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Letter from the Editor

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dear Readers:

I am excited to share with you our second Issue of Volume 9—indicative of the *Journal's* continuous growth and effort to advance international and comparative law. The theme that underlies Issue 2 is the Importance of Effective and Protective Processes in International Law. Each article in this Issue highlights the inherent structural challenges the international community faces in implementing effective solutions to global challenges and proffers recommendations on how these challenges can be overcome. But the articles of Issue 2 caution that sometimes the most effective means can, in practice, hinder or even exacerbate the underlying problem if implemented without regard to the rights of individuals and society at large.

We begin Issue 2 with an article that discusses the role the International Criminal Court (ICC) plays in holding states accountable for their actions. In particular, Professor Thomas Obel Hansen's article focusses on the currently ongoing preliminary examination of the situation in Palestine and offers an answer to the question of whether the ICC's complementarity regime advances or hinders the provision of justice, especially in the context of states with significant resources. The next article addresses the importance of data transfer across borders in a manner that is protective of human rights. Christine Galvagna discusses the transnational legal movement of mutual legal assistance treaty reform and evaluates different approaches in light of their effectiveness and ability to sufficiently protect the human rights of individuals. The third article then discusses the severe consequences of internal displacement on children in Nigeria after armed conflict. Dr. Olusegun and Dr. Ogunfolu advocate for the need of effective protection of internally displaced children in Nigeria, after highlighting the challenges as well as the effects of internal displacement on children. Volume 9, Issue 2 ends with two student notes written by Catherine A. Gawron and Mallory Campbell. Each Note takes a comparative approach to analyze the problems integrally connected to each person's sense of self. Catherine Gawron discusses the challenges that emerged with the deinstitutionalization of mental health facilities in the United Kingdom and United States. Meanwhile, Mallory Campbell addresses the United States' failure to adequately address the well being of the family in the Family and Medical Leave Act. Even though all of these articles address issues of very different natures, they all caution that, while searching for resolutions to today's global problems, institutional solutions should never neglect to consider all affected stakeholders.

On behalf of the *Journal*, I would like to express our deepest gratitude to our loyal readers that allow us to continuously push the *Journal* forward with the help of our prominent scholars. With my time as Editor-in-Chief coming to an end, I would also like to thank our faculty advisors, Professor Mary Ellen O'Connell and Sadie Blanchard, as well as the *Journal's* Executive Board and Editorial Staff for their dedication to the *Journal*. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with all of you, and each of you has helped me grow as a leader—transforming my experience at Notre Dame tremendously.

Yours in Notre Dame,



Lara Thiele
Editor-in-Chief, Volume 9