

EDITORIAL

Human history can be regarded as a course of war. According to a recent research, mankind has only lived without war for 268 years out of the past 3,400 years. Such constant armed conflicts have been seriously dismantling the State and the individuals, yet contemporary State leaders continue to think of war instead of peace. Just after President Biden withdrew US troops from Afghanistan last August, the hegemonic competition moved to Eastern Europe with the Russian invasion of Ukraine this February. The current Ukraine crisis is very serious, complex, and even mysterious. Only Russia and Ukraine are direct belligerent parties, but many other countries are involved in this armed conflict, visibly and invisibly, with their national and commercial interests vested into the conflict. Beyond the initial expectation that Russia would easily dominate Ukraine by its absolute military power within a short period of time, the war still continues for over three months as of May 2022, with Ukraine resisting Russian military operations. The longer the war, the greater the civilian casualties will be. Unfortunately, no neighboring country has actively tried to stop the war. While the western media point to Russia's crimes against humanity and compliment Zelenski on his act of heroism as a wartime leader, they overlook the other side of the war including issues of the arms trade and concerns of the global energy supply. As Korea's most respected Buddhist monk, Beop Jeong, warned at the scene of the 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York shortly after the Iraq War, the vicious cycle of hatred has eventually caused more terrorism in human society. This follows from Gandhi's famous quote: "An eye for an eye will make the whole world blind." What is urgently needed now is not just arms support for Ukraine, but peacemaking efforts to stop the shelling that is killing so many innocent people.

The current issue contains eight research articles and three review articles. In the <Articles> section, Professor Hyun Soo Kim & Dr. Jiajia Wang co-author the question of the Joint Development Zone in the East China. Dr. Shuping Li and Professor Wei Shen examine ISDS Reform in a Political Economy Context. In the <Notes & Comments> section, Professor Zuraini Ab Hamid and Dr. Mohd Hisham Mohd Kamal discuss the problem of refugees in the time of Covid-19 Pandemic in Malaysia. Dr. Nasser Khodaparast deals with the Transnational Corporate Social Responsibility in Oil and Gas Industry. Mr. Chandaphan Suwijak analyzes the legal issues regarding cybersecurity in outer space. The thematic issue of <Regional Focus & Controversies> section is Middle East under the Rule of Law. Dr. Ali Aldosari addresses the question

on In Absentia Trials of the Special Tribunal of Lebanon. Professor Eric Yong Joong Lee critically reconsiders twenty years of American unilateralism in the Middle East. In the <Reviews> section, Dr. Christina Jones-Pauly, Dr. Myint Zan and Mr. Gang Tang review valuable books for the future readers.

The Journal deeply appreciates our editorial members, reviewers, experts, and colleagues for their painstaking devotion and cooperation on this issue. Our Journal carefully follows highly critical legal issues both regionally and globally. Provocative, timely, and creative subjects are preferred. Fair national and topical issues 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