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Foreword

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FOREWORD

Kelley DeAngelus
Anne Magats

The editors and staff of the *Buffalo Human Rights Law Review* are pleased to present our ninth annual volume for 2003. The *Buffalo Human Rights Law Review* strives to publish an eclectic survey of the latest academic work in the quickly-developing and diverse field of human rights law. Throughout our three years of legal study at the University at Buffalo, world events have reinforced the salience of human rights norms and jurisprudence in ways unimaginable at the time we began our studies.

The contributors to Volume 9 approach human rights discourse from a variety of perspectives, analyzing rights problems in contexts as common as street-level interaction with public officials and as large as international diplomatic relations. Professor Obiera Okafor writes on the interplay between convention refugeehood and the structural crisis of legitimate statehood in contemporary Nigeria; Professor Amy Bartholomew argues for a deliberative legitimation of human rights in the post-imperialist world; Theresa Clark discusses whether common law concepts that normally apply in criminal jurisprudence are applicable in the international criminal forum; Jarmila Lajcakova addresses the intersection between the phenomenon of street-level bribery and violations of civil, political and socioeconomic rights; and, Kathryn King argues that the death penalty, once an issue of domestic morality, has become, through the influence of transnational human rights norms, an important issue in United States efforts to combat international terrorism.

We extend our gratitude and appreciation to our editorial board and faculty advisors, and, in particular, to Associate Dean Melinda Saran, Nina Cascio and Johanna Oreskovic for their invaluable assistance and support. The *Buffalo Human Rights Law Review* looks forward to continuing its tradition of contributing to more traditional human rights discourse as well as to the development of new and original aspects that shall arise with our ever-changing international political environment.

