

Special Issue

Children's Protection and Participation in Family Law

Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue, titled “Children’s Protection and Participation in Family Law”, provides a platform to explore the full range of issues that emerge in this ongoing tension between protection and participation. It seeks to understand the evolving landscape, including the supportive factors shaping, and barriers impeding, children’s participation in family law decision-making processes. It questions whether, and how, the dominant ‘protectionist’ perspective might be transformed to ensure children who wish to have a say in decisions made about their lives following parental separation can participate in those processes. Contributors are encouraged to discuss the complex issues surrounding the protection/participation dichotomy, but also to share their insights on how legislators, decision-makers and professional actors operating in the family law jurisdiction may be supported to successfully navigate this tension. This includes research on approaches and models that chart a safe, trauma-informed, child-centered, rights-focused and collaborative pathway forward.

Guest Editor

Dr. Georgina Dimopoulos

Faculty of Business, Law and Arts, Southern Cross University, East Lismore, NSW 2480, Australia

Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 October 2025



Laws

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 1.1
CiteScore 3.0



mdpi.com/si/228855

Laws
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
laws@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/

[laws](#)





Laws

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 1.1
CiteScore 3.0



[mdpi.com/journal/
laws](https://mdpi.com/journal/laws)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Laws is an international, open access journal featuring rigorous scholarship on critical developments in governance, courts, agencies, and social order. Analysis and synthesis, theory and practice, and empirical and doctrinal work have appeared in the journal; contributions that bridge these traditional boundaries are particularly welcome. The social sciences and humanities generate insights both from and for the legal system. While theory grounds *Laws* in a timeless dialogue shaped by traditions of inquiry, legal practice ensures that scholars are addressing pressing problems. Both normative and positive scholarship can aid policymakers, judges, and agency officials. *Laws* brings together the work of theorists and practitioners, and a diverse range of empirical researchers, to promote the progress of foundational legal norms.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Patricia Eastaerl

1. School of Law and Justice, University of Canberra, Bruce, ACT 2617, Australia
2. Legal Light Bulbs, Flynn, ACT 2615, Australia

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, ESCI (Web of Science), RePEc, vLex Justis, CanLII, Law Journal Library, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Law) / CiteScore - Q1 (Law)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 40 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 4.7 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).