

## FOREWORD

Taryn Jones<sup>†</sup>

The staff of the *Washington International Law Journal* presents the third installment of Volume 26. This issue offers innovative articles covering several diverse international and foreign law topics. First, readers can explore Afghanistan's election law guided by Mohammed Bashir Mobasher. Second, Bui Ngoc Son delves into the complexity of constitutional identity and its development in contemporary socialist jurisdictions, with an emphasis on Vietnam. Third, Ntombizozuko Dyani-Mhango examines South Africa's conflicting legal obligations under international law and domestic law.

In addition to the diversity of article topics, readers can also explore additional topics through this issue's translation piece and related note and student comments. Chengyu Shi and Yutaka Ishida collaborated in this issue to bring readers a translation of Japan's High Court case regarding standing, with an accompanying analysis of the future of the court's standing issues. Raz Barnea dives into the world of wine, with an examination of the legal framework surrounding geographical identification of wine in France and potential adaptations necessitated by climate change. Lucy K. Infeld then turns to the role of sustainable development in unstable jurisdictions, focusing on Syria's sustainable development challenges during their time of turmoil. Finally, Ellie A. Page explores the implications of using neuroscientific evidence in criminal sentencing in Australia.

Until recently, the *Washington International Law Journal* was the *Pacific Rim Law & Policy Journal* and was limited to the Pacific Rim and related law and policy. Our scope expanded starting with Volume 24 to include all international, foreign and comparative law topics. While we have strived to publish more international law topics, we have often remained in the Pacific Rim realm. Before the publication of this volume, the Volume 26 Executive Board established a goal of merging our expanded scope with our traditional focus, seeking to honor our Pacific Rim tradition while also incorporating international and foreign articles and comments. Our third issue of Volume 26, more than any other, has incorporated a variety of regions, sources of law, and diverse student scholarship. The Volume 26

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Executive Board hopes this issue serves to spring the *Journal* into new regions and areas of law in future issues, while preserving our strong tradition of publishing Pacific Rim content.

Since its inception, the *Journal* has relied on the support of scholars, donors, and the University of Washington to publish legal scholarship at the forefront of international law. On behalf of the Volume 26 Executive Board, I would like to thank the University of Washington School of Law's Dean Kellye Testy, Dean Scott Schumacher, and Dean Jessica Brase for their past and continued support of the Volume 26 Editorial Board. I would also like to thank our Board of Directors for their flexibility and support during the 2016–2017 academic year as the *Journal* has undertaken new goals and explored new opportunities.

Finally, I would like to extend special recognition to the members of the Volume 26 Executive Board who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to ensure the publication of Volume 26. Thank you to Associate Editors-in-Chief Jason Slaybaugh, Carolyn White, and Michelle Rusk for taking on every project. Thank you to Chief Managing Editor Lucy Infeld for her sharp attention to detail and countless hours spent getting each issue to publication. Thank you to Chief Articles Editor Michael Graves for securing a variety of articles and providing substantive feedback to authors. Thank you to Chief Translations Editor Yutaka Ishida for utilizing his foreign language skills and extensive network to provide accurate translation pieces for Volume 26. Thank you to Chief Comments Editor Jordan Wada for his development of student scholarship and facilitating the publication of seven comments in Volume 26. With that, the *Journal* is proud to present the reader with our second issue of Volume 26.