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'The Common Heritage of Mankind in International Law: past, present and future'

Call for papers – Special issue

SPECIAL ISSUE

The Brazilian Journal of International Law invites submissions for a special issue on **'The Common Heritage of Mankind in International Law: past, present and future'** to be published in April 2025. The issue will be edited by Professors **Pierre-François Mercure** and **Harvey Mpotu Bombaka**.

The Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea was marked by a broad participation of States, revealing the massive arrival of new independent States. One of the reasons for this remarkable participation, particularly by developing States, was undoubtedly the adoption of new concepts that consider the specific concerns and situations of developing countries. The common heritage of mankind is one such concept. Indeed, the establishment of the concept of the common heritage of mankind as a legal regime for the seabed beyond national jurisdiction remains one of the highlights of the evolution of the law of the sea and space in general. 30 years after the entry into force of UNCLOS, the question arises as to the exact legal value of the concept of the common heritage of mankind.

The question is particularly relevant in the light of the new challenges facing international society: global warming, rising sea levels, ocean acidification and melting polar ice. This prompts reflection on the use of the concept of the Common Heritage of Mankind in the interaction and interpenetration between the law of the sea, economic law and environmental law (in particular climate issues and sustainable forest management). The call is open to papers that critically (but not exclusively) examine the application of the concept of the common heritage of mankind, not only in the context of the law of the sea, but also in other areas of international law. Potential topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. The origins of the common heritage of mankind
2. Introduction of the common heritage of mankind into the law of the sea
3. Definition of the common heritage of mankind in the law of the sea

4. The common heritage of mankind and the divergence between developed and developing countries
5. The evolution of the common heritage of mankind in the international law of the sea
6. The legal scope of the common heritage of mankind in the law of the sea
7. Limits and practical difficulties faced by the Common Heritage of Mankind.
8. The common heritage of mankind and the distribution of benefits resulting from the exploitation of natural resources.
9. The common heritage of mankind and consideration of the national realities of the States.
10. The common heritage of mankind and the progress observed in the most recent negotiations.
11. The concept of the common heritage of mankind and the rights of future generations
12. The place of the concept of the common heritage of mankind in the perspective of human rights
13. The concept of the common heritage of mankind and the right to development
14. The common heritage of mankind and global warming
15. The common heritage of mankind and sustainable forest management
16. The common heritage of mankind and environmental law
17. The common heritage of mankind and exploration and exploitation of the seabed
18. The common heritage of mankind and Sponsoring States
19. The common heritage of mankind and contractor sponsored
20. The common heritage of mankind and the International Seabed Authority
21. The common heritage of mankind and the Enterprise
22. The common heritage of mankind and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
23. The common heritage of mankind and the protection of the marine environment
24. The common heritage of mankind and the transfer of technology.
25. The common heritage of mankind and the protection of developing States that are land-based producers of resources to be exploited in the seabed.
26. The common heritage of mankind as a method of interpreting texts applicable to the law of the sea

Case studies, theoretical contributions and interdisciplinary articles are also encouraged.

THE JOURNAL

The Brazilian Journal of International Law is a double-blind peer-reviewed journal which publishes three issues per year.

SUBMISSION PROCESS

Manuscripts may be submitted in English, French, Portuguese, or Spanish. Manuscript revisions will be in the language of submission. Non-native speakers

are strongly encouraged to have their paper read by a native speaker. The Journal will reject articles if the level of chosen language is insufficient. It adopts a double-blind peer-review policy. The response from the first review will normally be provided within 30 days from the submission. Authors are expected to correct and return proofs of accepted articles within 10 days.

Minimum Degree for submission:

Individual authorship: PhD degree

Co-authorship: authors having a master's degree must have a PhD holder as coauthor. If there are three or more authors, only one co-author must be a non-doctor with the aforementioned minimum degree (master)

The editors will reject manuscripts before review if they are not suitable for the journal, e.g. because of inadequate or imprecise analytical development, inconsistent formatting or non-compliance with our submission guidelines, and poor writing style (this list is not exhaustive)

The deadline for submission is the 25 January 2025

Publication Date: April 2025

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MANUSCRIPT STRUCTURE

Complete guidelines for preparing and submitting your manuscript to this journal are provided below. The Journal considers all manuscripts on the strict condition that they have not been submitted elsewhere, that they have not been

published already, nor are they under consideration for publication or in press elsewhere. Contributions must report original research and will be subjected to review by referees at the discretion of the Editorial Committee.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Manuscripts should be written in Times New Roman, size 12, space between lines 1,0 throughout the manuscript (including all quotations, endnotes and references).
- Pages should be numbered consecutively.
- Notes should be listed consecutively as footnotes
- Manuscripts must be submitted in Word format (.doc). PDF files will not be accepted.
- All the authors of a paper must attach their short curriculum vitae (CV), which must consist of a single one paragraph-text of 100-120 words in length, each. This is to be done online during the submission process.
- The affiliations of all named co-authors should be the affiliation where the research was conducted. If any of the named co-authors moves affiliation during the peer review process, the new affiliation can be given as a footnote. Please note that no changes to affiliation can be made after the article is accepted.
- All manuscripts submitted should be free from jargon and be written as clearly and concisely as possible. Non-discriminatory language is mandatory. Sexist or racist terms must not be used.
- All submissions should be made online via <http://www.publicacoesacademicas.uniceub.br/index.php/rdi/user/register>

FORMAT

Articles should be based on original research and develop an original argument falling within the scope of the journal. The articles are subjected to a blind-peer review and must include:

- Title
- Abstract of up to 200 words
- 5 keywords
- Main text
- References (at the end of the article)
- Footnotes
- Acknowledgements (if appropriate)
- Table(s) and Figure(s) with caption(s) (on individual files) (if appropriate)

FURTHER INFORMATION

For questions regarding the content of this special issue, please contact: Nitish Monebhurrn, Editor of the Brazilian Journal of International Law

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