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## Editorial

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The Leiden Journal of International Law (LJIL) will be published twice a year by the independent LJIL Foundation. The Journal, which is closely linked to the Faculty of Law of the University of Leiden offers promising graduate students the opportunity to organize, co-ordinate the editorial work and manage the publication of an international law journal. Therefore, the students who participate in the Editorial Staff are entirely responsible for the success of the project, though some Faculty members will be permanently of assistance and will advise on matters of management and organization.

In the belief that the need for scholarly writing in international law is becoming a major focus of legal education in the Netherlands (and Western Europe in general), the Journal seeks to provide an outlet for students interested in writing on international topics. It is for this reason that the *Student Contributions* category will form the nucleus of every issue. The members of the Editorial Staff are convinced that this will not only contribute to a better understanding of the principles and purposes of international law, international organizations and comparative law, but that it will also have an educational impact. Both student contributions of this issue elaborate upon terrorism and extradition (for more information concerning student contributions, please see the relevant Note of the Editor).

In order to further promote the level of awareness of international law among students, the LJIL will make an bi-annual award, the *Hugo Grotius Award*, for the best student contribution submitted. The next issue of the LJIL will contain more information concerning the 1989 Award.

We hope that this will stimulate students at law schools throughout the world to submit interesting and intellectually challenging articles.

Apart from *Student Contributions* the LJIL will publish articles in four other main categories: *Leading Articles*, *Current Legal Developments*, *Telders Moot Court Competition*, and *Book Reviews*.

Articles published in the *Current Legal Developments* category should be short (approximately five pages) instructive notes covering topical international legal problems.

Under the category *Telders Moot Court Competition* the Editorial Staff will present

relevant documents and developments relating to the Annual Telders International Moot Court Competition, which is organized by Telders Organizing Office, Leiden University, the Netherlands. This issue will contain the 1988 Rights in Conflict Case. In the next issue we will publish abstracts of the best written memorials.

*Leading Articles* will provide a more thorough analysis of particular questions of international law. Future issues will contain contributions relating *inter alia* to the use of force and self defence in international law, European competition law, human rights, the law of the sea and environmental protection law.

Publication of this Journal, which we ultimately hope to increase to four times a year, would not have been possible without the financial and constant encouragement of various foundations, companies, and individuals. The Board of Editors and the Editorial Staff of the LJIL would like to express their appreciation for the response to our efforts in establishing this new undertaking.

Furthermore, we would like to thank the members of the Board of Recommendation for their valuable assistance and suggestions during the preparatory phase. Without this help, the project would have remained a "paper-idea" instead of offering an opportunity to put interesting ideas on paper!

With the publication of the LJIL the Board of Editors and the Editorial Staff hope to demonstrate the importance given to the teaching of international law at the various Schools of Law in the Netherlands. Furthermore, the project is evidence to the continuing interest and awareness among students in international legal and political topics. The words of Hugo Grotius, who once studied at Leiden University, are still very apt in this respect:

"Most true is the saying, that all things are uncertain the moment men depart from law".<sup>1</sup>

1. *De Jure Belli ac Pacis Libri Tres*, Grotius Reader, T.M.C. Asser Institute, The Hague 1983, at 235.