

PREFACE TO THE EDITION

The present issue brings together a range of scholarly studies examining significant developments at the intersection of law, society, technology, and governance. The contributions reflect the changing nature of contemporary legal scholarship and address questions arising from established legal principles as well as emerging social and technological realities.

Among the themes explored in this issue are the relationship between customary legal systems and constitutional principles, particularly in the context of gender justice, and the legal protection of migrant workers in South Asia. These contributions draw attention to questions of equality, constitutional protection, labour rights, enforcement, and social security within diverse legal and regulatory frameworks.

The issue also engages extensively with the legal challenges arising from technological transformation. The contributions examine technology-facilitated domestic violence, cross-border data protection, blockchain-based smart contracts and international arbitration, and the regulation of mental-health telemedicine. The comparative study of the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and India's Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDP Act) provides particular insight into evolving approaches to data rights, cross-border transfers, regulatory accountability, and international interoperability.

Further, the issue considers the expanding role of artificial intelligence in consequential decision-making and the resulting questions of transparency, discrimination, human oversight, and legal accountability. Together, these studies demonstrate the growing need for legal frameworks to respond effectively to technological developments while maintaining appropriate safeguards for individual rights and public interests.

Taken together, the contributions demonstrate the breadth of contemporary legal inquiry and the importance of comparative and interdisciplinary approaches to understanding evolving legal challenges. We hope that the research presented in this issue will contribute to continued academic discussion and encourage further scholarship on the changing relationship between law, technology, and society.

We express our sincere appreciation to the authors, reviewers, and members of the editorial team for their valuable contributions and continued commitment to scholarly research.

Dakshina Saraswathy
Chief Editor

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