EDITOR’S NOTE

Inclusion is hardly a new challenge, but lately it has become an immediate and public one. Physical fences and borders, perhaps most starkly clear in the Southern European response to the ongoing global refugee crisis, have served as a harsh reminder that the dominant global systems of economic and political integration do not benefit everyone. Some individuals and populations are excluded: even if not directly turned away from perimeters that guarantee physical safety, they may be not accounted for in paradigms of economic growth, or their needs may be invisible within existing legal frameworks. The international system currently faces both humanitarian crises and civil society collapses as the result of conflicts in the Middle East and Africa; challenges to pluralism from the polarizing, fear-fueled political rhetoric that has taken hold in the European Union and United States; and persistent income inequality despite increased development and GDP growth worldwide. These are recent crises of inclusion, but addressing them requires a re-examination—if not a comprehensive revision—of our long-running assumptions about security, integration, and growth.

The first half of this issue suggests profound revisions to traditional metrics of growth and prosperity. Leontief Prize winners DIANE ELSON and AMIT BADHURI begin by surveying the challenges of economic inclusion, emphasizing the need for development that moves beyond financial viability to create new public goods and services. Similarly, MARIA SAGRARIO FLORO and JOHN WILLOUGHBY discuss the role of feminist economics in re-shaping traditional measures that capture financial growth only through paid labor, often ignoring the economic contributions and vulnerabilities of women worldwide. Moving to economic organizations, PANAGIOTIS DELIMATSIS traces the European Union’s changing trade agenda, arguing that the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP) is in line with the European Union’s focus on improving value chains, increasing transparency, protecting consumers, and allowing for greater autonomous preference from less-developed countries in the EU’s trade regimes. DAVID RICE highlights the importance of integrated value chains in investment; he calls on the private sector to take responsibility for better data, inclusive growth, and equitable local ownership of enterprises across African countries. DAVID BRUCE WHARTON presents a complementary public sector perspective, pointing to the role of public diplomacy in ensuring peaceful political transitions, promoting locally-driven resource development, and countering violent extremism on the African continent.
The second half of this issue covers both challenges to and expansions of current security and legal frameworks. First, the former director of the U.S. National Security Agency, KEITH ALEXANDER, shares his thoughts on cross-sector coordination in cyber security, stressing the integration of both privacy and security concerns. Drawing on concepts of deterrence and resilience, TIMOTHY RIDOUT underscores the need for a mutually understood framework and lexicon to underlie cyber defense strategies.

Next, turning to challenges along physical borders, Speaker of the Iraqi Parliament SALIM AL-JABOURI lays out a vision for securing and rebuilding Iraq from the inside, emphasizing that Iraq’s stability and resilience rests on the inclusion of local populations and strong civil society. AMIT CHHABRA anticipates the escalation of tensions between Azerbaijan and the Nagorno-Karabakh Region (NKR), arguing for international support of NKR’s claims to autonomy based on its current functional independence and the principle of “responsibility to protect” (R2P). ARNOLD PRONTO of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs analyzes irredentist secession movements—that is, secession that transfers people and territory between states, instead of creating a wholly new state—in light of the legal principles of self-determination, recognition, and state consent. Taking a philosophical approach, TOR DAHL-ERIKSEN reviews the evolving norm and application of R2P in light of a cosmopolitan perspective on international relations; cosmopolitanism implies a global community and commitments that may supersede state boundaries. ANDREW LINTNER expands this discussion of boundaries to new legal frameworks for regulating resource extraction and control in space, analyzing the potential conflict between U.S. obligations and international law.

Finally, JOAO VALE DE ALMEIDA draws attention to coordination between the EU and the UN, emphasizing that these organizations must work together to address both humanitarian challenges and opportunities for further development. EVA KAILI discusses the logic of cooperation problems in EU crises, arguing that these problems do not signify the end of European integration, but instead a learning process that ultimately harmonizes and improves the EU’s collective crisis response. In conclusion, JOHN SHATTUCK examines the new phenomenon of “democratic discontent” and the challenges it poses to familiar institutions of governance; he offers hope that democratic systems have the power to reform themselves from within to become more level, integrated, and inclusive playing fields.

This issue marks the end of the The Fletcher Forum’s 40th year. As always, we thank the faculty and administration of The Fletcher School for their support, not only during the production of these past two issues, but over the journal’s lifetime. We are also grateful to the Editorial Board, our contributors, and the many generations of student leadership before us. Their forty years of collective vision and cumulative hard work have made our own contributions to the conversation possible. As we sign off for this year, we thank you all.

NATALIE LAM
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF