

EDITORIAL COMMENT

This is the final issue of the INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LEGAL INFORMATION (IJLI) for the 2012 publication year. In addition to five really excellent feature articles and bibliographies, this issue contains the recurring features the IJLI's readers have come to rely on: the International Calendar, edited by **Aslihan Bulut**, and Book Reviews, edited by **Thomas Mills**. This issue also brings to a close a long-time editorial policy concerning the order of publications and ushers in a new, and I hope, a positive change.

The proceedings issue, usually the second issue in each publication year, will be moved to the first issue of the publication year. What this means is that the issue following this one, the first issue in the 2013 publication year, will be the proceedings issue containing the content from the annual Course on International Law and Legal Information, held in Toronto, Canada in September of 2012. Making this change will help keep the content from IALL annual courses fresher, appearing just a few months after their presentation, instead of nearly a year or more as has been the practice up to this point. The IALL Board and the editors of the IJLI hope you will appreciate this change and view it as an improvement in the overall editorial direction of the IJLI.

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The present issue opens with a very important piece authored by **Natalie Orpett**. Her meticulous research on land law in the West Bank is nuanced, informed, fair and reasoned. She tackles this difficult and convoluted subject with the appropriate scholarly rigor, yet she remains mindful of the sensitivity of her topic. The result is a balanced article that delivers a truly unique and important piece of scholarship with the appropriate degree of intellectual and scholarly detachment. I expect that it will be frequently cited.

I try to include at least one bibliography in just about every issue of the IJLI. These bibliographies have become something of a trademark for the Journal. These bibliographies – and the IJLI's regular book reviews as well – always make for interesting reading; they also provide a valuable resource for collection development purposes in law libraries around the world. This issue stays true to that commitment. It contains an excellent annotated bibliography by Madeline Cohen on **International Humanitarian Law of Armed**

Conflict. Ms. Cohen's bibliography is a beautifully written summary of the most critical pieces on this important subject.

Marisol Floren's long article on the open access landscape for legal information of Mexico, Central America, the Spanish Speaking Caribbean and Haiti is a companion piece to **Teresa Miguel's** *The Digital Landscape in South America: Government Transparency and Access to Information*, published in the previous issue, 40.1-40.2. Both pieces were originally presented at the International Federation of Library Associations meeting held in San Juan, Puerto Rico in August of 2011. With both of these pieces now published in the IJLI, we have pretty much covered the present state of digital legal information in Central and South America. I'm sure that Ms. Floren's and Ms. Miguel's articles will quickly become essential reference material for those researching the law in that critically important part of the world.

The next piece in this issue is by law student, **Anthony Bestafta-Cruz**. His work was first brought to my attention by a colleague, Marci Hoffman, Lecturer in Residence; Associate Director, Law Library at the University of California – Berkeley, Boalt Hall. It was a lucky day for the IJLI, because Mr. Bestafta-Cruz has created a very useful and welcome Research Guide for UN Criminal Tribunals. Scholars and practitioners alike will find that his excellent guide will save them a tremendous amount of time as they navigate the labyrinth of documents and resources

The final feature article in this issue of the IJLI is a piece by **Olayinka Silas Akinwumi** and **Kamorutaiwo Lawal**, colleagues in law from Nigeria. Silas and Lawal have co-authored a detailed examination and critique of Nigeria's Evidence Act (2011), placing special emphasis on the admissibility of computer-generated evidence. Their article will help those researching and practicing in Nigeria, while at the same time it helps illuminate how some of the same issues brought about by the explosive growth of computer-generated documents and other forms of digital/digitized evidence create similar problems and issues in nearly every jurisdiction.

As this overview indicates, there is a great deal of substance for IJLI readers in this issue. So grab your copy, find a comfortable chair and some good lighting and enjoy all of the excellent content in issue 40.3 of the INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LEGAL INFORMATION.

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