

## EDITOR'S NOTE

In Central and Eastern Europe, the migration crisis reached its peak in 2015 and has been unfolding since, with states in the region following diverse strategies with respect to their obligations under the Geneva Convention and the Dublin System. The past two years have yielded considerable scholarly insight into the workings and failings of the current European system of coordination among the Member States for examining applications, shortening time limits for transfers and adjusting allocations in cases of disproportionate pressure. In fact, several cases relating to the migration crises were heard by the Court of Justice of the European Union (Karim, Ghezelsbash, Shiri, and most recently, Hungary and Slovakia's cases against the Council seeking the annulment of provisional measures in the area of international protection) were also decided.

At this point it is worth reflecting on the legal issues prompted by, preceding and exacerbating the migration crisis, from the perspective of international law, European law and national constitutional law. In this volume, in the thematic part dedicated to migration, the lead article uses a law and economics approach to investigate the effects of legislative provisions in catalysing or reducing migration. A following article analyses the Hungarian 'quota referendum' and the aspects of its conformity with EU law, followed by an examination of the right of former child soldiers to integration and protection, including the debate surrounding their contentious status. A very interesting work examines the question of compensation for the expenses of mass migration in international law.

Under the part Developments in International Law we find, among others, two highly topical studies on the challenges of IT and international law. It is worth also mentioning the comprehensive article on occasion of the 'headscarf cases', the Achbita and Bougnaoui rulings of the Court of Justice of the European Union, presenting them in the broader framework of European jurisprudence on the right to freedom of religion and its possible restrictions.

The part on Developments in European Law includes contributions assessing a wide range of European policies: from free movement, audio-visual and language policy to European social law, data protection and food safety. One article gives an update of the new requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation applicable in 2018, while another discusses the use of the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) for the purposes of minority protection and the judgment of the General Court which sought to clarify the practical issue of ECI requirements.

Following from last year's practice of adding a new title on proceedings of important international conferences held in Hungary, we have included a summary and contributions presented at the Budapest Conference on Victims of armed Forces at the Juncture of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law held in May 2016.

Under Hungarian State Practice, several authors analyse the recent case-law of the Hungarian Constitutional Court, such as the judgment on the exercise of the right to vote of citizens living abroad, the interpretation of the Fundamental Law's integration clause, and the decision regarding the Act on the procedural code of public administration. An important judgment of the Court of Justice of the European Union was rendered on the law governing the Hungarian notarial profession, which foresaw the requirement of Hungarian citizenship. In its judgment *Commission v Hungary*, the Court of Justice of the European Union found that Hungary violated its obligations under the freedom of establishment.

Finally, the Yearbook closes with book reviews presenting new volumes authored in the field of international law and European law in Hungarian language. As ever, we wish you a good read and hope you will join our readers for the 2018 volume of the Hungarian Yearbook of International Law and European Law as well.

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