

## EDITORIAL

The new Trump administration has taken an unprecedented stance towards the world. President Trump signed 143 executive orders in the first 100 days of his term. In particular, he issued orders to impose an additional 25% tariff on Canada and Mexico, and even a 145% tariff on China. Although the US and China agreed to temporarily suspend such ultra-high tariffs for 90 days, this trend is expected to continue, given that Trump later stated he would impose an approximately 80% tariff on China. Trump called tariffs “the most beautiful word.” Paradoxically, however, his “beautiful word” is causing the most painful world. Trumps’ tariff policy is becoming increasingly unpredictable due to the resistance at both home and abroad. More seriously, his challenge to the international law towards free trade is isolating the US, turning its allies into adversaries. If the current tariffs are maintained, he may go down in history as the first president under whose leadership the US ceased to be a superpower. Trump should keep in mind that great American leaders in the postwar period always respected the rule-based international order.

The current issue addresses critical international law questions to overcome such a division. The <Issue Focus> section addresses “International Legal Response to Climate Crisis.” This section contains: Navigating Force Majeure in Offshore Wind Energy Projects: Drawn from the CISG, the Taiwanese Law, and the Principle of Contractual Freedom (Tsung-Sheng Liao); Forging a Legal Shield for Climate Refugees: Adopting a Comprehensive International Legal Framework to Protect Their Rights (Tianbao Qin et al.); and Legal Foundations of Vietnam’s Emission Trading System: A Path toward Climate Commitments (Dao Kim Anh et al.). The <Articles> section accommodates: The ICC’s Role in Enforcing International Humanitarian Law under Political Challenges: A Special Reference to President Trump’s Executive Order 14203 (Nehaluddin Ahmad et al.); Enhancing Aviation Safety through Effective English Language Communication under the ICAO Requirements: Regulatory Challenges (Fatima Alketbi & Attila Sipos); and Selection of Works for the International Law Commission: A Brief Assessment after 75 Years (Hong Thao Nguyen) In the <Notes & Comments> section, Nhu Ha Nguyen & Minh Phuong Dang discuss Enhancing the ASEAN Trade Facilitation: The Self-Certification of Origin Mechanism and Vietnam’s Implementation Efforts, while Hazmi Rusli et al. examine The Illegal Israeli Occupation of Palestinian Territories:

An Overview based on the ICJ Advisory Opinion of July 19, 2024. The thematic issue of <Regional Focus & Controversies> is “Afghanistan after 2021.” Badar Alam Iqbal et al. look into Legal and Strategic Cooperation between China and Afghanistan: Challenges and Opportunities through the Wakhan Corridor, while Aburaghab Amani & Muhammad Ishaq Noori tackle Legal Impact of Afghanistan’s WTO Membership on Its Trade and Economy. The two native Afghanistan international lawyers report the future trade and investment possibilities in their country. We express cordial gratitude to them. In <East Asian Observer> section, Yong Joo Kim deals with Make America Great Again? With Special Emphasis on Tariffs and IPR Issues; and Gang Zhao presents an insightful essay titled, The US Law and East Asian Corporate Strategies in Light of Tariffs and Political Developments.

The Journal extends sincere gratitude to our esteemed editorial members, diligent reviewers, knowledgeable experts, and collaborative colleagues for their unwavering dedication and cooperation throughout the preparation of this issue. The Journal remains steadfast in its commitment to thoroughly scrutinizing highly critical legal issues both on a regional and global scale. Our preference lies in the exploration of provocative, timely, and creative subjects, while also giving due consideration to national and topical issues. Notably, each volume of the Journal undergoes a rigorous peer-review selection process, ensuring the highest standards of scholarly integrity. We encourage submissions on a rolling basis, welcoming contributions that align with our commitment to advancing legal discourse.

**Editor-in-Chief**