

## EDITORIAL

'Digitalization' is a key to understanding academic publications in the twenty-first century. Scientific discoveries and ideas are ubiquitous in the highly sophisticated web-environment. People can read articles just published with their smartphones in any part on the earth. This global trend has influenced publishing the Journal. In 2013, we have set up new technical infrastructure including DOI through which each article has their own special identification codes. Also, a well-designed homepage for the Journal <<http://journal.yiil.org>> has been newly launched in order to meet those global standards. We hope these advances will help us share the contents of the Journal with more people using the twenty-first century's most forefront technologies.

Volume 6, Number 2 of Journal of East Asia & International Law includes many articles dealing with cutting-edge topics. Two leading female lawyers from Japan (Yoko Hayashi) and Korea (Seryon Lee) have tackled feminist approaches to international law as the <Issue Focus>, which is a highly provocative and challenging methodology of contemporary international law. The <Articles> section contains two academic papers. Congyan Cai has analyzed the shape of investment law in the Trans-Pacific Partnership ("TPP") agreement, which is controversial in both its political and investment angles. This is the first academic research paper in the world which fully examines TPP from an international legal perspective. Hyun Seok Park has addressed third party interventions in the proceedings of the International Court of Justice. His paper has carefully examined the traditional discussions up to the present day. In the <Notes & Comments> section, three interesting papers have been published by leading international legal scholars across East Asia and beyond. Their topics are broad enough to cover on-going issues of international law such as 'religious freedom' (A. Masum & N. Ahmad), 'cyber attack' (Boris Kondoch) and 'refugee protection' (Andrew Wolman). In the <Regional Focus & Controversies> section, young international lawyers from the Philippines (Lowell Bautista) and China (Ran Guo) have debated the maritime territorial sovereignty of Scarborough Shoal in the South China Sea. Their moderate, but positive legal advocacies will be highly respected and invoked by many other international lawyers who are arguing similar cases. Finally, in the <Student Contribution> section, Kelly Na, a 20-year old prodigy law freshman has raised a

serious question in his piece to the mainstream discourse of global warming. His allegations have been precisely verified by scientific data. The Journal has also interviewed Professor Masahiro Miyoshi, a highly renowned Japanese maritime law, scholar for the <International Lawyer> section. His scholastic attainments and deep insight into international law are truly impressive. In another sense, however, this interview shows how diametrically opposite the Japanese and the other peoples in East Asia are recognizing past history and future vision. To know the difference will be a starting point to narrowing the gap as human history proves.

In addition, major treaties, court cases, State practices, foreign policy and highly topical regional issues have been analyzed in the <East Asian Observer> and <Digest> sections. All of those reports are even more valuable than academic articles. We fully respect those contributors.

The Journal would extend the deepest appreciation to our editorial staff, colleagues and friends. In particular, Professor John Riley, Professor Darren Bean, Professor Andrew Wolman, Professor Shubha Gokhale, Mr. Ershad Karim and Mr. Robert Gallo devoted their time for reviewing manuscripts professionally and precisely. Our young student editors also made contributions on checking sources and inspecting for plagiarism. Their painstaking efforts and sacrifices should not be forgotten in this great achievement.

The Journal of East Asia & International Law has been indexed to highly prestigious global academic databases such as SSCI, SCOPUS, DOI, Lexis/Nexis, and Westlaw. Our Journal will keep carefully watching the on-going regional and global issues. Provocative and creative subjects will be preferable. Also, each volume of the Journal undergoes a vigorous peer review selection process. We accept submissions in both English and French on a rolling basis. Submissions received before February 1, 2014, will be considered for possible publication in Volume 7, Number 1.

**Editor-in-Chief**