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UNDECIDABILITIES AND LAW

The Coimbra Journal for Legal Studies



Undecidabilities and Law – The Coimbra Journal for Legal Studies (ULCJ) is a Scientific Law Journal of the University of Coimbra Institute for Legal Research (UCILeR), edited by Coimbra University Press (IUC)

In a time highlighted by the *quest for the Master Algorithm*, several major juridically relevant societal problems resist significantly the predetermination of a unique solution and open a huge spectrum of perspectives and operatories. The title *Undecidabilities* suggests directly this resistance (as we know, in computation complexity theory, an undecidable problem is the one for which «it is proved to be impossible to construct an algorithm to a correct *yes-or-no answer*«!), whilst simultaneously considering the permanent renovation of the questions and the plurality of answers which those problems allow, which means considering the instability of cultural and linguistic contexts (justifying a permanent attention to differences, if not *différences*, as well as to authentic «clauses of nonclausure»).

Each volume of our Journal will be dedicated to one of these societal problems and this context of resistance to unique languages and solutions, seriously taken in a reflective horizon that crosses dogmatic and meta-dogmatic legal discourses with the challenges of extra-legal perspectives and approaches.

CALL FOR PAPERS SUBMISSIONS

I VOLUME · 2020/2021

Law and the Janus-faced Morality of *Political Correctness*

Concerning the possibility of juridically relevant responses, is the *culture* of the so-called *political correctness* a significant challenge? Although the affirmative answer seems obvious, the relevance to be taken in account is not, however, as linear as an approach in terms of public policies and their legislative prescriptions apparently justifies. The problem at stake has not only to do with the (more or less extensively grasped) opportunity to sustain a *new* branch of Politics of Law, the distinctive feature of which would be an explicit progressive sensitivity and responsiveness to the pluralism of marginalised identities and their narrative intersections (involving gender, race, sexual orientation, practical-cultural and geopolitical provenience, health, mental and physical disability, as well as the relation to the colonial past and the status of victim). The problem concerns also the difficulties which this plurality (whilst favoring the fragmentation of perspectives, meanings and semantic values) effectively creates, when we consider Law's claim for an integrating context – and with this, the vocation for *comparability* related to the *status* or *dignity* of *sui juris*. Last but not least, the problem concerns also some institutionalizing procedures and social effects which the *culture* of *political correctness* has indisputably imposed: the hypertrophy of duties and their concentration in appa-

rently trivial strongholds (justifying unresolved tensions between universal and parochial claims), the legitimation of a limitless responsibility (with public devastating pre-judicial judgements, destroying lives and careers), the unconditional celebration of differences as a (paradoxically) ethical homogenizing reference (if not as an effective intolerance factor, generating new and subtle forms of censorship).

We can say that the discussion of this cluster of themes, in their juridical (dogmatic and meta-dogmatic) systematic implications, is still fundamentally *to be done*. Favoring a context open to multiple perspectives, without excluding (rather expecting!) the intertwining of juridical and non-juridical approaches, the volume which we now propose - as a first number of the journal *Undecidabilities and Law* -- aims to be part of this indispensable reflexive path.

This first issue will be coordinated by José Manuel Aroso Linhares, Full Professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Coimbra and Coordinator at the University of Coimbra Institute for Legal Research.

The articles on the proposed theme, to be published in the first issue, in 2020/2021, must be submitted until September 15th, to ulcj@ij.uc.pt.

II VOLUME · 2021/2022

Cultural identity and Conflict of values

The second issue of Coimbra Journal for Legal Studies, under the coordination of Erik Jayme, will be edited in 2021/2022, under the theme: «Cultural identity and Conflict of values». Call for papers for this Volume will be available shortly.

EDITORIAL POLICY

1. ULCJ is a Journal of annual periodicity, entirely in English, with an International Editorial Board.
2. ULCJ establishes a leading theme for each annual issue, in order to feed a pluridisciplinary and transdisciplinary reflection on a specific and relevant societal challenge.
3. Each volume of ULCJ will be fed by an international call for papers and submitted to double blind peer review.
4. The selected and published articles will benefit from the attribution of an alphanumeric digital identification code (DOI).

ARTICLES SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Articles must be submitted in English.
2. Articles must contain up to 50.000 characters, including spaces and footnotes (excluding the bibliography), and must be preceded by up to 10 keywords and an abstract (“summary”) with a maximum of 300 characters, including spaces, in which it should be easily recognizable the purpose, originality and relevance of the article and the research it presupposes.
3. The texts must not contain any mention allowing the personal or professional identification of the author.
4. Articles must be submitted in Word format (.doc/.docx), in Times New Roman, 12, with footnotes in Times New Roman, 10.
5. The texts should be single spaced; italics should be used instead of underlining (except for URL addresses); citations, figures and tables shall be inserted into the text, not at the end of the document as attachments; authors must consider and are responsible by all copyright law concerning the article, including figures and tables; the bibliographic citations and references must conform to the styles provided by APA Standards (American Psychological Association);
6. The articles shall be original and unpublished and shall not be simultaneously under review or waiting for publication by another publication.
7. In the e-mail sending the article, the authors shall introduce their identification (full name, affiliations, e-mail), the year when the article was written and the title of the article.

For further information, please contact: e-mail ULCJ@ij.uc.pt