

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

The fourth issue of the scientific journal *Facta Universitatis: Law and Politics* for the year 2016 includes scientific papers in the field of law and politics.

This issue comprises five articles on the topic “*Contemporary Dispute Resolution Methods: a multidisciplinary approach*”, five articles on some contemporary issues and one review of the textbook.

Aleksandar Mojašević and Ljubica Nikolić, in their paper *Final Offer Arbitration: an Innovative Institution in the ADR Market*, examine a new form of arbitration called the Final Offer Arbitration (FOA), which is insufficiently known to the domestic public. After elaborating on the advantages of traditional arbitration over litigation, the authors focus on the comparative advantages of the Final Offer Arbitration in relation to the traditional arbitration, primarily in terms of efficiency. The paper discusses which of the two models of arbitration provides stronger incentives to the disputing parties to enter the process of negotiation and final settlement.

Dejan Vučetić raises an interesting new question in domestic legal literature, which is posed in the title of his paper *Is Mediation Viable in Administrative Matters?* After presenting the general characteristics of mediation, the author provides a detailed comparative law review of those legal systems where mediation exists as a possible way of resolving administrative matters. Then, he discusses the constraints to using mediation in resolving administrative matters, and addresses the posed question by discussing whether mediation may realistically be used in the traditional administrative procedure and in specific administrative matters in the Serbian legal system.

This thematic issue includes two papers in the field of family dispute resolution methods.

Dejan Janićijević, in the first paper *Psychological Issues in Family Mediation*, the author elaborates on some interesting psychological issues in family mediation. Multiple psychological factors, such as: excessively optimistic expectations, risk tolerance, risk aversion, reactive devaluation, the role of naive realism (etc.), hinder family dispute resolution. Emphasizing that the mediator must respect these psychological factors, inherent to most people, in an attempt to facilitate the family dispute resolution, the author proposes specific approaches to family dispute resolution.

Jelena Arsić, in the second paper *Families and Mediation: the Impact of Various Mediation Styles in Child Custody Cases*, analyzes very sensitive and important question concerning the impact of various mediation styles in child custody matters. The author addresses one of the most discussed classifications of mediation styles in an effort to reach conclusions on the most appropriate approach to mediation in child custody disputes.

This issue also includes a paper on resolving investment disputes in international settings.

Kristina Anđelić, in the paper *In Search for the Optimal Model for Resolving International Investment Disputes*, explores the most prominent method for investment dispute resolution – the Investor-to-state dispute settlement (ISDS) mechanism. The author analyzes the possibility of placing the International Investment Court in service of overcoming the legal and political issues which have the potential to undermine social legitimacy of the Investor-to-state dispute settlement system.

The second part of this *Facta Universitatis* issue deals with subject-specific matters.

Predrag Cvetković, in the paper *The "Hierarchical Constant" as the Underlying Principle of Public-Private Partnership*, elaborates on the interventionist paradigm, the so-called "the hierarchical constant", in the specific interrelation between the public and the private sector. In addition, the author discusses an interesting issue referring to the public-private partnership as a model of moral revitalization which generates a new kind of ethics in social relations and contributes to developing relations based on mutual trust and cooperation.

Borko Milošević, in the paper called *Money Laundering as a Form of Economic Crime in the Role of Financing Terrorism*, deals with the concepts of money laundering and terrorism, and their interrelations. The author identifies money laundering as one of the main forms of economic crime. Using the descriptive and historical method, the author first discusses the concept of money laundering, and the importance of this global problem for society and the state, as well as the concept of terrorism, its financing and harmful consequences of inadequate state reaction.

Žarko Đorić, in the paper called *The Role of Social Capital in Developing Democracies*, discusses an interesting topic concerning the role of social capital in two developing democracies: Argentina and Nicaragua, featuring a different course, method and dynamics of democratization. The author compares the more "social-centrist" style of democratization in Nicaragua as related to the more "state-centrist" path to democracy in Argentina. Ultimately, the author tries to identify the necessary conditions for the consolidation of democracy in developing countries.

Ige, Abiodun Simeon, in the paper called *John the Baptist Approach to Corruption: a Recipe for the Church in Africa*, discusses how to curb the menace of corruption in Nigeria and Africa by relying on the biblical account John the Baptist's fearless fight against corruption during his days, by cherishing moral values such as: honesty, love for neighbours, community spirit, etc. The author suggests John the Baptist's approach as a recipe for the church to curb the devastating effect of corruption in Nigeria and on the African continent.

Edisa Brničanin, Miloš Pavlović and Nemanja Gligorijević, in their paper *The Regulatory Framework of the European Union and the Banking Sector of the Republic of Serbia* discuss the development of banking regulations in a historical context, including the features of the system of banking regulation in the EU and in Serbia.

Finally, this issue includes a book review.

Aleksandar Mihajlović prepared a review of the textbook *Ekonomija za pravnike (Economics for Lawyers)*, co-authored by Ljubica Nikolić and Aleksandar Mojašević (Medinvest, Niš, 2015).

We hope you will enjoy reading the results of scientific research on the law and politics issues that the contributing authors have chosen to discuss in their theoretical and empirical research.

The multidisciplinary nature of the submitted papers and the authors' choice of current legal and political issues indicate that our scientific journal *Facta Universitatis: Law and Politics* is open to different approaches to the legal and political matter under observation and committed to publishing scientific articles across a wide range of social sciences and humanities. In that context, we invite you to submit research articles on topics of your professional interest.

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Niš, 29th December 2016