

Dear Readers,

The 2018 volume of the Polish Yearbook of International Law is now out. Departing from our tradition of presenting the content of each new volume, this year we will would like to share some statistical data with you.

The Board of Editors eventually selected thirteen articles for publication in the current volume. All of them fall within the scope of the core interests of the Yearbook and relate either to public international law or EU law. In addition, the volume contains two book reviews.

The selection process was difficult as we received sixty-three submissions this year (not including some articles that were submitted after the deadline). This was a slight increase from the previous year, when we have received fifty-nine submissions. We can observe that over the last five years there has been a modest but steady growth of interest among scholars in publishing with us.

Among those articles timely submitted, six papers were subsequently withdrawn by the authors, while about 10% of texts were rejected because their subject matter was not sufficiently connected to public or private international law or EU law (these numbers were quite similar in previous years). One paper was rejected because of the author's infringement of publication ethics and academic malpractice, the details of which are provided on our webpage in the document entitled "Information for authors".

The forty-one submissions that passed the initial assessment by the Board of Editors were subsequently reviewed by at least two reviewers (in some instances, when the reviews were not conclusive or sharply differed, we engaged a third reviewer). This year altogether forty-six reviewers were involved in the process, seventeen of them (i.e. 36.95 per cent of the whole group) having affiliation outside of Poland. The full list of the reviewers is available at the end of the volume. Twenty-six reviewers reviewed for us for the first time, while the rest had shorter or longer experience with the Yearbook. In our opinion they all did an excellent job, offering suggestions to the authors on how to improve their works and allowing us to select the best submissions. We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of them for their hard work, expertise, and time.

In our opinion, the quality of the texts submitted to us this year was high. As a consequence, we considered for publication only those submissions that received at least two positive reviews.

Moving on to another issue, this past year was also significant in terms of our institutional development. We are currently working on a new webpage that will be more interactive and will include more scientific content. For now, the only change is a new address (<http://www.pyil.inp.pan.pl/>), although the old one will still be operational for

some time. We also would like to remind our readers that the content of each volume is also available in a free access format in a very user-friendly digital repository maintained by the Polish Academy of Sciences (<http://www.pyil.inp.pan.pl>). The repository now hosts the last eight volumes, and we are planning to add some older issues in the future. Note however that the new volumes will be added only after the lapse of the embargo period of 7 months from the date of publication.

As far as other plans are concerned, our major goal for the next year is to join the Scopus database. This would be a natural step following our inclusion in ERIH Plus and Emerging Sources Citation Index.

The Yearbook also went through the evaluation process by the Index Copernicus International and received 92.71 points (the so-called Index Copernicus Value). The details of the methodology and applicable benchmarks are available on the ICI webpage (<http://www.indexcopernicus.com/>). The Yearbook is also currently being evaluated by the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education, and the outcome of this assessment will be available in September 2019.

We thank you for participating in our scientific endeavors and look forward to future collaboration!

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