

FOREWORD

One of the joys for those working on the arduous task of producing a generalist journal – such as our own UCL Journal of Law and Jurisprudence – is being surprised by the shape and form that an issue can take depending on the zeitgeist of research questions tackled by researchers submitting their work. What can be a daunting feeling towards the start of that process often becomes a rewarding process, where interconnections and overarching narratives organically surface as pieces get selected through the peer-reviewing process.

Volume 13 of the UCL Journal of Law and Jurisprudence highlights many of its qualities in offering a series of enticing contributions from researchers in a range of different fields, all of which deal with crucial contemporary legal issues.

The consequences of changes to the UK Financial Conduct Authority’s mandate are explored in two pieces – by James Isaacs and Ee Vi Lim – but with different lenses. While Isaac’s article analysis considers the repercussions to a specific market segment – mobile trading apps – Lim focuses on the big picture, highlighting the uneasy relationship between the new competitiveness mandate and maintaining appropriate safeguards against races to the bottom.

Sumaiya Sultana Ritu and Jai Mann’s articles are also good illustrations of the increasing issues we have had to grapple with as a result of increasing fragile, conflict-affected, and vulnerable settings worldwide. While Ritu’s piece focuses on the tricky balancing act of environmental preservation amidst warfare, Mann’s article focuses on the pressing issue of national security and its compatibilization with other concerns and objectives.

Finally, Jael Lena Gless effectively transits between international and domestic law to consider crucial reforms to regulatory frameworks dealing with anti-corruption tools and whether they were able to change the existing contexts in the UK and Switzerland effectively.

With pieces from researchers at different points in their careers and hailing both from UCL and elsewhere, there is a common theme in trying to integrate analysis from distinct fields into relevant and timely normative interventions to pressing issues. As readers, we are treated to learn more about these complex issues and the potential ways to move forward.

The range of timely and thought-provoking publications in Volume 13 of the UCL Journal of Law and Jurisprudence is also a testament to the hard work of those involved in preparing this issue. In that sense, I wish to commend our wonderful Managing Editor – Tianqi Shi – for her incredible work in pushing this issue forward, as well as our PhD Editorial Board, the LLM/LLB Editors, and Dr Anna Donovan as Faculty Advisor. My special thanks also go to our authors in this volume: James Isaacs, Sumaiya Sultana Ritu, Jai Mann, Ee Vi Lim, and Jael Lena Gless.

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