

EDITORIAL

East Asia is shaking fundamentally from the bottom. President Donald Trump triggered those groundbreaking changes when he labeled China a currency manipulator and warned that high tariffs would be imposed on Chinese imports. President Trump also decided to pull the US out of Trans-Pacific Partnership. In regional security, Mr. Trump referred to military option against North Korea's missile and nuclear weapons development. In this regards, the US anti-ballistic missile system, THAAD, was suddenly deployed in South Korea earlier than expected, which stirred up serious backlash from China. South Korea's newly elected President Moon Jae In needs a well-designed foreign policy to resolve these delicate issues. Such a multilayered conflicts should be unraveled by confidence building between States in this region. In this course, the need for a consensus-sharing forum is overarching. The Journal will not shrink from this vision and task. The commitment to this mission is noble. We are ready to be challenged and inspired with a holistic and comprehensive approach to international law. Our Journal will be a spearhead of this exploration.

The current issue of our Journal contains eleven articles and essays. In the <Issue Focus> section, three authors from Singapore, Korea and Hong Kong have well addressed their ideas on a highly topical theme, BREXIT: British Way v. Asian Way. In the <Articles> section, China's new National Security Law and ASEAN Single Shipping Market have been analyzed by eminent international lawyers from China and Malaysia. The <Notes & Comments> section has published two academic articles on the harmonization of competition laws towards ASEAN Economic Integration and a South Korean Constitutional Court case regarding the dissolution of a political party critically referring to the ECtHR jurisprudence. The <Regional Focus & Controversies> section deals with the repatriation of cultural properties in Japan. Three scholars have been invited from China, Japan and Korea, all of whom addressed their unique ideas on this topic. In particular, Japanese legal scholar, Professor Yoshiaki Sato has well demonstrated the basic stance of the right wing group in Japanese society on Korean and Chinese cultural properties in Japan and an interpretation of history which is quite far from that of the victims of Japan. A young female Columbia law student has contributed a very excellent paper on transboundary haze pollution in Southeast Asia. In addition, the Journal contains

significant analyses of a few highly topical questions of today's international law. National Correspondents have filed State practices reporting treaty, national foreign policies, court cases and news in the <Digest> and <Communication> sections. Also, we have happily introduced two Ph.D. recipients with their dissertations. The Journal is grateful for their scholastic devotion with enthusiasm. We have also interviewed Professor Jingxia Josie SHI, who is now serving as Dean of China University of International Business & Economics (UIBE) Law School.

The Journal would like to extend the deepest appreciation to our honorable editorial members, experts and colleagues for their work on this issue and charitable donation of Ms. DiDi Chang. Without their painstaking dedication and partnership, the current issue would not see the light of day.

Our Journal is carefully following highly critical legal issues regionally and globally. Provocative, timely, and creative subjects will be preferred. Fair national and topical balance will be also considered. Each volume of the Journal undergoes a vigorous peer review selection process. We accept submissions on a rolling basis.

Editor-in-Chief