

FOREWORD: TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SUPPORTING THE GLOBAL COMMON GOOD THROUGH LEGAL PUBLICATION

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As the *Washington International Law Journal* enters its twenty-fifth year of publication, it is only fitting to reflect on the *Journal's* founding principles and original goals. The *Washington International Law Journal* was established in 1990 as the *Pacific Rim Law & Policy Journal* and was created “to bridge the gap between the East and West.” During its first twenty-three years of publication, the *Pacific Rim Law & Policy Journal* thrived in the opportunities afforded by the University of Washington School of Law’s strong and historic ties to the Pacific Rim region—including the Asian Law Center, its geographic proximity to the region, and the wealth of student translators willing and able to translate important legal texts from Korean, Chinese, and Japanese to English.

In the years since the *Journal's* founding, the global impact of legal developments in the Pacific Rim region has grown exponentially. As such, the region has become a bellwether of global legal developments. Accordingly, the *Journal's* readership increased and the University of Washington developed stronger international ties beyond the Pacific Rim region. Recognizing this shifting dynamic, the 23rd editorial board of the *Pacific Rim Law & Policy Journal* made a bold and calculated decision to change its name to the *Washington International Law Journal*, expanding its scope to cover all non-U.S. jurisdictions and international legal issues. With this scope expansion, the *Journal* evolved into an exceptional forum in U.S. publications for non-U.S. centric legal articles.

Throughout its history and evolution, the *Journal* has focused on publishing the highest quality peer-reviewed scholarship. Along with cutting-edge standalone articles covering worldwide legal issues, on occasion the *Journal* dives deeper and publishes more comprehensive books focusing on complex and germane legal topics. These books have focused

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on topics including: Environmental Law in Taiwan (Vol. 3), Competition and Trade Policy [in] Europe, Japan and the United States (Vol. 4), Emerging Land Use in the Pacific Rim (Vol. 7), Australia's *Tampa* Incident: The Convergence of International and Domestic Refugee and Maritime Law in the Pacific Rim (Vol. 12), Islamic Law and Islamic Legal Professionals in the Southeast Asia (Vol. 21), Indigenous Rights in the Pacific Rim (Vol. 22), Significant Legal Issues in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (Vol. 23), and Transitioning from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals (Vol. 24). These special issues have provided the legal community nuanced analysis of pertinent issues, advanced international legal dialogue, and cemented the University of Washington School of Law's position as a truly global law school.

The book you hold continues this strong and proud tradition of influential scholarship associated with the *Journal*. This book includes articles on standing for suit in select Pacific Rim countries, digital anonymity in China, and an analysis of choice of law in international contracting with Asian-based players. This book also includes translations of China's Supreme People's Court's Interpretation of Administrative Litigation Law and the Annual Report of the Court's Intellectual Property decisions. Finally, this book includes a student comment on the impact of the lay judge system in Japan. These articles, translations, and comment are representative of the momentous impact the Pacific Rim region's legal developments have on the larger international community and an apt start to Volume 25.

As the *Journal* publishes the first issue of Volume 25, the executive board would be remiss not to thank Lawrence Weiner—Editor-in-Chief of Volume 1, Wallace Loh—Dean of the University of Washington School of Law at the *Journal's* founding, the numerous faculty members of the University of Washington who have supported the *Journal* over the past 25 years, and the board members of Volume 23 for their vision to expand the *Journal's* scope. In the same vein, the editorial staff of the *Washington International Law Journal* dedicates Issue 1 of Volume 25 to all of the editors of this storied *Journal* and to the members of the legal community that have supported it for the past twenty-five years.