

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

LAUNCHING A NEW ISSUE OF LOS REPORTS

I am pleased to introduce you to Volume No. 2 of the *Law of the Sea Reports (LOS Reports)*. The release of this new issue has been a great step forward, and I hope you find this online edition of *LOS Reports* useful for your research or practice related to current developments of the Law of the Sea.

This current issue of the *LOS Reports* represents at the same time the entire “Volume” No. 2 of the journal. While in 2010 and 2011 there has only been one issue per year, I hope that in 2012 this young journal will receive more acceptance among the members of the LOSIG and maritime scholars and practitioners elsewhere, allowing for publishing two issues per year, one in summer and another in winter. For this reason, I would like to encourage all of you to consider publishing in *LOS Reports*. This journal should follow the spirit of all other major ASIL publications, and focus on contemporary and critical approaches, from many different perspectives, to current developments of the international law applied to the sea.

This approach is very clearly shown in the contributions to the current issue of *LOS Reports*. The reader can find an article on genetic resources in the outer continental shelf, especially of the approximately one hundred known hydrothermal vents that have formed on active spreading ridges and other fracture zones. The article is the first part of a larger article; the second (and last) part will follow in 2012. The author, Alejandro Canio, is a professor from the University of La Plata (Argentina).

The young researcher Claudia Cinelli from the University of Cordoba in Spain has written an article about the criteria for precautionary measures in the Arctic Ocean. She found abundant material in US and EU practice related to the precautionary principle of environmental law, which she put in context with other criteria for precautionary measures even in other international legal fields, and she suggested how international tribunals might apply this material when deciding over disputes involving the Arctic Ocean.

The third document in this issue is a note on the maritime boundary agreement between Peru and Ecuador signed on May 2, 2011. This note is particularly insightful considering that this agreement was adopted in the wider context of the ongoing controversy before the ICJ between Peru and Chile about the delimitation of their maritime boundary. The author of this note, Hernando Otero, is an international law and dispute resolution attorney with experience in disputes involving State entities.

Finally, we deem it useful for our readers to inform about a conference recently held in Italy about current challenges to the regime of the Law of the Sea. The conference summary may inspire more academic discussion of these topics elsewhere. The

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conference was organized by Angela del Vecchio, who is Professor of Law at the Università LUISS Guido Carli in Rome (Italy).

I hope you will enjoy this latest volume of *LOS Reports* and join us in the forthcoming Volume III (2012). Please do not hesitate to contact me to pose questions, suggestions and propose innovative and stimulating contributions to this journal.

BJÖRN ARP
Editor in Chief
LOS Reports