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Editor's Note

Greetings and respect to all readers, researchers, reviewers, and esteemed companions.

Autumn is the season of nature's vibrant colors and a time for reflection and thought. This issue of the journal strives, with a comprehensive and multidimensional approach, to address the most significant contemporary challenges and developments in the international arena, law, economics, and regional affairs.

In today's world, where climate, economic, and political crises have transcended borders, the need for profound analyses and effective strategies is felt more than ever. The articles in this issue have each examined these complexities from a specialized perspective:

In the field of gender and environmental studies, the first article, with an ecofeminist lens, explores the link between gender-based violence and the climate crisis in South Asia, analyzing the legal dimensions of this issue. The second article assesses gender inclusiveness within Nepal's foreign aid and development cooperation framework.

In the realm of media and communications, the study of how crisis was framed in state media during the 2025 India-Pakistan conflict and its impact on audience engagement is a novel and noteworthy topic.

From the perspective of international relations, an article analyzes India's strategic autonomy doctrine in the context of NATO's eastern enlargement and the Ukraine conflict. In the field of economics, a structural study on the dynamics of external debt and the triggers of financial crises is presented.

Furthermore, in the area of Islamic economics and humanitarian affairs, an article explores the potential of Sadaqah (voluntary charity) and Zakat (obligatory alms) in providing humanitarian services for Gaza through alternative financial mechanisms, which holds particular significance. In this regard, another article critically examines United States policies toward the Gaza War (2023–2025) and the gap between its democratic rhetoric and exceptionalist practice.

In the field of law and culture, another article examines the role of religious values and local wisdom in resolving customary land conflicts among indigenous communities in Indonesia, highlighting the importance of indigenous approaches to justice.

Finally, a book review on the politics of inequality and the role of power dynamics in China adds a valuable comparative dimension to this issue.

It is hoped that the articles in this issue will open new horizons of knowledge and awareness for our esteemed readers through their diversity, depth, and vibrancy. The editorial board welcomes constructive criticism from scholars and remains committed to

enhancing the scientific and scholarly quality of our publications in the future.

With renewed respect and wishes for your well-being,
Ehsan Rasoulinezhad
The Editor-in-Chief
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