

Vol. 10, No. 1 (2020)

Editorial

Dear Readers,

following a workshop in March 2019 hosted by the University of Hamburg as well as the Lund University and the subsequent open call for paper last summer, we are delighted to publish this issue on *Enhancing the Protection of the Environment in Relation to Armed Conflicts – the Draft Principles of the International Law Commission and Beyond*. The nine articles of this Special Issue illuminate the topic in-depth as well as in breadth and let the reader experience different perspectives on the protection of the environment during armed conflict. After more than one year of working on this issue we can finally present these selected articles to you. We are especially grateful for the introduction of the Special Rapporteurs Marie Jacobsson and Marja Lehto, who provided a unique insight into the creation of the Draft Principles for the Protection of the Environment in Relation to Armed Conflicts.

GoJIL would particularly like to thank the Special Editors Dr. Anne Dienelt and Dr. Britta Sjöstedt, who offered us the opportunity to work together and supported us at all times, both in terms of content and organization, which ultimately made this issue come together. As experts in the field of this issue, the Special Editors introduce the topic and provide an overarching conceptualization of all articles in their Editorial Note.

Thus, there remains room to reflect upon past volumes, as this issue marks the beginning of the tenth volume published. Founded in 2007 on the initiative of dedicated students, GoJIL's first issue was published in 2009. We could not agree more with the Editors that in the first ever Editorial Note depicted the environment in which the idea of the journal has grown:

“As many regions of the world are shaken by conflict and humanitarian crisis, as the global economy is threatened by the collapse of the financial markets, and as environmental degradation is not a territorially limited phenomenon any more, the desire for international legal rules becomes stronger. This calls upon scholars to explore the potential of international law for the solution of these problems on a global scale.”

In light of the continuing challenges and the need for global approaches to solving them, we have always remained true to this motivation. Including this issue, GoJIL has released 194 articles and other publications in twenty-three issues that address current developments in public international law. Several of these articles published have been read and referred to by other international law scholars in many prestigious publications. Including our current call for papers, we have held ten Student Essay Competitions that encourage young scholars to become involved in the academic debate early on. Additionally, GoJIL has organized twelve scholar conferences which enabled exchange between established scholars, practitioners, and students.

GoJIL owes this success to the members of its Advisory Board and Scientific Advisory Board who have provided the Editorial Board with their indispensable advice and support throughout these years. We would also like to thank our Native Speaker Board for the longstanding collaboration and contribution to all of our issues. We would further like to express our gratitude to the committed students who founded the GoJIL, all former editors-in-chief as well as Editorial Board members. Their dedication has given new generations of students the chance to participate in and to further develop this unique project.

We could not have imagined a more fitting occasion to celebrate this anniversary than with one of the founding members of the GoJIL, Dr. Anne Dienelt, now being one of the special editors of this issue.

And finally, we hope that the thoroughly selected articles provide for yet another worthwhile read to our readership.

The Editors