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Editorial

Dear Readers,

Our current issue spots different fields of international law: Non-State Armed Groups, Universal Jurisdiction *in absentia*, Transparency in International Investment Law and Renewable Energy.

With the uprising of non-state armed groups (NSAG) in recent years the world community requires regulations and means to deal with those specific threats. While this challenge is not a new one, it remains unclear or insufficiently explored.¹

After courses of pacification were successful it is essential to proceed with transparent investigations in front of capable courts – be it national or international ones to strengthen the compliance with international law, to protect human rights and fight impunity. The following selected articles give a renewed approach by analyzing existing and theoretical concepts and rules, thus giving an insight into current challenges the respective areas of international law are facing.

Tim Kluwen combines in his article “Universal Jurisdiction in Absentia Before Domestic Courts Prosecuting International Crimes: A Suitable Weapon to Fight Impunity” the concepts of universal jurisdiction and the concept to prosecute international crimes in absentia before the national courts. He analyzes the legal and the normative implications and argues why it would be a desirable tool to fight impunity.

1 J. d’Aspremont ‘The Articles on the Responsibility of International Organizations: Magnifying the Fissures in the Law of International Responsibility’, 9 *International Organizations Law Review* (2012) 1, 15.

In “The International Responsibility of Non-State Armed Groups: In Search of the Applicable Rules” – *Ezequiel Heffes* and *Brian E. Frenkel* evaluate existing rules in dealing with NSAGs and their applicability to NSAGs that have not reached a certain threshold of organization. This article highly contributes to the ongoing studies and fosters enhanced compliance with IHL entities.

In “Three Manifestations of Transparency in International Investment Law: A Story of Sources, Stakeholders and Structures” – *Esmé Shirlow* charts the three different forms of “transparency” in international investment law, in norm of creation, in content of substantive investment obligations and as a procedural requirement for investment arbitration proceedings. She highlights the sources of international investment law and the stakeholders which shape its development.

Tomás Restrepo presents the latest development in Renewable Energy Support Schemes in “Modification of Renewable Energy Support Schemes under the Energy Charter Treaty: Eiser and Charanne in the context of climate change” by breaking down the only two published decisions: Charanne and Eiser. In doing so he distilled the arguments of both the investors and the host states concerning modifications, enabling him to find a pragmatic approach of “less harmful measure” and proportionality in the context of climate change.

We hope our readers will find our thorough selection worthwhile to read.

At this point, we would also like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Dr. Helmut Aust, Dr. Thomas Kleinlein and Prof. Dr. Niels Petersen, who decided to step down as members of GoJIL’s Scientific Advisory Board. Helmut Aust and Thomas Kleinlein were members since the very first Issue 1.1, Niels Petersen joined soon after with Issue 1.2. Without the support of the SAB, GoJIL could not conduct a double-blind-peer-review and without it, we would not be able to offer the quality we aim to achieve. We were very fortunate to work with these three remarkable scholars of international law and thank them, once again, for all their work they put into GoJIL.

The Editors