

EDITOR'S NOTE

Protection of cultural heritage is in the interest of the entire global community. We are experiencing times where cultural heritage is faced by multiple risks: the legal regime safeguarding cultural heritage is fraught with loopholes, attacking and destroying cultural property is increasingly becoming a method of warfare, while several long lasting debates on the restitution of cultural property have not yet been solved. At the same time, more and more international instruments are aimed at ensuring a greater level of protection, for instance EU instruments, human rights instruments or international humanitarian law instruments. The effective application of these treaties is indispensable for the protection regime to work. Therefore, the thematic part of the present Yearbook centres around questions related to the protection of cultural property, both from a practical and theoretical point of view.

This is followed by an analysis of the *Cafeteria* case in the Forum section. The section Developments of International Law starts with a highly topical question on terrorism and rule of law authored by Péter Darák, President of the Curia in Hungary. This piece is followed by a comparative article on the general principles of law in the practice of the international courts of justice and the European Court of Justice. The next articles deal with various questions of international law, ranging from human rights (ICCPR, water pollution, European Court of Human Rights cases), sustainable development, global constitutionalism, media law and migration and the Red Cross Movement.

The section Developments of European Law is headed by two articles looking at constitutional issues related to Council of Europe debates, introduced by Hungarian Constitutional Court Judge, member of the Venice Commission András Zs. Varga. Other articles in this section deal with fundamental issues such as aspects of member state solidarity, parliamentary democracy, followed by articles on common commercial policy, the European Leniency Programme and issues relating to the equality of regions and sustainability of regional cultures.

A special part of this edition is the Proceedings of the FIDE Conference. In May 2016, Budapest hosted the XXVII Congress of the International Federation for European Law (Fédération Internationale pour le Droit Européen, FIDE). Hungary was the second Central European Country to organize a FIDE Congress, which is considered to be the most prestigious event for practitioners of EU law. The Budapest Congress was organized jointly by the Curia of Hungary and the Faculty of Law of Pázmány Péter Catholic University, under the guidance of the Hungarian FIDE Association. The main topics of the Congress touched upon vital issues, such as the European Banking Union, Private Enforcement and Collective Redress in European Competition Law, the Division of Competences and Reg-

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ulatory Powers between the EU and the Member States, Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership negotiations and its consequences for the European Union.

The Yearbook then turns to case law in Hungary, presenting analyses on different Hungarian cases concerning the protection of personality, restrictions on freedom of assembly, the constitutional protection of social rights, equal employment and the famous *Tokaj* case.

The Yearbook ends, as usual, with an introduction of recent publications by Hungarian authors.

We wish you a good read and hope to see you back for the next edition!

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