# Contents

Foreword ....................................................................................................... 9  
Abbreviations ............................................................................................. 13  
Introduction ............................................................................................... 15  

1. Irregular migrants and migration law:  
   some issues of definitions .................................................................. 27  
1.1. “Irregular” versus “illegal” migrants:  
   towards terminological coherence .................................................. 27  
1.2. Irregular migration to and through Southern Europe:  
   transit migration ................................................................................. 36  

## Section I: International legal frameworks and migration  

2. Intersection between the establishment of human rights  
   and the protection of irregular migrants .............................................. 45  
2.1. Introduction ........................................................................................ 45  
2.2. International law and irregular migration ...................................... 50  
2.3. The role of human rights mechanisms .......................................... 73  

3. International labour mobility and irregular migration ................. 79  
3.1. Evolution of international labour standards and  
   the role of the International Labour Organization (ILO) .................. 80  
3.2. The International Convention on the Protection  
   of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members  
   of Their Families (ICRMW) .......................................................... 100  

4. Implementing human rights: which protection? ....................... 113  
4.1. Universal rights—inalienable ............................................................ 115  
4.2. Economic, social, cultural, and political rights ........................... 116  
4.3. Procedural rights .............................................................................. 136
Section II: The irregularity of migration issues in Morocco

5. Contextualization of migration issues in Morocco .................................. 161
   5.1. The nature of, and reasons behind, the phenomenon ................... 165
   5.2. The migratory routes ........................................................................ 170
   5.3. The volume and composition of irregular migrants ....................... 171
   5.4. Institutional framework ................................................................... 172
   5.5. Relations between Morocco and European Union in the field of migration policy ....................................................... 174

   6.1. International standards and their implementation ...................... 182
   6.2. Introduction to the national legal framework: from an historical perspective ........................................................ 193

7. Specific issues concerning Morocco practices and human rights violations against irregular migrants ............. 203
   7.1. Right to life......................................................................................... 205
   7.2. Socio-economic rights ..................................................................... 206
   7.3. Procedural rights and the appeal to the Judicial Authority .......... 211
   7.4. Categories of particularly vulnerable migrants ......................... 216

Conclusion................................................................................................. 225

Annex: Selection of testimonies and articles published between 2004 and 2010 related to violence and abuses against irregular migrants in Morocco ................................................. 229

Bibliography ............................................................................................. 255

Table of treaties, other international instruments, and legislation .... 289

Index........................................................................................................... 293