

PREFACE TO THE EDITION

It is with great satisfaction that we introduce the forthcoming issue of the **International Journal of Judicial Science Research Studies (IJJSRS)**. This issue assembles a set of timely and thought-provoking contributions that engage with some of the most pressing questions confronting contemporary legal systems—ranging from the accommodation of customary law within constitutional frameworks, to the governance of emerging technologies, and the expanding frontiers of environmental accountability.

We begin with a critical study on *The Intersection of Customary Law and Women's Rights in Developing Jurisdictions*. By examining African and Asian contexts, the article highlights how legal pluralism presents both opportunities and challenges for gender equality. The analysis demonstrates that constitutional reform, judicial interpretation, and community-based education are vital tools for ensuring that customary law evolves in line with human rights obligations.

The second article, *Corporate Governance and ESG Compliance: A Legal Framework*, provides a comprehensive review of the growing integration of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles within corporate governance. By tracing legislative and regulatory developments across multiple jurisdictions, the paper underscores the ongoing shift toward accountability and mandatory disclosure, while also identifying the gaps in enforcement and global standardization.

Technological change forms the focus of the following two contributions. *Algorithmic Bias and the Law* investigate the challenges posed by automated decision-making systems in domains as critical as criminal justice and employment. It explores regulatory and judicial responses, including landmark cases and legislation, while calling for integrated frameworks to ensure fairness and accountability. Following this, *The Legal Status of AI Entities* addresses the profound jurisprudential question of whether artificial intelligence can or should be granted rights or duties. Drawing on comparative legal traditions, the article suggests that while comprehensive AI personhood remains distant, incremental recognition of limited rights and responsibilities may become necessary.

The issue concludes with *Climate Litigation: A New Frontier for Environmental Accountability*, which traces the rapid growth of climate-related lawsuits against both governments and corporations. By analyzing landmark judgments and global trends, the paper demonstrates how climate litigation is reshaping doctrines of duty of care and corporate responsibility, effectively bridging environmental and human rights law.

Together, these articles underscore the dynamic interplay between law, technology, corporate responsibility, and human rights in the 21st century. They invite readers to reflect on how judicial science can both respond to and anticipate societal transformations. As editors, we believe this issue will enrich scholarly debate and contribute meaningfully to global legal discourse.

We extend our gratitude to the authors for their insightful contributions, to our reviewers for their rigorous evaluations, and to our readership for their continued engagement with IJJSRS.

Dr. Dakshina Saraswathy
Chief Editor

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