

Editorial

This last issue of the European Journal of Risk Regulation puts an end to what has been a rather disruptive year 2016. It also concludes our collaboration with Lexxion, which started in 2010, and gave birth to this journal.

As you may know by now, the pages of our academic journal will be published by the world's oldest publishing house, Cambridge University Press, as of 1 January 2017. Looking at what lies ahead, we are thrilled at the opportunity to work with CUP as we cannot think of a better publisher to see the EJRR flourish and obtain a wider global profile reflecting the ever-expanding scope of risk regulation. At the same time, we would like to retrospectively acknowledge that our founding publisher, Lexxion, provided a decisive contribution to make this "success story" possible. Throughout the past six years, Wolfgang Andreae and his whole team in Berlin proved to be reliable and efficient partners. We therefore would like to express our gratitude to Lexxion, without whom the EJRR might not have seen the light of the day.

Let us now turn to the contents of this last and exciting EJRR release. Under the skilful guidance and editorship of *Sofia Ranchordàs* from Leiden University, it hosts a special issue on the risks and opportunities of the sharing economy. Following the European Commission's recent Communication "A European Agenda for the Collaborative Economy", this timely collection provides a bird-eye view of some of the most pregnant issues of the sharing economy. It does so well-beyond the usual symbolic case studies provided by private transportation (Uber) and accommodation sectors (Airbnb). As the contributions to this special show, the emergence of a digital sharing or platform economy is shedding light on new dimensions of the concept of social capital, the broader implications of the automation of labour, and is exposing the new dynamics of a 21st century capitalism characterized by on-demand consumption, prosumerism, and new economic and power relations.

In addition to this special, this issue features four original research articles devoted to the interplay between international human rights law and EU law by focusing on the right to food and health, the place of risk regulation in the European Convention on Human Rights, a fair trade model to govern cross-border surrogacy transactions, as well as the interface between the EU's emission trading scheme and its Chinese counterpart.

Following up on their outstanding lecture at the 7th Summer Academy on Global Food and Policy, which focused inter alia on the role of law in tackling the global obesity epidemic, *Wenche Barth Eide* and *Asbjørn Eide* make a concise yet well argued case on how universal human rights law can help in the further fight against obesity.

Staying in the field of fundamental rights, *Letizia Seminara* provides an interesting study on the manner in which the European Convention on Human Rights regulates risks

through human rights norms. By examining the Strasbourg's Court case law, she convincingly shows the deep link and interplay between human rights and risk regulation.

Due to the absence of coherent legal rules, cross-border surrogacy transactions – the phenomenon, which implies that people travel from one country to purchase surrogacy services from women in other countries, in order to have a child – entail a series of risks not only in terms of health of the surrogate women and the children, but also with respect to the applied contracts in this business (estimated at around \$ 500 million) and the administrative difficulties related to the legal parenthood and nationality. It is against this backdrop that *Sharon Bassan* introduces a so-called “Fair Trade Model”, which addresses these market failures, notably by proposing a set of clear standards by which this industry ought to operate.

Last in turn, *Yingying Zen*, *Stefan Weishaar* and *Oscar Couwenberg* are filling a gap in the literature on the linkages existing among ETS systems. By examining the linking implications of different cap designs between the Chinese national ETS and EU ETS, they highlight the ensuing disadvantages and propose regulatory solutions on how these risks can be minimized.

As usual, our issue features, next to our reports on some of the most pressing risk regulatory issues, a book review and two case notes. In particular, *Uladzislau Belavusau* provides a thorough analysis of one of the most controversial cases in what he calls sexual risk regulation, and *Oliver Bartlett* – one of our new incoming case note editors – comments upon the latest judgment relating to minimum unit pricing of alcoholic beverages.

Finally, we want to thank our loyal and reliable, and still growing community of colleagues in academia and practice, who generously devoted their time and energy to act as peer reviewers in 2016. We publish their names below in sign of appreciation.

In wishing you and your families happy holidays and all the best for the New Year, you can be sure that the EJRR will continuously strive to keep its readers and authors reflecting and hopefully nurture the many debates that lie ahead.

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