

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

The *first issue* of the scientific journal *Facta Universitatis: Law and Politics* for the year 2019 contains articles from different fields of law, social sciences and humanities.

Dijana Janković, LL.D., Judge, Court of Appeal in Niš, submitted the paper titled “*An Overview of the International Scientific-Professional Meeting at the Appellate Court in Niš within the project "Strengthening the Probation and the System of Alternative Sanctions in Montenegro and Serbia" Niš, 4th December 2018*” where she analyzes the fact that in the broadest sense, alternative sanctions are criminal law measures that substitute a prison sentence. They are practically parapenal sanctions considering that they lack the actual effectiveness inherent in classical punishment, which is expressed as a complete restriction of some rights or material values. The paper provides an overview of an international scientific-professional meeting of experts held at the Appellate Court in Niš, within the project "Strengthening the Probation and the Alternative Sanctions System in Montenegro and Serbia". Participants of the meeting were members of the Dutch delegation, as well as Serbian judges, public prosecutors, and probation officers. During the presentation of the project and the exchange of opinions and experiences on the application of alternative sanctions in both Netherlands and Serbia, numerous essential questions have been raised regarding the purpose of punishment, the achieved results, and the problems arising in everyday practice in the application of alternative sanctions.

Apostolos Tsiouvalas, K.G. Jebsen Centre for the Law of the Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway, 9037 Tromsø, Norway, submitted the paper titled “*Potentials for the protection of Pikialasorsuaq in the shadow of contemporary maritime industries*” where he analyses that the Pikialasorsuaq or North Water Polynya is a polynya that lies between Greenland and Canada in northern Baffin Bay. For centuries, small scale family-based markets had been developed between the Inuit on the two sides of the bay based on cross-border transportation. However, the emerged modern maritime industries have posed serious challenges for the polynya, where the free cross-border transportation is nowadays banned, and the environmental threat has become a reality deteriorated further by climate change. Indigenous participation and Free Prior and Informed Consent are crucial for the conservation of the polynya. Accordingly, this article was designed as a descriptive study of the current situation in Pikialasorsuaq, providing the legal framework for the protection of the region and highlighting the existing system’s shortcomings.

Igor Vukonjanski, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University John Naisbitt, Belgrade, Serbia submitted the paper titled “*Characteristics of human resources management model in public administration of Republic of Serbia: Contemporary trends and challenges*”. The author emphasizes that this paper provides a description of the current state of affairs and opens certain questions: whether the modern human resources (HR) management in Serbia’s public sector is understood and accepted in the right way; and whether it is possible, by means of applying specific methods, to strengthen awareness of public employees concerning their actual position and responsibility to establish a new

public administration, adjusted to the citizens' needs, requirements and expectations. Relying on a decade-long personal engagement in this field, the author analyzes the current circumstances and provides critical remarks and recommendations.

Mile Ilić, LL.D. Full Professor, Faculty of Education in Vranje, University of Niš, **Milan Jovanović**, Independent Consultant, Assembly of the City of Niš; **Aleksandra Ilić Petković, Assistant Professor**, Faculty of Occupational Safety, University of Niš submitted the paper titled "*Electoral systems: a special review of the local-self government in Serbia*". They examine the electoral system as a part of the broader election law, which also includes an electoral form, constituencies, electoral competition, voting, methods of converting votes into mandates, as well as election threshold. When it comes to the Republic of Serbia, as well as many other countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the initial dominance of the majority electoral system in almost all the countries in the 1990s was gradually replaced by a proportional electoral system. When it comes to the electoral systems and the parties of national minorities, the laws of the Republic of Serbia provide significant measures for the participation of this type of political organization in the distribution of mandates, subject to special conditions, even when they receive less than 5% of the total number of votes.

Darko Dimovski, LL.D., Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Niš, **Iva Popović Knežević**, Judge of the Basic Court in Niš, **Miša Vujičić**, Judicial Assistant, High Court in Niš, submitted the paper titled "*The relationship between courts and media*". The paper explains that the judicial authorities have a difficult task to deal with the undermined public confidence in the judiciary and to reverse this trend in favor of general appreciation of their work by citizens. Constant communication between the representatives of the judiciary and journalists, which would eliminate any doubt that the prosecution and the courts "are hiding something", is not only a requirement but also a necessity. In particular, the authors point to the delicate boundary between the justified public interest in obtaining relevant information and the abuse of freedom of expression by crossing the line which implies the violation of the rights of others. In this paper, the authors point out the causes of this unfavorable environment, as well as the obstacles that occur daily in communication between the courts and the media.

Žarko Dimitrijević, LL.D., Public Enforcement Officer appointed for the area of the High Court and the Commercial Court in Niš, **Prof. Jelena Petrović, PhD**, Associate Professor, University of Niš, Faculty of Science and Mathematics submitted the paper titled "*The "negative" impact of a growing number of tourists on the security of energy supply market in Niš Region*". The basic precondition for the increase in the number of tourists is the improvement of tourism potentials: accommodation capacity; additional contents including arts, entertainment and festival programs; development of infrastructure (roads, railways, airports), etc. Available data indicate that there has been a significant increase in the number of tourists in the last ten years. However, the increase in the number of tourists does not correlate with the increase in the production of total electricity. Considering the constant growth of economic activity and increased number of residents, the analyzed data show that the increase in the number of tourists actually has a negative impact on the security of energy supply market. In this paper, the authors analyze the available data and point to the need for urgent planning of the security of energy supply, bearing in mind that the results indicate a huge increase in electricity consumption directly caused by the growth of consumers, where the growing number of tourists actually represents a variable that is itself a risk to the security of energy supply.

Žarko Đorić, PhD Student, Faculty of Economics, University of Niš, Republic of Serbia submitted the paper titled “*Declining trust is one of the central problems in modern politics*”. Trust declines in collective action arrangements. Trust is one of the "big questions," and "one of the normal obligations of political life." Embedded within it are fundamental issues of politics and democratic theory. This article discusses different conceptions of trust and its relations to democracy. The first part of the paper focuses on the conceptual and theoretical definition of trust. The second part provides an overview of one of the basic classifications of trust present in the contemporary literature. In the third part, the author discusses and provides appropriate argumentation on the relationship between trust and democracy.

Marko Krstić, Police Directorate in Šabac, Ministry of Interior Affairs, Republic of Serbia submitted *The book review: Koehler, Daniel (2016). Understanding Deradicalization: Methods, Tools and Programs for Countering Violent Extremism, Oxon/New York: Routledge*. Daniel Koehler is Director of the German Institute for Radicalization and De-Radicalization Studies (GIRDS) in Berlin. In his book “*Understanding Deradicalization: Methods, Tools and Programs for Countering Violent Extremism*” (2016), Koehler provides a comprehensive study of different aspects of deradicalization, including the most relevant deradicalization theories, programs, methods and tools.

We hope you will enjoy reading the results of scientific research on the legal, economic, social and policy-related other 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 issues indicate that our scientific journal *Facta Universitatis: Law and Politics* is open to different approaches to the legal 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.

We would like to extend our appreciation and gratitude to our distinguished reviewers whose professional attitude to double-blind peer review has significantly contributed to the quality of our scientific journal.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Miomira Kostić, LL.D.
Niš, 23th March 2019