

# SYMPOSIUM INTRODUCTION

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## Introduction to Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAAIL Singapore)

The following four articles are a sample of papers from a conference held at the National University of Singapore Law entitled “Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAAIL Singapore).” The conference took place on July 19–21, 2018.

The first TWAAIL conference was held in 1997, and the 2018 conference was the first to be held in Asia. The *Oregon Review of International Law* has been proud to be a platform for emerging TWAAIL scholarship for some time, and in fact helped host the 2012 TWAAIL conference (Capitalism and the Common Good).

As a scholarly community and a political movement, TWAAIL looks to challenge international law’s domination over marginalized peoples and instead grounds its critical scholarship in the struggles of those peoples and places. In our 2012 volume, Michael Fakhri authored an insightful and helpful introduction to TWAAIL and its agenda.<sup>1</sup>

In this issue, although Oregon did not host the conference, we were eager to provide a space for some new voices at TWAAIL.<sup>2</sup> Here, these

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<sup>1</sup> Michael Fakhri, *Introduction—Questioning TWAAIL’s Agenda*, 14 OREGON R. INT’L L. 1, 1–15 (2012).

<sup>2</sup> These papers came to be published after the 2018 TWAAIL conference in Singapore. Authors and presenters from the 2018 TWAAIL conference were invited to submit papers for publication in the *Oregon Review of International Law*. The journal editors then selected

papers provide a sample of TWAIL's diverse perspectives and were in line with our efforts to publish articles about timely, relevant issues.

Alexis I.P. Dela Cruz's article, *Due Process of Law as Resistance: Situating Dialogue from Empire to Rule of Law Promotion in the Global South*, is part of the larger conversation on transitional justice and the rule of law.

Sahanna Reddy and Arkalgud Ramaprasad address the growing human rights issue of statelessness in their article, *Reframing the Problem of Statelessness: Quest for a Supra-Legal Perspective*.

Muhammad Azeem's article, *Theoretical Challenges to TWAIL with the Rise of China: Labor Conditions Under Chinese Investment in Pakistan*, provides a critical reflection on China's emerging role in the Third World.

A researcher and doctoral candidate at the University of the Western Cape in South Africa, Talkmore Chidede's article, *The Right to Regulate in Africa's International Investment Law Regime*, examines the current international law framework to explore its effectiveness with respect to the Third World's right to regulate investments in public interest.

In presenting these articles, the *Oregon Review of International Law* hopes to continue a tradition of presenting a wide array of viewpoints and engaging a variety of international law scholarship and critical thinkers. TWAIL's agenda is fluid and intersectional. It is inherently political. It challenges us to appreciate multiple narratives and reflect on our own agendas. Although the views and opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions held by the *Oregon Review of International Law* or the University of Oregon, I am so grateful for the opportunity to present these new voices. The publishing process of U.S. law reviews can seem opaque, especially to scholars in other countries, but the editors of the *Oregon Review of International Law* hope that this issue continues our longstanding relationship with TWAIL scholars. Additionally, we would like to thank Michael Fakhri for his generous help in connecting us to TWAIL and for his continued support.