

## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this thesis is to analyse some of the organisational and jurisdictional aspects of regional integration provided for in the Treaties establishing the Caribbean Community and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. An attempt will be made in the analysis to examine the relationship between the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and the Caribbean Community in their respective roles as mechanisms for regional integration.

Chapter 1 introduces the thesis by defining the concept of regional integration and analyses briefly the objectives of the Treaties. The legal relationship between the Organisations is also considered.

The legal Status of the Organisations is considered in Chapter 2. Attention is focussed on the issues of international legal personality and two aspects of that personality, treaty-making power and privileges and immunities. The legal personality of the Organisations in the national law of the Member States will also be examined.

The institutional framework of the Organisations is considered in Chapter 3. An attempt will be made to examine the nature and extent of the authority of the organs since these

factors determine the capability of the Organisations to take effective action to fulfill their objectives. These factors may also be indicative of the extent to which the Member States are willing to place limitations on their sovereignty in favour of the Organisations.

The mechanisms for the resolution of conflicts among the Member States are of critical importance to the success of regional integration. The Treaties contemplated that disputes should primarily be resolved through traditional diplomatic channels. The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States however provides for third party settlement which is final and binding on the parties. These issues are considered in Chapter 4.

In Chapter 5, the foreign policy objectives of the Organisations are examined and some of the issues raised by their application to the Grenada Intervention are considered. The Intervention is also examined in the context of the relationship between two Organisations which appear to have overlapping jurisdiction.

The thesis is concluded by a summary of conclusions, highlighting the main conclusions arrived at in the previous Chapters.