



Editorial

Welcome to the second issue of the IALS Student Law Review

It is my great pleasure and privilege to welcome readers to the second issue of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Student Law Review.

The Review has three main purposes. Firstly and most importantly we wish to disseminate legal knowledge and stimulate legal debate. The articles chosen for inclusion in this issue are both thought-provoking and shine a light into legal areas with which many of us may be unfamiliar. Secondly, we wish to provide a forum for students and early stage academics to develop their legal writing skills. There is a qualitative jump between essays submitted for the purposes of an exam and papers submitted for publication in a peer reviewed journal. The Review exists to ease this transition by introducing students to the rigour of the peer review process with the aim of producing high quality academic papers. Having said this, we are also grateful for the articles which have been submitted by established academics. Thirdly, we wish to provide an opportunity for students and early stage academics to get involved in the process of establishing and running an academic journal. This is a new skill for many and involves organisation, networking and evaluating papers on unfamiliar legal topics. Speaking personally for a moment, there is certainly a great deal of work involved in all this! We acknowledge and pay thanks to our founding editors: Khaled Benjelayel, Nima Tabari, Nikoletta Kleftouri and Paulo Rosenblatt. Without their vision, the Review would never have been established.

There is no overall theme which links the articles in this issue of the Review. We are grateful for the efforts of our authors in illuminating a wide and diverse series of subjects. This diversity is a strength as it encourages us to be open-minded and prevents us from retreating into the individual silos of our specialisms.

Yinan Bao's article is a very timely legal investigation into aspects of the current territorial dispute in the East China Sea. It focuses on the Chinese Air Identification Zone and concludes that this Zone is in accordance with international law. Although this is obviously a contentious subject and not everyone may agree with this conclusion, it is a well researched and well argued piece.

Akpareva Aruoriwo writes about the financing of corporate rescues in the UK. She examines the legal provision made for prioritising creditors who get involved after an insolvency has been declared. Without post-insolvency funding, companies may find it very difficult to survive, and without protection for post-insolvency creditors, those creditors may not wish to provide this sort of funding. She thoughtfully examines the arguments for and against this kind of creditor protection.

In between submitting her article and the publication of this issue, Beata Kozubovska successfully defended her thesis at the University of Vilnius. Congratulations on obtaining her Juris Doctor degree! Her article looks at the relationship between arbitrability and public policy in the international arbitration system. It is a helpful analysis, especially for those who are unfamiliar with arbitration.

Yeung Nga Man also looks at the Chinese legal system, but this time on the vexed question of protection of intellectual property rights. What is the best way to stimulate competition but yet also protect innovation? This research question is clear and the methodology sound.

Finally, Professor Gaetano Armao gives a thorough exposition of the role of the prefect in the Italian legal system. The prefect is the link between the central government and the regional government. Professor Armao skillfully guides us through the Italian constitutional and legislative maze to explain how this Italian institution works in practice.

We are extremely grateful to all our authors for taking the time to submit a paper to us. Researching and writing a paper does take a substantial amount of time and effort and we wish to acknowledge this. Unfortunately we were not able to accept all papers submitted to us, but hopefully the feedback we provided will be of some assistance.

Putting together this review has been a team effort which would not have been possible without the dedicated work of my co-editors Dr Mazhar Ilahi, Ahmet Mustafa and Christopher Stears. Thanks must also go to our peer reviewers, both those who are associate editors at the Review and those who did peer review as a favour to us (or as a result of being brow-beaten!). The peer reviewers all contributed to the quality of the finished articles. Thanks also to our Academic Editor Dr Constantin Stefanou for his very useful words of wisdom. Finally, thanks to our industrious IT expert Steve Whittle at IALS who has worked tirelessly to guide us through electronic publication of the journal.

The next issue of the Review will be a special issue on reforming child protection law. There is still some time left for submission of papers for the special issue.

As can be seen from issue 2, we have papers submitted from around the world on a variety of topics. So we would welcome and encourage further submissions for future issues on any legal topic. We all know that publications help in defending a thesis and in securing further academic opportunities, so a paper in the Review is an excellent place to start.

In the meantime, we hope you enjoy issue 2 of the Review.

Ronan Cormacain (Editor-in-Chief, *IALS Student Law Review*)

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