

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers and Contributors,

We are honored and privileged to bring to your attention the final issue in 2024. We are not exaggerating admitting that this issue has become the quintessence of all the efforts we made in 2024 to provide our readers and contributors with a transparent forum for exchange of ideas and practices.

In recent decade, the landscape of academic research has evolved significantly. We have witnessed the growing need for interdisciplinary research highlighting challenges and the changing roles of different institutions, which contributes to fostering collaborative efforts among diverse communities and mentalities.

As global challenges become increasingly complex — ranging from state sovereignty and human rights protection to public health crises and AI-powered risks — the need for interdisciplinary approaches has never been more crucial. The Journal's attention and efforts aiming at prioritizing and investing in interdisciplinary research should serve as recognition of its vital pathway to innovative solutions and the rule of law advancement.

Many contemporary challenges do not fit neatly within the confines of traditional academic and practical approaches. For instance, the paper written by **Alexander M. Solntsev, Anastasia M. Otrashetskaya and Parzad N. Yusifova** draws the reader's attention to negative consequences of climate change on the environment. The authors examined this process by analyzing two cases, namely biodiversity degradation and management of chemicals and waste.

Ayub Yusufzai, Geeta and Phagwara Punjab concluded that, despite oppression of women and promotion of misogyny by regressive edicts enacted by Taliban leadership, cultural determinants shaping gender dynamics, and the disparities between urban and rural contexts, reconciliation of discrepancies is still possible for the sake of safeguarding human rights ideas.

Veer Mayank and Nidhi Saxena devoted their research to analyzing the need for reforms in the area of global governance of health that should

be based on implementing the principle of the duty to cooperate rather than making attempts to modify the Westphalian sovereignty.

Igor A. Pibaev, drawing the Reader's attention to the status of religious ministers, argues that they represent one of the elements of implementation of the constitutional right to freedom of religion. Different jurisdictions treat the status of the religious minister differently depending on historical, educational and political factors. However, the significance of their role predetermines the necessity to ensure freedom of their activities.

The contradictions of the modern world cannot but affect cross-border legal relations and transactions with a foreign element. **Beniamin A. Shakhnazarov** sequentially examines the issues of stability and legitimacy of cross-border trade operations, while respecting ethical and legal standards.

The study carried out by **Noor Saad Mohammad** and **Rusul Faisal Dalool** highlights that the system of criminal justice has to develop rapidly since criminals with expertise in information technology are increasingly employing modern scientific and technical methods in their criminal activities. Consequently, it becomes necessary to utilize contemporary evidence and investigative techniques to discourage and eliminate illicit activities.

Miklós Tihanyi, **Vince Vári** and **Kristina A. Krasnova** have thoroughly examined the concepts of sin and punishment as an intrinsic part of Christian religious teachings in the context of contemporary criminal law. Since restorative justice is the closest to the Christian doctrine of punishment, its distinctive features have been also subjected to scrutiny by the scholars.

The research carried out by **Ahmad S. Haider** and **Ruba Alkhatib** demonstrates the convergence of ideas from various disciplines that together can lead to groundbreaking innovations. For example, the intersection of law, linguistics, cultural studies and computer science has already led to significant advancement in law, linguistic and artificial intelligence.

Courtrooms have long been arenas of drama, where lives of participants are often at stake. Courtroom rhetoric, regardless of the category of the case, shapes the narratives of justice and affects the outcomes of trials. Thus, **Polina E. Marcheva** and **Natalia M. Golovina** have analyzed speeches pronounced in court to provide the Reader with some considerations regarding substantive and pragmatic factors determining persuasiveness of the counsel's speech.

Thus, we voice our hope that we have managed to encapsulate the necessity and urgency of interdisciplinary research based on mutual respect for different opinions and respectful dialogue in today's academic landscape. We believe that the very policy of the Journal serves well for the needs of academic community.

We expect you to find this issue both innovative and inspiring. Our contributors have worked diligently and we encourage you to engage with their work and consider how their ideas can inform your own research and practice.

Sincerely yours,
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