

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

The third issue of the scientific journal *Facta Universitatis: Law and Politics* for the year 2020 is a thematic issue dedicated to the topic: "**Law, Economics and Public Policy**", which has brought together a number of scholars and associates from these scientific disciplines. We invited all interested parties to submit scientific papers, review articles, discussion papers, commentaries, book reviews, translation papers, and thematic essays on this topic.

In recent decades, the field of public policy has captured the attention of both theorists and practitioners, especially in developed countries such as the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands, and others. This interest has been supported by instituting numerous courses in the field of public policy at public and private universities and other academic institutions, but also by establishing numerous agencies and other state bodies dealing with the application of public policies in practice. Given the fact that this area is highly neglected in Serbia, it is necessary to encourage researchers of different scholarly orientations to elaborate on various aspects of public policies, starting from their creation to their application in practice. To that end, this thematic issue of *Facta Universitatis: Law and Politics* focuses on the field of public policy from different perspectives: legal, economic, political, organizational, and others. The focal point is the comparative analysis of the creation and implementation of public policies in developed countries, as related to Serbia.

The Editorial Board has chosen to address this highly topical issue hoping that the contemporary relevance of this topic will contribute to increased interest in publishing research results in this field. This special issue of *Facta Universitatis: Law and Politics* aims to provide latitude for interdisciplinary research on public policy in correlation with law, economics, politics, etc. Thus, we wish to promote interdisciplinarity as a modern trend in the academic community and a postulate which will contribute to correlating the latest developments in the contemporary world and the fundamental research in social sciences.

This thematic issue of the scientific journal *Facta Universitatis: Law and Politics* (3/2020), titled "**Law, Economics and Public Policy**", contains articles from different areas of law, social sciences and humanities.

Aleksandar S. Mojašević, LL.D., Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Niš (Serbia), submitted the paper titled "**Behavioural Economics and Public Policies: some introductory issues**". The paper aims to inform the domestic public about the basic concepts of behavioural economics, its historical development and intellectual basis, the application of its findings in policymaking, and its effectiveness in current practical application. In the first part, the author presents the basic concepts of behavioural economics: the nudge, the choice architecture, the libertarian paternalism, cognitive biases, and others. The second part provides a concise overview of the critiques directed at behavioural economics and libertarian paternalism (Posner's critique, Mitchell's critique), and a review of the empirical validity of certain behavioural economics phenomena. The third part presents the use of behavioural findings to inform the design of public policy in different domains (the behavioural public policy), along with numerous examples, mostly from the practice of the Behavioural Insights Team in the United Kingdom.

Dejan Vučetić, LL.D, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Niš, and **Predrag Dimitrijević**, LL.D., Full Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Niš (Serbia), submitted the paper titled *"Is the link between Serbian local governments' public policy goals and local civil servant's performance goals strong enough?"* This paper aims to explain and connect two separate processes in Serbian local governments. The first process pertains to the development of local public policy goals, which has recently been completely regulated by the Planning System Act (2018). The second process refers to the evaluation of performance of local civil servants, which is thoroughly regulated by the Decree on evaluation of civil servants (2019). The main thesis is that public policy goals can be more than just a wish list only if there is a "clear and present" link between these two processes. The authors explain the basic features of local development plans, mid-term plans, local public policy documents (strategies, programs, action plans) and the performance appraisal system of local civil servants. Article 7 of the Decree on Evaluation of Civil Servants (2019) provides the starting point for the inclusion of public policy goals into local servants' performance goals. For this connection to be put into effect, there are many other things that need to be changed in the local government regulation and organizational culture.

Branko Radulović, PhD, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade (Serbia), submitted the paper titled *"An overview of Public Policy Analysis master programs"*. The paper presents research on the content of postgraduate programs in the field of public policy at leading European universities. On the basis of previous research, more than 80 courses are classified in four areas: economic analysis, research methods, public administration, and public policy, in order to obtain a typical profile of a master program in public policy analysis. The observed master programs mostly emphasize research methods and public policy theory and application, with somewhat lower presence of economic analysis and public management. The results of the research can be used for the purpose of formulating new postgraduate programs at universities in Serbia.

Anka Mihajlov Prokopović, PhD, Assistant Professor, Communicology and Journalism Department, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Niš, and **Marija Vujović**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Communicology and Journalism Department, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Niš (Serbia), submitted the paper titled *"The European Approach to regulating Disinformation"*. This paper presents and analyzes the European approach in combating disinformation, which has posed a major threat to democratic processes particularly after Brexit and the 2016 USA presidential election. The European Union resorted to counteracting disinformation by focusing on large technology companies, the founders of social networks, and offering them a self-regulatory document, the Code of Practice on Disinformation (2018). The first encouraging results are noticed and announced in the reports submitted every month by the companies that signed this Code (Facebook, Google, Twitter, Mozilla, Microsoft, TikTok, and representatives of the advertising industry).

Marija Dragičević, LL.M., Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Law, University of Niš (Serbia), submitted the paper titled *"Comparative law review of Long-term Care Systems in some European countries"*. The author analyses the long-term care systems for people dependant on custodial care and assistance in several most developed European countries. The paper examines the organisation and funding of these systems and highlights their major advantages and disadvantages, which may eventually serve as an indication for improving the domestic social policy system.

The third issue of the scientific journal *Facta Universitatis: Law and Politics* (3/2020) also contains articles on several other law-related topics.

Marko Dimitrijević, LL.D., Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Niš, and **Srdjan Golubović**, LL.D., Full Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Niš (Serbia), submitted the paper titled *"About the importance of studying (European) Monetary law at domestic law faculties"*. This paper points to the real and logical need for academic studying of this positive law discipline at Law Faculties in Serbia. This branch of law is necessary for the optimal legal regulation of monetary policy, state monetary conduct and preserving monetary stability as an important public good for every monetary jurisdiction in the world. The introduction of Jean Monnet Module for European Monetary Law at the Faculty of the Law, University of Niš, is a very important step in academic teaching and scientific research on the legal regulation of public monetary affairs. The authors conclude that lawyers must have specialist knowledge from this branch of law, considering the frequency of monetary disputes and implication of monetary stability on living standards of monetary habitats and their rights to have healthy and solid currency.

Filip Mirić, LL.D., Research Associate, Associate at Postgraduate Study Services, Faculty of Law, University of Niš, and **Dragana Rodić Arandelović** (BEcn, with Honrs), Associate at Students and Researchers' Career Development Center, University of Niš, submitted the paper titled *"Forensic Expertise of Signatures and Handwriting: Multidisciplinary approach"*. The authors point out that forensic expertise of signatures and handwriting is a very important activity in criminalistics. This type of expertise is most frequently used in cases when there is a need to prove the existence of the criminal offense of forgery, but it may be used in many other cases (suicide letters or contracts), which indicates the need for a multidisciplinary approach to exploring of this kind of expertise. The paper presents the basic characteristics of this form of expertise and indicates the difficulties that may arise in practice. The paper aims to identify the opportunities for further development of signature and handwriting expertise in theory and practice, as a powerful tool for detecting crimes and their perpetrators.

Andrej Blagojević, Teaching Assistant, Communicology and Journalism Department, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Niš (Serbia), submitted the paper titled *"The development of Rights related to Electronic Media through the development of copyright laws in Serbia"*. The paper aims to present the development of national legislative acts on copyright and related rights in the field of broadcasting, by focusing on the copyright norms directly related to electronic media. After presenting the initial premises, the author analyzes the norms related to electronic media (radio and television), covering the period from the adoption of the 1929 Copyright Act of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia to the 2004 Act on Copyright and Related Rights of the Republic of Serbia. Then, the article provides an overview of the copyright norms related to electronic media in the positive law by analyzing the 2009 Act on Copyright and Related Rights and its subsequent amendments.

Milica Stanković, LL.M., PhD student, Faculty of Law, University of Nis; Judicial Assistant at the Appellate Court of Niš (Serbia), submitted the paper titled *"Stalking: theoretical framework"*. The author explores the conceptual framework and former research on the criminal offence of stalking. Prior to enacting the legislation on stalking, many forms of unlawful behavior indicative of stalking were legally considered as harassment. The media portrayal of celebrity stalking was the catalyst that first exposed the presence of such intrusive behavior and triggered global interest. Based on the prior research on this issue, the author provides an overview of the criminal offence of stalking, outlines the primary arguments for its incrimination, and summarizes its principle characteristics.

We hope you will enjoy reading the results of scientific research on the legal, economic, social, policy-related and 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 this scientific journal.

We wish you a Happy New Year and we look forward to our prospective cooperation.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Miomira Kostić, LL.D.

Editor of the thematic issue

Prof. Aleksandar Mojašević, LL.D.

Niš, 5th December 2020