

To the Reader:

On behalf of *the International Journal of Law, Ethics, and Technology* Board and my colleagues, I am delighted to announce the publication of the inaugural issue of *the International Journal of Law, Ethics, and Technology*.

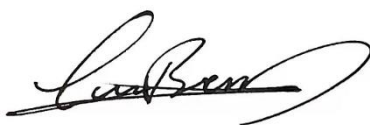
The first issue was born in the age of unrest. Nowadays, a widespread sentiment is that the United States must "push back" against raising Chinese strength and influence, focusing the relationship on strategic competition if not open rivalry. Yet, an across-the-board consensus is that a "hot war" with China should be avoided. "The 'forever war' in Afghanistan is over, but the 'forever competition' [with China] has started," said SR. Colonel Zhou Bo, Director of Center for Intl. Security Cooperation, Chinese National Defense Ministry.

In 2021-2022, the other possible watershed of 21st-century geopolitical history is Europe's energy crisis. Europe's electricity and gas costs have risen enormously, with the risk of the annexation of eastern Ukraine growing as global tensions have soared. Meanwhile, nuclear power company Electricite de France SA's stock fell to a record low when the government mandated that it sell electricity at a severe discount, and many reactors had prolonged outages.

From a legal scholarship perspective, our authors found that Law has played a critical role in framing and shaping responses to crises at domestic, regional, international, and transnational levels. For example, the US Justice Department established a judicial precedent on Meng Wanzhou's case, creating a recent page of the new Cold War playbook. **Juncheng Cao** examined the case from a legal perspective and outlined how the Supreme Court of British Columbia legalized the political agenda (Page 21). Meanwhile, **Ge Zheng** reviewed China's scheme to develop the nation into a highly effective participant strategically in rare earth, a group of 17 minerals required to manufacture smartphones, electric cars, military missile systems, and a plethora of other innovative technology (Page 1). Today, Beijing has established China as the world's leading supplier of the vital sector. **Qianye Zhang** proactively investigated privacy practices during the XXIV Olympic Winter Games (Beijing 2022; Page 63). **Shurui Cao** employed feminism to probe China's open government information implementation in action with NLP algorithms (Page 47). Meanwhile, **Bingxuan Wu** and **Xiyang Li** reevaluated the legal institution of the energy market (Page 72). Finally, **Xilin Wang** thought of the future. Hence, he studied validation of Medical AI's wearable applications in line with the FDA's advancement of regulations (Page 94). Medical AI is a forthcoming trillion-dollar industry.

The planet is in a state of crises and opportunities. As a result, a legal scholarship empirically focusing on current conditions is essential more than ever. *The International Journal of Law, Ethics, and Technology* has devoted itself to publishing legal studies on critical global issues. I hope the current edition provides our readers with some fresh legal perspectives.

Ever faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Ben', with a stylized flourish at the end.

L. Ben, on behalf of the team.