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EDITORIAL

The co-editors and the Editorial Team are delighted to present the eighth issue of the Latin American Journal of European Studies. This journal is a publication of the Latin American Center of European Studies (LACES), currently supported by the Jean Monnet Network Policy Debate “BRIDGE Watch: Values and Democracy in the EU and Latin America,” co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. As an open-access, double-blind peer-reviewed journal, it publishes articles in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, twice a year. Its primary aim is to generate new knowledge, foster dialogue, and exchange best practices between the European Union and Latin America, with a steadfast commitment to promoting economic and social development, peace, and international security.

In this issue, in addition to contributions under the editorial lines “European Union Law and Policies” and “International Relations of the European Union with Third Countries and Latin America,” readers will find legal writings on the theme “Human Rights, Dignity, and Equality: A Dialogue between Latin America and Europe” This topic was the focus of the current Thematic Dossier and the IX Jean Monnet Network Seminar – BRIDGE, held from April 7th to 9th, 2025, at the Universidad del Salvador (USAL), Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The event included a Seminar and a Workshop on “Human Rights, Dignity, and Equality: A Dialogue between Latin America and Europe”. Distinguished authorities and experts shared their insights, including Eran Nagan (Subjefe de la Delegación de la Unión Europea en Argentina), María Alejandra Mángano (Co-head of the Attorney General’s Office for Trafficking and Exploitation of Persons (PROTEX) and Attorney General’s Office, Argentina), Silvia Fesquet (Managing Editor of Clarín, Argentina), Rafael Rubio Nuñez (Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain), and Jamile Bergamaschine Mata Diz (Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil).

The workshop featured the presentation of 22 papers selected through the Call for Papers. Contributions were submitted by authors from Argentina, Italy, Spain, Chile, Uruguay, Ecuador, Brazil, and Peru. The papers were carefully chosen by the Scientific Committee, which included Professor Aline Beltrame de Moura (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil), Nuno Cunha Rodrigues (Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal) and Martina Rojo (Universidad del Salvador, Argentina).

The thematic dossier of this edition presents selected articles from the Seminar *Human Rights, Dignity, and Equality: A Dialogue between Latin America and Europe*, highlighting contemporary challenges in the protection and effectiveness of human rights across both regions.

The issue opens with Rui Guerra da Fonseca's provocative reflection *Too Much Love Will Kill You: será a complexidade inimiga da proteção de direitos humanos? (Is Complexity the Enemy of Human Rights Protection?)*, which critically examines whether the sophistication of international human rights mechanisms may paradoxically hinder access to justice, especially in fragile institutional contexts.

Following this, José Humberto Sahian's piece *Convencionalización del derecho privado y privatización del derecho de los derechos humanos (Conventionalization of Private Law and Privatization of Human Rights Law)* explores the mutual influences between private law and human rights, proposing a novel perspective on corporate responsibility in the framework of conventionality control.

In *Freedom of Speech and Its Digital Transformation and Protection*, Walter Arévalo Ramírez and Andrés Rousset Siri analyze the evolving role of states and digital platforms in moderating harmful content online, balancing freedom of expression with democratic safeguards in the digital era.

Betzabé Araya Peschke's article *Falsa objeción de conciencia y obstrucción de servicios (False Conscientious Objection and Obstruction of Services)* denounces the misuse of conscientious objection to obstruct access to legal

abortion services in Chile, warning against the regression of women's sexual and reproductive rights.

Romina Gallardo Duarte contributes with a comparative study entitled *Avances y desafíos en la regulación y protección de derechos frente a la violencia obstétrica* (Progress and Challenges in the Regulation and Protection of Rights against Obstetric Violence), emphasizing the gaps in recognition and implementation of legal protections in both Latin America and the EU.

Pablo Guerra's *La prostitución y la violencia contra las mujeres y las niñas* (Prostitution and Violence Against Women and Girls) scrutinizes the conflicting legal and societal approaches to prostitution in Europe and MERCOSUR, contextualized through the recent UN Special Rapporteur's report.

Two articles focus on the rights of persons with disabilities. Celeste Carla Dimeglio's *Barreras en el acceso a la justicia para las personas con discapacidad en Argentina* (Barriers to Access to Justice for Persons with Disabilities in Argentina) identifies structural obstacles within the Argentine justice system, while Ángel Oscar Piazza's *La accesibilidad urbana para las personas con discapacidad* (Urban Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities) highlights the importance of inclusive design as a human right to mobility.

Byron Castillo, Sebastián Arguello Escobar, and Shirley Romero Molina offer a comparative jurisprudential study in *Avances y desafíos en la defensa de los derechos indígenas y de las minorías* (Progress and Challenges in the Protection of Indigenous and Minority Rights), analyzing landmark rulings from Ecuador and Norway on indigenous rights.

David Gallo Ahumada and Christian Pérez Morales critique the limitations of victim protection in Peru in *Victimología y derechos humanos* (Victimology and Human Rights), advocating for reforms inspired by European standards.

In *Controle de convencionalidade e emergência climática* (Conventionality Control and Climate Emergency), Amon Elpídio da Silva and Jamile B. M. Diz discuss the *Klimaseniorinnen* case to reflect on the potential of conventio-

nality control in advancing climate justice within the European human rights framework.

Leila Devia's *Migraciones, remesas y agenda climática* (Migration, Remittances and the Climate Agenda) addresses how remittances may contribute to local development and climate agendas, while also exposing their limits in the absence of structural state policies.

The intersection of technology and labor rights is explored by Ana Rosa Rodríguez and Silvina Luján Rigali in *El impacto de la inteligencia artificial en los derechos fundamentales en las relaciones laborales* (The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Fundamental Rights in Labor Relations), with particular focus on the European regulatory context.

In *Principle of Non-Discrimination in the European Union*, Fabiana Félix Ferreira investigates the evolution of this principle from market integration to a broader identity-based foundation of European citizenship.

The Articles section features four standout contributions. Roberto Ruiz Díaz Labrano's *El derecho internacional privado en la Unión Europea* (Private International Law in the European Union) offers a comprehensive overview of EU private international law and its communitarization process. Julio Jesús Mormontoy Pérez explores the philosophical and legal dimensions of *Dignidad digital póstuma* (Posthumous Digital Dignity), considering the ethical implications of generative AI in memorializing the deceased. In turn, Matías González Mama and Ramiro Álvarez Ugarte, in *Modelización regulatoria: influencia de la Digital Services Act* (Regulatory Modeling: Influence of the Digital Services Act), examine how the EU's DSA may influence Latin American legislative trends, while also warning of regulatory mismatches and institutional challenges.

Closing this section, the following article "*Selection Processes and Representativeness within the Framework of Judicial Independence: An Empirical Study of Latin American Countries*", authored by Aline Beltrame de Moura, Naiara Posenato, and Nuno Cunha Rodrigues, is the result of a cooperation partnership with the Inter-American Juridical Committee of the Organization

of American States (OAS). Based on comparative data, the article analyzes the constitutional and legal models for the appointment, selection, and term duration of judges in ten Latin American countries. The study identifies varying models of judicial appointment in the region and shows how they affect legitimacy, representativeness, and independence in the region's courts.

This edition also features an interview with María Alejandra Mángano, co-director of Argentina's PROTEX, in *Protegiendo derechos y fortaleciendo la democracia* (Protecting Rights and Strengthening Democracy), where she discusses the institution's role in combating human trafficking and promoting human rights.

Finally, our Critical Review section includes Raúl Lafuente Sánchez's analysis of the book *Derecho de familia internacional en un contexto de creciente migración* (International Family Law in a Context of Growing Migration), edited by Beatriz Campuzano Díaz, highlighting the pressing legal challenges in cross-border family law in the context of increased global mobility.

As editors of this issue, we extend our sincere gratitude to all the authors and contributors whose intellectual efforts made the publication of this edition of the *Latin American Journal of European Studies* possible. We hope this collection of articles offers critical insight and fosters continued dialogue between Latin America and Europe on the pressing issues of rights, equality, and democratic values.

Aline Beltrame de Moura & Naiara Posenato.