Special Issue

Fostering Integrity or Falling Short: The Role of Anti-Corruption Laws in Diverse Global Contexts

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue gives attention to the dual potential of anti-corruption laws to foster integrity or fall short in diverse global contexts. It critically examines the interplay between legal frameworks, cultural norms, societal values, institutional structures, and governance dynamics. Anti-corruption laws are often perceived as vital tools for combating corruption, but their effectiveness in promoting a culture of integrity depends on factors such as enforcement mechanisms, political will, cultural tradition, and contextual adaptability. Key areas of focus include the role of well-designed laws in building public trust and ethical governance, as well as the barriers that hinder their success, such as weak enforcement, political interference, and systemic issues like elite capture and impunity. This issue also highlights the influence of societal norms, cultural attitudes, and local contexts on the implementation and impact of these laws.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Hongming Cheng
Department of Sociology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK
S7N 5A2, Canada

Dr. Joseph Asomah
Department of Sociology and Criminology, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2, Canada

Deadline for manuscript submissions

15 September 2025

MDPI

Laws

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 Easteal
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).