
President's Foreword

The Fifth Volume of the *Perth International Law Journal* is a significant milestone in the course of our Society's operation, and it comes at a similarly significant moment in modern times.

In bringing a new decade, the year 2020 has also brought fresh challenges to the global order. None quite so devastating as the global COVID-19 pandemic, which has infiltrated almost every level of this order.

While our Society's operations did not escape the impact of the extraordinary circumstances brought on by the pandemic, our mission remained unwavering: to foster awareness of the international legal sphere from our base in the Perth academic community, and to promote engagement with the legal framework of international relations and the issues which affect us all as members in an increasingly global society. Indeed, in combating this pandemic, cooperation and communication among nations has never been quite so vital.

It is to our Committee and Editorial Board's great credit that they have swiftly adapted to these extraordinary circumstances and advanced our mission throughout the year. It is to both these bodies, the *Journal's* Advisory Board, the peer reviewers (academics from around the world who have donated valuable time and expertise), and the authors of this Volume that I extend my great thanks for their combined efforts in contributing another fine body of works to the repository of international legal academia.

I would also like to extend a special thanks to The Hon Robert French AC who has kindly provided the edited transcript of his address to our Society's 2021 Networking Event, which was received with both enthusiasm and admiration on the night.

Finally, I extend sincere thanks to King & Wood Mallesons for their great generosity in sponsoring the *2020/21 King & Wood Mallesons International Law Essay Prize* and the Journal Launch, with whose support I am also able to congratulate the winner – Izak Hodge-Englishby.

It is a privilege to preface this five-year milestone for the *Journal*, and the celebration comes from sharing with you the radiant knowledge and inspiration of the pages within.

Austen Mell

2020 President
May 2021