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First published 2002 as From Kosovo to Kabul: Human Rights and International Intervention New edition published 2006 by Pluto Press 345 Archway Road, London N6 5AA and 839 Greene Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48106 www.plutobooks.com Copyright © David Chandler 2002, 2006 The right of David Chandler to be identified as the author of this work has been asserted by. In From Kosovo to Kabul, David Chandler has written an important book on international intervention. The analysis that follows convincingly argues that the new prominence of a ‘human rights discourse’ in international politics transformed and challenged the nature of international law (Chapter 5), modern international warfare (Chapter 6) and interstate relations in the international system (Chapter 7). Chandler’s argument is less plausible, however, in presenting developments in transnational NGOs (Chapter 2), the rise of a so-called ‘ethical foreign policy’ of Western governments (Chapter 3) and the recent emergence of normative human rights theory in Western political science (Chapter 4) For ten years, the language of international intervention has been transformed. The UN and Nato’s new policy of interventionism - as shown in Somalia, Bosnia, Kosovo and East Timor - has been hailed as “humanitarian action”, part of a new “ethical” approach to foreign policy. The establishment of an international criminal court and ad hoc tribunals for war crimes in the former Yugoslavia reflect this shift in perception, which has been welcomed by world leaders, government critics and even NGOs. David Chandler offers a rigorous critique of this apparently benign shift
He has written widely on democracy, human rights and international relations and is also the author of From Kosovo to Kabul: Human Rights and International Intervention (Pluto Press) and Constructing Global Civil Society: Morality and Power in International Relations (2004), editor of Rethinking Human Rights: Critical Approaches to International Politics (2002) and Peace without Politics: Ten Years of State-Building in. This new and updated edition of David Chandler's acclaimed book takes a critical look at the way in which human rights issues have been brought to the fore in international affairs. The UN and Nato's new policy of interventionism—as shown in Iraq, Somalia, Bosnia, Kosovo and East Timor—has been hailed as part of a new 'ethical' approach to foreign policy. 18 David Chandler, From Kosovo to Kabul: Human Rights and International Intervention (London: Pluto, 2002), p. 135. 19 Statement by Hugo Chavez, President of Venezuela, at the General Debate of the 60th Session of the United. That is not to say that the West’s claims would always be generally accepted, as both Iraq and Kosovo demonstrate to differing degrees. It does mean, however, that absent support in the West, humanitarian intervention by non-Western states is much less likely to be legitimated, regardless of the nature of the humanitarian criteria. Humanitarian Intervention has been defined as a state’s use of military force against another state, with publicly stating its goal is to end human rights violations in that state.” This definition may be too narrow as it precludes non-military forms of intervention such as humanitarian aid and international sanctions. On this broader understanding, "Humanitarian intervention should be understood to encompass non-forcible methods, namely intervention undertaken without military force to alleviate