

## Special Issue

# Vulnerability and the Legal Protection of Migrants: A Critical Look at the Canadian Context

### Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue seeks to contribute to the debate by providing a series of papers offering a critical analysis of how “vulnerability” is defined and understood in Canadian law, policy and practice in the context of migration. The Issue will present a selection of articles that examine how the legal and policy instruments, institutions and informal/formal practices of Canada’s protection regime address and/or potentially contribute to the vulnerabilities of people seeking protection. The articles will focus on different dimensions of Canada’s protection regime (in-land claims, overseas claims, human trafficking, irregular migration, etc.) and different types of vulnerabilities (youth/age, gender, sexual orientation, systemic/administrative vulnerabilities, disability, etc.). Although the focus of this Issue will be on the situation in Canada, the observations and conclusions drawn from this research will have relevance to the broader international community, as many of the challenges facing the Canadian system are reflective of common challenges facing migration governance and protection regimes around the world.

---

### Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Anna Purkey

Human Rights Program, St. Paul’s University College at the University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON N2L 3G5, Canada

Prof. Dr. Delphine Nakache

Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5, Canada

---

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (14 January 2022)



## Laws

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 1.1  
CiteScore 3.0



[mdpi.com/si/80760](https://mdpi.com/si/80760)

*Laws*

Editorial Office

MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5

4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34

[laws@mdpi.com](mailto:laws@mdpi.com)

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

[laws](https://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).