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NUMBER 2

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## Transcript

Edited and Excerpted Transcript of the Symposium on Injury as Cultural Practice .....	69
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## Articles

Idea Merchants and Paradigm Peddlers in Global Antitrust <i>Mel Marquis</i> .....	155
From National and International Frustrations to Transnational Triumph? Hybrid Transnational Private Regulatory Regimes in the Industry of Private Military and Security Companies and Their Effectiveness in Ensuring Compliance with Human Rights <i>Evgeni Moyakine</i> .....	209
The Abolition of the Mandatory Death Penalty in India and Bangladesh: A Comparative Commonwealth Perspective <i>Andrew Novak</i> .....	227
Economic Development and the Utility of Local Content Legislation in the Oil and Gas Industry: Conflicts and Effects of Nigeria's Local Content Act in the Context of International Investment Law <i>Dr. Felix O. Okpe</i> .....	255

## Comments

The Value of Cablevision and Its Implications on International Copyright Law and the Internet <i>Ernesto Omar Falcon</i> .....	303
--	-----

Dulce et Decorum: The Unique Perception of Chemical Warfare and the Enforcement of the Geneva Protocol in the 21st Century <i>Catherine Joyce</i> .....	331
Immigration Fraud: A Pretext in Domestic Prosecutions for the Crime of Genocide <i>Tiangay M. Kemokai</i> .....	359
Applying International Human Rights Laws to Force-Feeding Prisoners: Effort to Create Domestic Standards in the United States <i>Heidi G. Kim</i> .....	389
Discrimination in the Name of Secularism: A Ban on Religious Symbols in Québec <i>Tina Mirzazadeh</i> .....	411
<i>Kaisha Bunkatsu</i> : Corporate Demergers in Japan and Challenges Faced by Creditors <i>Samantha Pranatadjaja</i> .....	435
Brazil's Landmark Clean Company Act: Comparison to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention and Issues <i>Sonia Zaheer</i> .....	457

## ***Editor's Note***

*Wisdom is like a baobab tree; no one individual can embrace it.*

*—Akan proverb*

I am writing this brief note to express my sincere gratitude to the Board of Editors and the entire Editorial Staff. From the beginning, the assembling of this Board, students from diverse backgrounds, stands as a symbol and a reflection of the potential that can and should be harnessed in the area of international scholarship. I am grateful for the opportunity to have led a truly amazing group of students.

A special thanks to Pauline Rodriguez Acosta, the Publication Specialist, for her unwavering guidance and support. You are a gift to this law community.

Finally, a note of thanks to the subscribers. In recognition of your support, we have assembled a high-quality issue for your reading enjoyment. In addition, there is a Foreword from the visionary, Professor Kojo Yelapaala, who created the space for a student-organized journal dedicated to international scholarship.

Happy reading,

Tiangay Kemokai,  
Editor-in-Chief  
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& Development Law Journal*



\* \* \*

## ***Foreword***

On June 8, 1988 the first Board of Editors (Board) led by the first Editor-in-Chief, Elena Asturias met in the McGeorge House to receive and open the first issue of *The Transnational Lawyer* (Journal) from the publisher. In attendance were Dean Gordon D. Schaber, Jane Kelso, Dean of Students, and the Faculty Advisor of *The Transnational Lawyer*. It was a momentous event since, as the Dean explained, it was the celebration of an excellent job done by the Board of Editors and the Staff of the Journal in producing within a short time the first issue of *The Transnational Lawyer*. Certainly, the first issue met the expectations and the vision set out in the constitutive documents of the journal. The acknowledgment of the excellent work of the Board and Staff, a truly transnational group, was noteworthy. It took about two years from the inception of the idea of an international law journal, instigated and spearheaded by the students, to the finished product. *The Transnational Lawyer* came into existence after very careful study of all student-edited journals for a niche, which a new journal could occupy and excel in. After much work by the students with the support of interested faculty members, it was determined that McGeorge School of Law had both the student interest and the necessary competencies for a successful journal. What was remarkable about the endeavor undertaken was the vision, focus, and direction the constitutive document presented.

Unlike all the other student-edited international law journals, which published articles on a wide variety of subjects with no particular focus, *The Transnational Lawyer* was by design to have a distinctive focus and vision. It is instructive to review the mission presented to and approved by the Faculty. The following announcement of *The Transnational Lawyer* to the world speaks volumes about the care with which the students, the Faculty and the Law School approached this new task:

McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific  
announces the founding of . . .

### **THE TRANSNATIONAL LAWYER**

#### **A Journal for Transnational Law Practice**

Continuing its dedication toward building a comprehensive and diversified international curriculum, University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law recently established *The Transnational Lawyer* devoted to the practice of transnational law.

Recognized as developing one of the most significant and progressive international law programs in the world, McGeorge School of Law provides the foundation and ideal environment for an international law journal. *The Transnational Lawyer*, by design, will be devoted to current issues and substance of transnational law practice. It will also provide a unique forum for transnational practitioners, legal scholars, and academicians to inform, share and discuss

significant transnational legal questions. Given the wide geographical diversification of McGeorge School of Law international programs, this journal will truly be a transnational journal publishing relevant materials not only on, but also from, different parts of the world.

*The Transnational Lawyer* will feature:

- Articles on current topics of direct relevance to the transnational practitioner by leading authorities from around the world.
- Continuing reports and legal analysis of the international legal implications pertaining to the work of select national and international institutions such as the U.S. Supreme Court and The European Court of Justice.
- Recent developments, comments, notes, new publications, abstracts and a bibliography of articles.”

It is readily apparent from the quoted announcement that if *The Transnational Lawyer* carried out its mission it would find a place in the world of student-edited journals, but even more than that it would succeed. Indeed, at the time of the announcement the only competitor in legal publications was a practitioners-edited journal.

One might ask why it is important to reproduce the announcement. First, it continued the mark of distinction in the international law arena with which McGeorge was rightfully associated. Second, the three areas of focus gave the Board of Editors and the Faculty Advisor guiding objectives to follow. Third, it also alerted potential contributors and student writers as to the scope of the Journal. Finally, subscribers and readers knew where to look if, for example, they wanted to find out recent international legal developments in some of the leading legal institutions of the world. As long as *The Transnational Lawyer* sought to achieve the goals set out in the announcement the likelihood of its success was virtually assured if the Board of Editors focused on quality and excellence. As such the first issue was a success. Dean Schaber acknowledged this in his remarks and personal endorsement of the first issue to the Board.

As the Faculty Advisor, with the support of the Faculty Advisory Board, I devoted the next several years to ensuring excellence, quality and maintaining the vision set out by the Faculty. However, the project was that of the students who, in spite of all the challenges never wavered in their dedication to the focus, mission, excellence and quality. The successive Boards of Editors and the Staff deserve a lot of praise for their unparalleled devotion to hard work, excellence and quality. In particular, we must celebrate the work of the student staff writers who published high-quality Comments and Case Notes.

Nevertheless, transition and transformation appear to be part of living and existence. It is therefore not surprising that the name of the Journal was changed from *The Transnational Lawyer* to *Pacific McGeorge Global Business & Development Law Journal* (the Globe). With the establishment of the Center for

Global Business & Development (Global Center), the decision was made to create a symbiotic relationship between the Center and the Globe. This holistic approach to international law afforded the Globe an opportunity to publish scholarship for renowned practitioners on emerging international law issues from the annual symposium organized by the Global Center. With each new successive Board of Editors and Staff, the dedication to publishing a high-quality journal has not wavered.

Yet, the ever-changing dynamics of the law school and its institutions summon in this hour a need for innovation and a new direction. Thus, the Globe is now in another cycle of change. Once again, the Board of Editors led by the Editor-in-Chief, Tiangay Kemokai, have risen to the challenge of producing a high-quality journal and facilitating a merger between the Globe and the *McGeorge Law Review* (MLR). The Board and the Staff, another transnational and culturally diverse group, have left a lasting legacy in publishing the single largest volume that the Globe has ever published: Volume 28:2. Despite the challenges, these students have exceeded expectations and epitomize grace under pressure. It is apparent that the legacy of dedication to excellence, hard work, and quality established by the first Board has remained the guiding principle clearly demonstrated by the last Board of the Globe.

The name of the newly-merged journal is: *The University of the Pacific Law Review*. As envisioned by the Faculty and the Administration, this newly-merged journal will continue the best traditions of the Globe and the MLR. Even as the Globe transitions into a different format and vision, the baton of excellence and innovative scholarship has been passed on to the next Board of Editors and Staff.

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