

Editorial: The 'New' *EJIL*

With this number, publication of the *EJIL* moves from a consortium of European publishers to a single publisher, Oxford University Press. The move to a new publisher provides an occasion, as well as an incentive, to make a fresh start. We will be doing that in a number of ways, some of which are described below. But we will also maintain those elements of the *EJIL* recipe which have made the Journal one of the clear leaders in its field. There will thus be a continuing emphasis on: theories and concepts of international law, the 'European tradition' in international law, systematic coverage of the relationship between international law and the law and policies of the European Union and its Member States, and the Kaleidoscope section featuring shorter analyses of issues of current interest.

In addition, the Journal will change for the better in various ways. First of all, its size will be increased by 25 per cent in order to enable publication of a greater number of high-quality articles. A low-cost individual subscription price has been introduced in order to improve its accessibility to scholars, practitioners and students. The cover has been redesigned, and the layout and typeface are more user friendly. In terms of substance, we plan to develop our practice of organizing symposia around the most topical of developments in the field. The Book Review section will be significantly expanded and we will endeavour to review the most significant new books as soon as possible after their release. We will be publishing editorial comments, as appropriate, in relation to important issues of current concern.

But perhaps the biggest innovation in the new *EJIL* is the development of a specialist web site, available to all readers without restriction. The address of the web site should not be too difficult to remember: <www.ejil.org>. Its purpose is to offer readers a number of invaluable services to supplement the written text and it will serve at least three different functions.

The first is to make access to materials published to date in the *EJIL* much more convenient. It will eventually include a comprehensive index to all back issues and the index will be updated regularly to enable easy and up-to-date searching at any time. All of the Current Developments sections published to date will also be available in full text on the web site, as will the lists of books received and book reviews. Over time, the entire content of past issues will be made available as well.

The second function of the web site will be to enable regular feedback between the readers and editors of the Journal and, with time, among the readers themselves. We plan, thus, a 'discussion forum', which will relate to articles and other contributions published in the Journal; we envisage a 'letters to the Editors' facility for shorter and more pointed comments and reactions to published material as well as suggestions. In the Book Review section we will embed some links which will enable readers to order books immediately as well as to volunteer to review books listed in the Books Received section of the Journal.

The third, and perhaps most significant, function will be to enable the *EJIL* to carry a range of 'Current Developments' sections, written by experts and published (electronically) very soon after the events being reported upon. The hard copy of the Journal will carry a synopsis of each of the sections, highlighting the main issues and referring readers who wish to read the comprehensive text to the web site. Current Developments sections will be devoted to: the case law of the International Court of Justice; decisions of the European Court of Justice which are important from an international law perspective; the case law of the WTO Appellate Body; EU international trade safeguard measures; the case law of the International Criminal Tribunals for the Former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda; developments within the International Law Commission; and the case law of the Law of the Sea Tribunal. The *EJIL* web site will provide a critical analysis of the relevant cases or other developments and will supplement the analyses with direct hypertext links to all relevant materials. Thus, for example, where an author refers to cases or treaties that are important to the analysis we will insert a direct link to the relevant text. This will take the reader directly to the original source, from which he or she can then return to the analysis.

Some of these features will take time to construct, but the www.ejil.org web site is already functioning and you are invited to test it out. It is meant as an integral part of the Journal.

We hope that you will find the new *EJIL* even more useful and interesting than the old and we will warmly welcome any comments or suggestions readers might have with a view to improving the Journal and enhancing its interest and readability for the international law community broadly defined.

The Editors