

Editorial

SUMMER ISSUE

The Amsterdam Law Forum Editorial Board

The Board of Amsterdam Law Forum (ALF) hereby proudly presents the second issue published by its current editorial team. In this 2022 Summer Issue, we are pleased to introduce three articles in total. The first one is a peer-reviewed article that provides an analysis of the eighteenth-century prize systems and their role in the dynamics of the slave trade. The second one is an opinion article concerning the European Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), and the third one is a Special Collection presenting a Report on blockchain in relation with the well-being of societies. We are proud of the combined efforts of authors, editors, and peer reviewers that made these three articles possible, enabling ALF to continuously bring high quality contributions to our academic community.

The first contribution for this summer issue is written by Alessandro Marinaro. In ‘Eighteenth Century ‘Prize Negroes’ and the Law of Nations: The Prince Frederick’, the author’s piece looks into the forgotten histories of ‘prize negroes’ and how this has shaped the laws of nation particularly in the modern age and concerning maritime war, privateering and the slave trade. In his analysis, the author explores three prize cases, all of which involved the presence of slaves or black seamen who were captured by British privateers on enemy ships, then condemned as lawful prizes to be won and sold or re-sold into slavery. In his article, the author argues that this ‘inglorious past’ of prize law remains, only that it’s either mostly submerged or largely overlooked.

The second contribution is written by Kirill Ryabtsev and Chiraz Belhadj Ali. The article “International politics shaped by the EU: A critical analysis of the European Common Foreign and Security Policy” provides a critical analysis of EU’s central position in the international scene and how such position is shaping international politics. In particular, the authors look at the role of the Common Foreign Security Policy (CFSP) in promoting international peace and security. To begin with, they explain how the distinct nature of this policy came about and how it has enabled the EU to acquire the role of “multilateral security actor.” They also discuss how the EU achieve its CFSP goals by taking the sanctioning of Russia as an example. Looking into what lies ahead, the article also provides insights on what the future of EU-Russia may look like as well as analysis of other related EU actions under this security policy.

The third contribution is a Special Collection which has been edited by Dr Thibault Schrepel who is an Associate Professor at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU) and PhD student in blockchain and antitrust Kirill Ryabtsev. This Report is composed of several contributions written by prominent scholars and practitioners in the area of blockchain technology, the Report discusses the application of blockchain governance to various legal fields such as data protection, regulation of luxurious goods industry, real estate, health and vaccines, and laws on nationality. This Report was made possible thanks to the contribution of authors: Benedetta Cappiello, Bruno Vieira, Carlos Muñoz Ferrandis, Gabriel

Luchetti, Johan Loo, Hatim Hussain, Jorge Pomareda, Juan Rodrigo, Pedro García de Pesquera Villagrán, Rutger van Bergem, Sven Rojnić, Thymo P.J. Burgemeester, Vassupradha Rengarajan.

On behalf of the whole editorial team, we hope that you enjoy reading these articles as much as we did. We would like to thank all the authors once again for their substantial contribution to this issue. We also extend our sincerest gratitude to our editors, Annelot Lodder, Maria Schaap, Bent Bos, Janka, Milo Wierst, and Shirin Mehta, for their commitment and support throughout the academic year.

Jorge Constantino – Associate Chief Editor
Nienke Heijne Makkreel – Acquisition Editor
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The ALF Board 2022