

Foreword from the Editor-in-Chief

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On behalf of all of our editorial team and contributors, I am proud to present the launch edition of the *International Review of Law*. In forming an open-access bilingual law journal devoted to articulating contemporary legal discourse in all fields of law, the objective of our efforts is to bring perspectives from around the world to developments in the law.

The study and critique of modern legal issues, explored with differing opinions, advances global comprehension of legal problems and enables a collective solution-forming process. The bilingual nature and international context of this legal forum broadens the accessibility of its contributors and readership, providing an opportunity for explanation and mutual understanding of issues of common concern and enabling English and Arabic speakers to learn from one another's experiences in developing jurisprudence in alternative legal systems, whilst integrating and expanding scholarly dialogue between cultures and legal principles. Every article's abstract is published in both languages, and selected articles will in each edition be translated in full based upon anticipated readership interest in order to foster the mutual understanding between distinct legal systems.

In creating a neutral platform bringing together lawyers and scholars with complete academic freedom, the journal intends to accommodate competing ideas and engage credible academic and practical discussion. We are delighted with the thought-provoking contributions from the highly distinguished authors of this edition who have demonstrated skill and originality in their analyses. The range of articles presented herein represents the international temperament of our journal, with authors from Europe, Australia, the USA, Asia and the Middle East. Furthermore, the wide distribution and accessibility of this journal will maximise its readership and broaden its reach.

To ensure the credibility of the *International Review of Law*, academic quality has been at the forefront of every process. The peer-reviewing processes developed for the journal engages leading experts in each field of interest, and, working together with a robust editorial structure combining participators from various practices, ensures the highest quality and most original writing is processed to achieve academic excellence. Amongst a range of structures designed to ensure quality and continuation, the journal recognises that the support of its authors is of the vital importance to its success, and consequently ensures authors are kept up-to-date with the status of their submission throughout the review process.

The local and international legal community has played an outstanding role in taking on responsibilities to assist in the development and running of this journal. In addition we are most obliged for the significant contributions of a number of highly eminent lawyers and leaders who have joined our Editorial Board and play a vital role in determining the vision for the journal's future.

The College of Law at Qatar University has been instrumental in the formation and running of this journal, both in providing all funding, and in focusing the enthusiastic efforts of its faculty members to partake in the editorial processes required of the Editorial Committee. The journal is grateful to Qatar University's President Professor Sheikha Abdulla Al-Misnad, and Vice President Dr. Shaikha Bint Jabor Al Thani for their leadership and support of this project which has helped realise its potential. Additionally, we are obliged for the capable and conscientious assistance of Bloomsbury Qatar Foundation Journals/QScience throughout the launch of this project.

As the journal grows to its global reach, it should be noted that the character of the publication as a platform accommodating the international community and advancing understanding is representative of the personality of the State of Qatar, and the journal is thankful to his Highness the Emir, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, for this vision.

I am grateful to all of those involved in the production of this and future issues, and hope the demands of our readers are met. May the journal continue to be a success.

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