

Acknowledgment from the Editor-in-Chief and the Deputy Editors-in-Chief

From the stones of Old College to the evolving global classroom, Edinburgh Law School stands as a testament to how tradition and progress can illuminate one another.

As we introduce **Volume 6 of the Contemporary Challenges Journal**, this dual spirit of heritage and forward-thinking inquiry forms the foundation of our work. In a world where legal systems must continually adapt to shifting social, technological, and geopolitical realities, the scholarship gathered here reflects an evolving commitment to understanding what justice requires today.

This year's submissions reflect an exceptionally broad and dynamic body of scholarship. Together, the works in this volume engage with questions that span doctrinal legal analysis, socio-legal critique, theoretical inquiry, and policy-focused research. Across these contributions, we see recurring reflections on how systems of justice respond to harm: whether through punishment, prevention, negotiation, or transformation. Authors interrogate the expansion and contestation of criminalisation practices, from digital and environmental regulation to state corruption and governance. Others critically examine penal alternatives, gendered assumptions embedded in legal frameworks, and the evolving relationship between domestic legal systems and international oversight. While the cases, regions, and methods differ, the shared thread is clear: each piece asks, in its own way, what justice looks like in a world undergoing rapid and profound change.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all contributors. The authors of this volume represent a wide spectrum of disciplines and professional backgrounds, and their commitment to rigorous scholarship and careful revision has enriched this publication immensely. Their work embodies the critical thinking, curiosity, and global engagement that define Edinburgh Law School's scholarly community.

Our heartfelt thanks go to our article editors, all postgraduate students at the University of Edinburgh Law School. Balancing academic commitments with the demands of peer review is no small feat, yet they approached every submission with diligence, precision, and professionalism. Their efforts are central to sustaining CCJ's mission of

providing a platform for emerging scholars.

We also express our appreciation to those who continually support the journal behind the scenes. **Dr. Milena Tripkovic** and **Dr. Andy Aydin-Aitchison** offer invaluable mentorship and guidance throughout the editorial process. **Rebecca Wojturska** ensures the smooth functioning of our website and publication workflow, and the **Postgraduate Office team** provides essential logistical support that makes our work possible.

It is with great pride that we present this volume. We hope the scholarship within these pages inspires reflection, challenges assumptions, and encourages continued engagement with the evolving global landscape of crime, justice, and security.

Hevenly Padron

Editor-in-Chief

Sanjana Srivastava

Deputy Editor-in-Chief

Sofia Negri Nunes de Abreu

Deputy Editor-in-Chief