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Letter from the Editer

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dear Readers:

Over the past eight years the *Notre Dame Journal of International and Comparative Law* has grown tremendously. Not only has our editorial board and readership increased in numbers, the diversity and amount of scholarship published by the *Journal* has expanded. This issue serves as evidence of this growth.

The theme of Volume 8, Issue 2 is Globalization. Each article in this issue demonstrates how globalization has impacted particular areas of law, and how global access and interactions have affected, both international and domestic policy.

We begin Issue 2 with scholarship on economic globalization by Professor Gabriella Saputelli and Mr. David Howard. Professor Saputelli's article examines how globalization of the economy created demand for uniform legal frameworks, resulting in the emergence of a new *lex mercatoria*. Mr. Howard, in his article, proposes the creation of a separate supranational investment organization to serve as a multilateral regulatory body over investments and a forum for investment negotiations. The next pair of articles serve as reminders that globalization encompasses more than just the increase of trade and investment across borders. More generally, it can be defined as the mass movement of people, capital, goods, thoughts, and ideas. The movement of thoughts and ideas within and across borders are protected by the freedom of expression—a right recognized by several international instruments—which Mr. Alan Wehbé

discusses in his article. Mr. Wehbé calls for increased international legal protection of this freedom for the purpose of encouraging the creation, development, and growth of free governments. When thoughts or ideas are fixed in a tangible medium of expression as a work of authorship, certain protections under copyright law become available. In his article, Professor Saleh Al-Sharieh argues that despite these protections, copyright law is not enough to protect the material interest of authors. Volume 8, Issue 2 ends with three student notes written by my classmates: Lana Maani, Kayla Clark, and Tim Schultz.

I would like to conclude this letter with a short reflection and some acknowledgments: One of the biggest honors bestowed upon me during my time at Notre Dame Law School was being chosen to lead this journal. It has truly been a privilege to serve as the Editor-in-Chief and I could not have done it alone. To my executive board—Adam Augustyn, Arianna Cook-Thajudeen, Catherine Malone, Kristine Gordon, and Ani Ghazikhanian—thank you for supporting me throughout this editorial year, and to Professor Mary Ellen O'Connell, thank you for your guidance. Finally, to the *Journal's* editorial staff, contributors, and readers, thank you for helping it become as dynamic as it is today.

Yours in Notre Dame,



Annie Bach Yen Nguyen
Editor-in-Chief, Volume 8