

EDITORS' PREFACE

Continuing the tradition of encouraging innovative approaches to the field covered by the *Humanitas Journal of European Studies* this year, the editorial team of the HJES, decided to select publications, that provide in-depth insight into the field of comparative European Politics and European Legal Studies. Due to the original intent, the HJES aims to provide a platform for discussion and exchange of views that, we hope, will prove helpful in forging a better understanding of the remodeled, under the Lisbon Treaty, European legal and political order.

Volume 2 of the *Humanitas Journal of European Studies* continues and develops several trends that the Editors and Editorial Committee members have attempted to foster last year. First and foremost, this publication provides comparative views on European Union legislative reforms. Focusing on the universal language of those reforms, (piece by Rodak) provides an introduction to the area. One set of articles provides an overview of recent academic debates in European foreign policy (Gaspers, Morissey). The other gives a comprehensive survey of comparative research on criminalization of children and the case law of the ECHR (Szerletics, Crofts). Taking a different track, other articles explore the complex dynamics concerning Polish membership in European Union (Puchalska, Pudło).

We owe the success of the HJES to the authors and their texts, our team of reviewers, as well as those readers who not only generated constructive criticism but volunteered new approaches and ideas. We believe that the current editing process works well, as demonstrated by the quality of the published reviews, but we also recognize that there is always room for improvement. The delay in publication of this issue, for which we apologize our contributors and readers, was a result of teething problems, unwelcome, but difficult to avoid at this early stage of our Journal's existence. We welcome your reactions, comments, and suggestions, as well as we hope that you find HJES a valuable addition to your library.

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