Special Issue

The Effect of Globalization on the Interactions among Legal Systems: Case Studies

Message from the Guest Editor

At a time when many of the problems facing the world increasingly require coordinated solutions and more interaction among legal and political systems, these sorts of problems cannot plausibly be addressed solely within one legal system.

Yet, we see resistance to global governance or universalistic solutions. Indeed, an emphasis on the global might seem to give insufficient attention to the local affiliations and emotional attachments people at least sometimes hold onto most assiduously. Or universalism might be seen to trample on the ideal of diversity altogether.

Thus, the legal challenge of our time is how to build mechanisms for engagement among legal, political, or cultural systems. We must create what David Held has called "the ethical and political space." What we need are institutions, procedures, and practices that allow for dialogue and cooperation under conditions of diversity.

This special issue seeks to collect case studies: analyze specific efforts to manage the interaction of legal systems by building pluralism and dialogue among multiple communities into legal mechanisms and the effectiveness and multiple impact of such efforts.

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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.

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