systems favour executive branches over parliaments—engaging central bank governors without involving finance ministers—and obscure and undervalue the legality of and democratic compliance with the provisions (C.H. Hofmann, 2013).

3. Universal Standards in Administrative Law

The nineteenth century saw a considerable expansion of governmental functions and measures instituted for the better administration of public affairs, including administrative law. In postcolonial countries weakly equipped for self-sovereignty, international organisation and multilateral aid became an essential feature of governance and development. (Rahimi & Oh, 2024) A large component of transnational administrative law studies the attendant international power asymmetries and safeguards proposed to assure democratic legitimacy in the absence of constitutionalisation at the international level (Bignami, 2003). For the Global South, the administration of international and transnational development aid is often a matter of governance beyond the state. The concept of administration has gradually extended from domestic jurisdictions and the conduct of administrative agencies and public bodies with delegated authority to the international context. International administrative law thus seeks to bring some measure of legitimacy to international governance institutions lest concern for justice translate into dangerous violence, and to the exercise of global and transnational governance in order to promote the welfare of a world population acutely vulnerable to unexpected development shocks in an unequal and inequitable world (Xavier, 2017).

3.1. International Norms and Soft Law

The internationalisation of administrative law is often discussed in connection with comparative law, even though comparative research does not appear to be its central strand. Longer-standing and better-established is the relationship between the internationalisation of administrative law and global administrative law. This latter concept is, however, rather difficult to define, especially because the term is frequently used to refer to divergent arrangements, settings and networks. It has also been connected to other notions, such as polycentric governance, which shift the focus from public administration to governance more broadly, although the former still remains a cornerstone of the multi-level governance that supports international treaties weaved in the international administration fabric. An account of internationalisation and global administrative law, in particular as it applies to the broader notion of administrative law embraced in this undertaking, should therefore benefit from a clear accounting of both the concept itself and the rationale behind it. (Yufriadi et al.2024)

Internationalisation is commonly defined as a set of processes facilitating the cross-border flow of capital, goods, services, or people across national countries. In the administrative law domain, it refers to the spread of norms, standards and principles concerning the operation of governing authorities with the aspiration of developing a global administrative law, while still being exposed to the boundaries of national specificities and arrangements. The ‘movement’ of these principles can take place through exchanges, networks, best practices, or soft law instruments between authorities and actors, including the UN, the OECD and the World Bank. (Muttaqin, 2024)

Soft law arrangements can be defined as those that do not carry formal binding treaties and their core features resemble more unlike North-American letters of intent, memoranda of understanding, policy statements or codes of conduct. They usually emerge in the absence of a comprehensive legal framework able to address a certain issue and are often left behind once the legal system advances. Traces of non-binding agreements involve a-decided exhortations by the president of the World Bank; the Codes of Good Practice in Public Regulation, prepared in 1999 by the Council of European Economic and Social Committee for the European Commission; and the OECD Guidelines on Regulatory Policy and Governance from 1866-2005– which go way beyond the classic definition of regulatory policy that is only concerned with what relates to private enterprise economic activity and possibly restricts states– (Bignami, 2012). (Akpuokwe¹ et al., 2024)

3.2. Procedural Guarantees and Administrative Due Process

A globally accepted notion of ‘administrative due process’ may be advanced regarding the procedural guarantees associated with individualized administrative decisions. Such supporters as the World Bank advocate the prioritization of principles applying to administrative procedures. The notion of a ‘right to good administration’ capable of fostering the establishment of legal frameworks for a broad spectrum of administrative activities on the basis of functional equivalence also merits consideration. Discussions of ‘good governance’ encourage similar conclusions. (Karim & Said, 2024)

Administrative action has traditionally been scrutinized according to the principles of legality or legitimate expectations as understood within the framework of European continental law. These principles necessitate that decisions resulting from official expertise or public power are not made capriciously but according to pre-established norms, and that individuals with legitimate expectations resulting from earlier decisions are subsequently treated in accordance with those expectations. Some common law jurisdictions have employed the concepts of natural justice or procedural fairness for similar purposes. In summary, such precepts identify the conditions under which administrative action may be deemed acceptable, without requirement for a formal incentive or sanction, and without consideration of the specific determination involved (Xavier, 2017) ; (Bignami, 2012).

4. National Specificity in Administrative Systems

Administrative systems exhibit substantial variation regarding the first constitutional articulation of the control of public administration. The treaty of 1763 between the Crown and Sweden introduced the earliest similar provisions. European agreements on administrative competence date back to the fourth and fifth French constitutions (Bignami, 2012). During the nineteenth century legal reformers had to consolidate radical humanitarian change through institutional restoration. Acceptance of a Government of Offices as a constitutional theory in Mexico found expression in norm and doctrine. It followed from the 1847 Law on Reconstruction alongside the 1857 Constitution and late nineteenth-century legal-political crises and struggles. The emergence of similar logic remains a challenge in Egypt, Libya, and Yemen.

Diverse enabling norms alongside foundation principles of global administrative law hamper consensus on administrative acceptance, procedure, capacity, design, and institutionalisation. No universally representative model for global constitutionalism, democracy, or the general acceptance of executive powers is in sight. Varied local customs determine the construction of administrative and other annexed enforcement specificities and establishment of normative procedures. Furthermore, compatibility between international and national norms surrounding adoption widened. Administrative reviews and recourse to neighbours vary alongside specialisation among General Administrative Tribunals, Saibanin or Inspectorate positions on the corresponding constitution, and mandatory referral to the Supreme or higher Courts in China. Domestic frameworks monitor specialty requirements alongside developments in international law. (Zhu, 2026)

4.1. Constitutional Foundations and the Distribution of Administrative Powers

Countries across the globe govern under various constitutions and complex governmental structures that distribute public power among national and local authorities. These distinct arrangements shape the organisation of administrative agencies, governing the content and scope of their respective administrative procedures and influencing the efforts administered in the name of the State. The constitutional framework establishes foundational rules that inform each State's approach to public governance and the associated distribution of power, including whether to vest authority in a public administrator and the standard of review to apply. The manner and extent to which these rules and governing structures incorporate national particularities differ across jurisdictions. Yet, while the foundation of administrative law and its internationalisation may seem a purely national concern, the workings of domestic constitutions, the organisation of political institutions, the balance of administrative and judicial powers, and the availability of review material are neither uniform nor isolated, and comparative insights may assist in shaping administrative law reform (S. Bremer, 2015) (Bignami, 2003).

4.2. Administrative Procedures and Local Custom

Unlike the sphere of legislative and judicial powers, which is unalterably defined by the nation-state principle, the distribution of administrative powers is often affected by a particular country's political, historical, and institutional contexts. There exist nation-specific variations regarding the normative status of administrative law, the density of the regulatory framework, the conceptual approaches of the rules (those being inclusive or restrictive of what is deemed administrative law), and the national institutions responsible for policy formulation, rule-making, supervision, and conflict resolution. Such variations do not only concern the distribution of powers between the executive and other branches but also the distribution of administrative authority among different government levels, such as Central, State, or Local Government. Another dimension of specificity relates to the procedure that governs the exercise of administrative powers. (Akpuokwe¹ et al., 2024)

The selection of distinct administrative procedures does not arise solely from domestic choices, because other political or economic entities may be involved in the preparation, adoption, or implementation of a regulatory act. However, the influence of local habits and customs nevertheless remains strong. On the contrary, the domestic adoption of administrative procedures is quite homogenous within the jurisdictions of one country, for different orders of government or distinct agencies thereof do uphold within the same country the established routine of confidence between the public administration and the citizenry in the practice. Likewise, beyond the democratic standards, the mechanism through which a regulation obtains its political endorsement, or, in some policy areas, the method adopted for evaluating its effectiveness thereafter, is relatively unaffected by external forces (C.H. Hofmann, 2013).

4.3. Judicial Oversight and National Remedies

Some systems guarantee national remedies against international breaches thanks to special constitutional references and availability of both international and internal jurisdiction. National interests prevail over regional or supranational arrangements supported by governments; global priority is given over regional interests represented by parties sanctioned to pass block remedies. These principles govern broadly, but differences arise across international judicial jurisdictions. The European Court of Justice bases its decisions on the priority of EU over national jurisdiction of MS, departing from the universality principle. In the World Trade Organisation, on the contrary, violations of the treaties by parties remain subsumed under national law of the infringing MS (Bignami, 2012). It has been judged that where contracts of services and investments are only to be protected through national law mechanisms, non-respect by any signatory party should be dealt with at the national level according to relevant legislation (Mosler, 1981). The jurisprudence of international courts must therefore respect the premises of the respective international arrangement and seek to interconnect universal principles when they could otherwise diverge from existing national policies.

5. Balancing Universality and National particularities

In broad terms, the choice between universal standards and national specificities is at the core of the internationalisation debate in administrative law. In order to appreciate the interdependence of both orders of reasoning, the key insights have been, respectively, pointing to areas identified as particularly salient for future reform proposals at the universal level (Bignami, 2012) , and designing an international administrative law with general application capable yet of accommodating country-specific legal traditions and administrative arrangements. Accordingly, the proposals for a coherent and sustainable framework should originate principally from governments as the official representatives of the states involved, and be subject to multilateral monitoring thereafter.

Comparative law has come to play an ever-increasing role in the pursuit of administrative law reform and adaptation measures. Regarded as one of the most powerful techniques for introducing and implementing new laws and procedures, it represents a fundamental element of the development of a modern and effective body of administrative law. Considerable attention has been devoted therefore to country-wide inventories of existing statutes, regulations, and procedures, leading to a better understanding of national systems, strengths, and weaknesses. Three interrelated dimensions of the legitimacy of the administrative order underpinning the independent regulatory agencies supported, and consequently the need for a coherent configuration emerge. (Suprunenko et al.2024)

The tension between the universality of the legality principle and the particularity of different legal traditions is strongly felt at the level of access to justice. It is obvious that all organisations have a legal personality, while no unit of a public authority possesses such a quality. The legitimacy of public authorities is closely correlated with the legitimacy of the consequent administrative action, which has been addressed already from an early stage of evolution and which, in turn, is coming increasingly into question being difficult for authorities entrenched in a multiple reality system of which they form part and on top of which political and civil risks persist. (Abbas et al., 2025)

Many participated in the global drive towards a world governed by the rule of law. More broadly, the specific target of ensuring that decision-makers abide by the rule of law has long been identified. The legitimacy of the latter varies with national context. The sequence of relevancy is thus rationalised from public interest, regulatory or achievement environmental sustainability, social equity, political stability. Apart from government reports, the contribution of interested parties, consumers, and citizens is key for the accuracy of the final analysis delivered to governments and for the accountability hence of such governments. (Samekto et al., 2024)

5.1. Comparative Approaches to Reform and Adaptation

The emergence of a global administrative law, while perhaps premature, has stimulated serious reflection on how national administrative law systems are influenced by international processes and norms (Bignami, 2012). Compared to other major legal fields, administrative law has received

limited attention within the framework of comparative law. In addition to its own inherent importance, administrative law stands as a pivotal field through which to engage the more general theme of adapting international norms to national legal systems. The chapter first discusses, from a comparative perspective, how administrative law systems have responded to internationalisation pressures. It then highlights the importance of balancing national adaptations of international norms with their legitimacy, legality, and compatibility with the democratic character of national governance. Finally, it addresses the role of stakeholder participation and soliciting the input of affected individuals and groups in international administrative law as yet another responsibility needing to be adapted to national systems, particularly at early stages of introducing international norms.

5.2. Legitimacy, Legality, and Democratic Compliance

The legitimacy of law – the extent to which law can be justified on democratic grounds – is distinct from legality and from the compliance widely viewed as a subsequent condition of legitimacy. Democratic legitimacy concerns the authority of the law and the will through which it is enacted. Compliance is more a requisite of state behaviour than of a legal measure itself. Increasingly, compliance decisions at the state level reflect an interaction between the national and the international. Such interaction actualises a lower threshold – nevertheless critical – for progressing towards a global administrative law. Consideration of the state as the predominant decision-maker remains central to securing both democracy and legitimacy in the analysis of consideration of law in the transnational or global context. The fundamental issue is the conditioning of global or cross-border law by the considerations of local, national, and regional conditions, processes, and institutions that have defined individual and collective experience universally since time immemorial. (Hasib & Vengadasalam, 2022)

The project of addressing the problem of international differentiation begins with the non-accidental observation that the International Law Commission, in its analysis of regional integration and harmonisation as a partial response to the challenges of globalisation, deemed "democracy, the democratic principles of governance and democratic institution", and "democratic compliance" as concepts of protection that should correspond to local or regional treatments of these concepts. No such favourable mention of, or exclusive limit to, these concepts as an operative framing of cross-border governmental accountability occurs in the context of the consideration of "general principles of law" or of the general features that a global normative or regulatory project must embody. The perspective thus traces an evolution of consideration of administrative law within those specified delimitations to examine the extent to which analyses of accountability within distinct jurisdictions at various levels of government are presently subject to a form of parallelism analogous to that observed at the stage of identifying (Kuo, 2009).

5.3. The Role of Stakeholders and Public Participation

The concept of stakeholders and public participation is increasingly recognized as an essential component of governance across various institutional settings. The need for participatory governance mechanisms arises from the limitations of representative democracy in both national and international contexts (Cammaerts, 2009). Stakeholders are defined as organized representatives of major societal interests, and public participation involves broad access to policy development. These concepts are prominent in international and regional organizations and constitute a fundamental principle in the UN agenda and the principles of good governance in the OECD.

The participation of various societal interests has been identified as a central element in the establishment of Global Administrative Law. This movement addresses legal and regulatory governance beyond nation-states, thus acknowledging and welcoming the involvement of regulations and regimes emanating from non-state actors and the establishment of regulatory exchanges. A comprehensive global legal framework is inapplicable to Global Administrative Law since it encompasses an increasing variety of actions taken by actors ranging from non-governmental organizations and businesses to international organizations operating transnationally (Bignami, 2012). The concept of Global Administrative Law highlights the necessity of providing citizens and stakeholders with effective participation in decision-making processes, thereby facilitating compliance with the principles of legality, legitimacy, transparency, and accountability in governance above the state level (José Campanelli Espindola, 2018).

6. Towards a Coherent Framework

International administrative law is evolving internationally in diverse environments, influenced by historical, institutional, and cultural factors. Article 33 provides general principles for national legislation. The right to access government information exemplifies limited growth of universally-acceptable principles. Globalisation extends the relevance of administrative law. Multilevel governance for economic cooperation necessitates general principles on a transnational basis. International development of administrative law prompts discussion of universal principles that respect local circumstances. Coherent frameworks should support global dialogue. Understanding the national and international functions of these frameworks informs their substance (Bignami, 2012).

Transnational administrative regulation requires clear principles. Article 33 delineates components of an international administrative law. Domestic administrative law governs guiding principles, actors, processes, and means. The doctrinal contours of administrative-state regulation remain contested despite gradual convergence. On-going discussions involve the legitimacy and legality of administrative actors, reopening major theoretical debates (Cottier, 2009). Frameworks for public governmental control therefore need adaptability to permit friction while fostering official access to global resources.

6.1. Principles for an International Administrative Law of General Application

In a world growing ever closer, a set of overarching foundations is needed that accord with the principles of the global economy, the global environment, and the expansions of institutions carrying out public power across national boundaries, but also respect the diversity that exists among countries in their cultures, legal traditions, and socio-economic contexts. The focus should be on international administrative law rather than global or transnational administrative law. The latter terms remain insufficient because they do not encourage the formulation of an overall approach to administrative law whose various proposals, while embodying genuine concern for national and local systems, restrict the main statutes and building blocks to an undecided number. On the other hand, “international” is more appropriate than “global”, since the law of the free world in general continues to observe, uphold and extend the pre-eminence of political, civil and economic rights, including good administration of public power, while at the same time expanding the application of such rights to encompass an increasing range of principles and processes regarded as corresponding to good administration by various countries and groups. (Tufail et al., 2024)

The Asian Development Bank outlines specific principles in the area of good governance that support inclusiveness and quality decision making. Of particular interest is a citizen participation framework that sets out principles applicable to all development phases and ensures that a consistent approach to citizen engagement is adopted. Principles of this type cover important aspects that lie at the heart of administrative law. Such international guidelines, along with the UN and the Asian Development Bank, seek to advance a variety of good governance elements, but omit explicit references to any particular set of additional requirements constituting a substantial departure from existing norms, despite recognition that some of the broader principles lack corresponding local traditions, values or practices. (Khatoon & Velidandi, 2025)

6.2. Pathways for Incremental Alignment Without Eroding National Autonomy

International administrative law facilitates the alignment of national administrative systems with universally recognised standards while preserving national options. A precondition for achieving this goal at the national and international levels is a change of perspective. Proposals for a coherent international administrative law system began from the premise that the only possible progress in the internationalisation of administrative law lay in the establishment of universal norms and standards. The counter-proposal articulated above posits that such standards do not yet exist, with the continuing process of universalisation requiring the active participation of national systems, which are interested in compatibility without compromising autonomy. This emphasis on national specification rather than international generalization characterises the starting point of a pathway towards the further internationalisation of administrative law, demonstrating by examples that countries select national rules or regulations on formal administrative procedures not only on the basis of domestic preference or particularity but also according to compatibility with the legal

order of other states to which national systems are closely related and that the majority of these selected rules or regulations correspond to the recommendations of the United Nations (Cottier, 2009).

Incremental alignment appears to be a viable approach for several reasons. It cannot be undertaken blindly, but among the myriad combinations of arrangements available to States with respect to administrative law, which are innumerable, the universally recognised principles of a distinct administrative law system—impartiality, publicity, reasonable time limits, exception handling, non-retroactivity, the right to be heard, and the right to reasons (de Jesus Butler, 2011) —have already arrived at an internationally accepted stage suitable for partial adoption through a series of steps arranged in line with national particularity. The gradual process of simplification that led to this point for each of these principles has simultaneously generated diverse adaptations and specifications consistent with widely varying local situations and specificities.

6.3. Metrics for Evaluation and Accountability

The modern administrative state has had mixed success in demonstrating the public-dimension values of probity, effectiveness, and affordability of the services offered. The stakes are high; the legitimacy crisis of the administrative state as a whole and the discrediting of economics-based approaches in many parts of the world are clear indicators of the need for an outreach-interface-system to revive the citizenry's faith in public administration. There is therefore an urgent need for administrative governance, which interacts, complements, strengthens, and lends cogency to administrative law's guarantees, using sound metrics to measure, control, and account for the delivery of administrative services within the rule-of-law framework of administrative law (Bignami, 2012).

7. Conclusion

Administrative law is commonly considered a purely domestic affair. Yet, with the growing internationalisation of governance and emergence of global, transnational and regional administrative systems, despite its strong foundations in domestic contexts, public administration has become one of the most prominent aspects of the internationalisation of administrative law. At the same time, debates have emerged both in the global North and South about the validity of particular set of administrative law principles and standards that should be adopted.

Scholarly work under the aegis of global administrative law has elaborated, developed and given prominence to a range of norms, standards and principles that address the functioning of national, regional and global public administration. Such work seeks to build coherence with administrative law scholarship, drawing on constitutional approaches to the governance of administrative power. Global administrative law can thus be understood as an articulation of principles and standards governing domestic, transnational and global systems of public administration (Xavier, 2017). The challenge posed is how these diverse, sometimes contradictory and frequently unevenly applicable norms and standards can be deployed to define a common but differentiated set principles and

standards that does not harm the development of sound and effective public administration but rather supports its effective articulation at the national, regional and global levels.

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