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Editorial

Dear Readers,

Our current issue engages with a range of different fields of international law: Economic and Social Rights Jurisprudence, Fragmentation of International Law, Military Intervention on Request and various contributions regarding the topic of our focus section: Regionalism in International Law.

This Issue's first article, which is written by *Caroline Omari Lichuma* focuses on the reaction of the European Court of Human Rights to the myriad crisis which affect the European continent. 'Of Dark Clouds and Their Silver Linings: Crisis as Opportunity in the Economic and Social Rights Jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights' focuses on the Economic and Social Rights jurisprudence of the court.

'Missed Communications and Miscommunications: International Courts, the Fragmentation of International Law and Judicial Dialogue' is our second article and discusses the issue of fragmentation of international law, which is caused by different international courts deciding similar issues. *Francis Maxwell* considers different scenarios and points to the consequences caused by this phenomenon.

Chiara Redealli, in her article 'Military Intervention on Request in *Jus Ad Bellum* and *Jus In Bello* and the question of recognition of governments' investigates the topic of foreign interventions in internal conflicts upon request from a *jus ad bellum* and *jus in bello* point of view. She examines the lawfulness and classification of such interventions from the point of view of both realms.

The second part of this Issue is formed by a focus-section regarding regionalism in International Law. The focus section is made up of four articles, which have their roots in the conference 'Regionalism in International Law' held in Paris

in 2020. The conference was organized by *Mads Andenas*, *Emanuel Castellarin*, *Johann Ruben Leiss*, and *Paolo Palchetti*. We are grateful for this fruitful collaboration.

The focus section's first article, 'Interpretation and application of the ECHR: between universalism and regionalism', serves as the introduction to our focus-section and is written by *Mattias Guyomar*. He explores the tensions between universalism and regionalism, which arise through the protection of human rights by the European Court of Human Rights in particular.

This is followed by 'Is the International Law Commission Taking Regionalism Seriously (Enough)?', written by *Janina Barkholdt*. The article examines the International Legal Commission's approach to regionalism. It analyses the inherent tensions, that naturally arise and examines the possible consequences of the ILC's more recent projects. Finally, two challenges arising from regional plurality are defined and addressed.

The authors *Dan Yao* and *Mingzhe Zhu* offer insight into the way, in which the Belt and Road Initiative can be understood as a regional approach to international law from a Global South perspective. Their article 'Dynamic Belt and Road Initiative and the Global South's Approach to Sustainability' also employs two case studies to explore the influence of local situations to the formation of rules.

In the last article of our focus-section and issue, *Lucas Carlos Lima* and *Loris Marotti* investigate the relationship between peremptory norms of international law (*jus cogens*) and regionalism. 'An Unlikely Duo? Regionalism and Jus Cogens in International Law' explores two different ways in which relations between regionalism and *jus cogens* can be explored and ends with a case study of the judicial practice of IACtHR with regards to this topic.

We would like to thank our authors and the Editorial-, Advisory-, Scientific Advisory- and Native Speaker Board for their work and patience in the last two years. We are also thankful for all the loyal readers that continue to support us despite recent holdups and delays.

The Editors