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Foreword

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Foreword

Amy Bucossi, Sam Cereste, Alexis Taylor

The New York Law School *Journal of Human Rights* is pleased to publish our second United Nations Issue. Last year, the staff of the *Journal of Human Rights*, in collaboration with Professor Lung-Chu Chen, the Journal's founding faculty member, introduced the inaugural United Nations Issue. The concept was initiated by Professor Chen who thought it integral for the Journal to dedicate one issue per year to significant international concerns on and before the global agenda of the United Nations. We are therefore very proud to be publishing our second issue.

The onset of the millennium has produced a myriad of global issues, of both historical and legal significance and magnitude, relevant to the times. Indeed, the international arena continues to provide a changing landscape for international law. On September 11, 2001, the world was forever changed by a single act of terrorism that would conceive a host of provocative questions facing international law. In addition to the launch of a full scale war in Afghanistan, the issue of terrorism has arisen as one of extreme relevance and importance to the world community as a whole. The noteworthy collaborative effort of nations in reaction to terrorism has in fact provided a diverse template for our issue. The active global response to the attacks on the World Trade Center, the U.N. response, the birthing of new anti-terrorism treaties and resolutions, the treatment of Afghan refugees, and the past human rights violations inflicted by the Taliban all provide a full range of issues to examine in the aftermath of such a grave breach of international law.

The ever evolving role of international justice continues to emerge and take a formidable role in the international arena. The recent momentous ratification of the International Criminal Court and the highly transparent trial of Slobodan Milosevic, by the International Criminal Tribunal of the Former Yugoslavia, provides resounding confirmation that the international community will collectively stand to prevent impunity. The facets of international

criminal law will undoubtedly continue to flourish in the midst of the erection of the first international war crimes tribunal to take shape and form in July, 2002.

In continuation of our format from years past, the issue will contain professionally written articles and essays, as well as students' notes and comments. Following our inaugural United Nations issue of last year, this issue will also include students' short reports focusing on outstanding international issues facing the U.N. and world community. The World Conference on Racism, the U.N. Commission on the Status on Women, The Third United Nations World Conference on the Least Developed Countries, as well as the upcoming Special Session on Children, all provide a colorful and compelling backdrop to the pressing international security issues of our time. Although it is an extraordinary challenge to recapitulate such a vast assortment of substantive and key issues facing international law, we are nonetheless proud to continue our efforts in the attempt to produce a quality collection of insightful, provocative and contributory writings.