

EDITORIAL NOTE

For more than nine years now Serbia has not exercised sovereignty over its southern province – Kosovo and Metohia. Since the fall of Milošević, Serbian government has engaged itself in a political and legal battle intended to reintegrate Kosovo and Metohia within its constitutional order. The latest stage in this diplomatic process has been the United Nations' General Assembly resolution, adopted in October of this year, to seek an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on whether the unilateral declaration of independence of Kosovo is in accordance with international law. *Annals of the Faculty of Law in Belgrade*, i.e. *Belgrade Law Review*, has recognized the importance of the General Assembly's initiative for the further development of international public law and decided to dedicate an important part of its 2008 edition to this issue. As a result, the law review organized, on the 15th of November 2008, an international conference at the Faculty of Law of the University of Belgrade entitled: *Self-Proclaimed Independence of Kosovo and its Recognition – Legal Aspects*. For this occasion, *Belgrade Law Review* gathered a number of international and domestic experts in order to obtain original articles which would treat the issue from an objective and legal, rather than from political, point of view. The contributions of scholars: Barbara Delcourt, John Cerone, Miodrag A. Jovanović, Ivana Krstić and Miloš Jovanović who participated at the Conference, and to whom *Belgrade Law Review* expresses, once again, its immense gratitude, are published in this volume together with other valuable contributions on different topics. *Belgrade Law Review* regrets the fact that Kosovar experts, who were also invited at the Conference, either declined the invitation, under the pretext that it was too early to dwell upon it, or even ignored the invitation. *Belgrade Law Review* has no illusions that this volume, as well as the Conference which preceded it, could make a turn-around in the international political perception of the Kosovo case. However, *in magis et voluisse sat est* (in important situations, enough is at least to try), especially now when this case is pending before the International Court of Justice.