

## Editorial

The first volume of the *Global Campus Human Rights Journal* appeared in 2017. This is thus the fifth issue of the *Global Campus Human Rights Journal*.

This volume consists of two parts.

The first part provides a special focus on 'technology and human rights', an area of growing interest and concern. In seven articles devoted to this topic, authors from across the globe investigate this issue. These seven articles are based on papers that were presented at an event of the Global Campus of Human Rights at which students, lecturers and other scholars interrogated the topic 'The impact of new technologies on human rights'. The Global Campus of Human Rights consists of the Global Campus Europe, South East Europe, Africa, Asia Pacific, Caucasus, Latin America and the Arab World, with the participation of post-graduate students from their respective Master's programmes in Human Rights and Democracy.

The Centre of International Studies of the University of San Martin (CIEP-UNSAM), which headquarters the Global Campus Latin American programme, in May 2019 hosted the 2019 'Global Classroom' in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Experts and representatives from governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental agencies and organisations, including the Regional Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNESCO, ILO, the Delegation of the European Union in Buenos Aires and the UN Rapporteur on the Right to Privacy attended the event. The editors of this 'special focus' part of the *Journal*, Veronica Gomez, Director for Education Global Campus Latin America, and Diego Lopez, Academic Coordinator Global Campus Latin America, also provided substantive guidance in preparing and facilitating the event.

As in earlier issues of the *Journal*, the second part of this issue of the *Journal* contains a discussion of 'recent developments' in the fields of human rights and democratisation in five of the regions covered by the Global Campus of Human Rights. In this issue, developments during 2018 in five regions are covered: Europe, the Asia Pacific, the countries making up the Eastern Partnership, sub-Saharan Africa and South East Europe.

In Europe, the ability of European institutions to respond appropriately to the challenges posed by migration and quests for asylum is examined. The authors analyse the Global Compact on Migration with respect to 'climate migrants' and 'migrants in vulnerable situations'. They also identify and discuss crucial developments in this context such the criminalisation of search and rescue NGOs, the transfer of search and rescue responsibilities to third countries, and the outsourcing of migration-related responsibilities. In the Asia Pacific, issues such as the treatment of the Rohingya by the Myanmar state and the violence of the Duterte regime in the Philippines remained of concern during 2018. The

authors also shine a light on some positive developments, such as the voting out of power of the corrupt governing party in Malaysia, despite a ruling-party controlled media and various manipulations of the electoral system. A review of developments during 2018 in the Eastern Partnership reveals an ambiguous picture of both achievements and perplexing challenges. In particular, the authors deal with human rights with the focus on child protection in three selected countries: Armenia, Georgia and Ukraine. The article focuses on changes in political transformation both in domestic and international relations, economic declines and social transformations caused by the aftermath of the conflicts with Russia, as well as the advancements in fulfilling the bilateral agendas. The contribution dealing with the status of human rights and democratisation in sub-Saharan Africa discusses the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, adopted in 2018, and consider whether it can lead to more democratic governance and respect for the rule of law in African countries. It also focuses on developments within the three main African Union human rights bodies: the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.