
TRIBUTE

The year 1994 marked a time of momentous change for the *Leiden Journal of International Law*. Quantity and quality of copy flow had reached a bare minimum, while the editors were overburdened with the administration of the *Journal*. It was concluded that the *Journal* would only have a future if it was reorganized rigorously. A business plan was drafted that set up a two-step transition process. The first step in this process was completed in 1995 with the influx of a group of experienced editors, the restructuring of sections of the *Journal* and a fresh lay-out. One of the most important changes was the development and introduction of the Hague International Tribunals Section, which involved the establishment of a close working relationship with the international judicial institutions in The Hague. The quality input in several field of the *Journal* had not only been a necessity to give our readers value for money, but also to prepare the *Journal* for the second step of the transition process, entering into a strategic alliance with a publishing house that could run the burdensome production and administration of the *Journal*. Sooner than expected, the *Journal* qualified for such an alliance and, this year, the negotiations with Kluwer Law International were brought to a successful conclusion.

The driving force behind this process of transition were our Editors-in-Chief: Sam Muller and David Raič. They researched and drafted the above-mentioned business plan and were responsible for its subsequent implementation. Now the two-step process of transition has come to a successful conclusion, these founders of the 'new' *Leiden Journal of International Law* feel that the time has come to step down from office.

On behalf of the Board of Editors of the *Journal*, we seize this opportunity to thank Sam Muller and David Raič. Thanks to their work, the *Journal* has made a true 'doorstart', a Dutch concept used to denote the reorganization of the healthy divisions of a bankrupt concern so as to make them eligible for a strategic alliance with an international enterprise.

René Lefeber
Iris C. Meijer