Introduction

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INTRODUCTION

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The publication of this second volume of the Tulsa Journal of Comparative and International Law coincides with the culmination of The University of Tulsa's celebration of its centennial. Founded in 1894 in Muskogee, Indian Territory, as Henry Kendall College, our school was an outreach by the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions to Native American youth who had no other opportunity for a higher education. Having moved to Tulsa in 1907 and being rechartered as The University of Tulsa in 1920, the university continued to pursue a mission of offering high quality private education to persons of all backgrounds. In 1928, with the establishment of the College of Petroleum Engineering, our outreach became as global as the international oil industry itself.

The College of Law has been part of the university since 1943—just over half its history. With its programs in Native American Law, National Energy Law and Policy Institute, and its new Tulsa Journal of Comparative and International Law, the College of Law draws from the university's traditions and significantly enhances its areas of emphasis and strength.

Law school faculty and students participated in TU's centennial international conference on "Energy, the Environment, and Global Economic Growth," in February 1994, which addressed issues that have long been central both to the university and its College of Law. Thus, it is entirely appropriate that this volume include summaries of the major presentations to the conference: Ambassador James R. Jones' discussion of the North American Free Trade Agreement, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Energy Richard Williamson's speech on the Clinton Administration's new energy policies, Maurice Strong's keynote summary of the conference theme, Navajo Nation President Peterson Zah's discussion of cultural influences on viewing the environment, and former Russian Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar's address on the difficult choices facing Russia.

The principal papers contained in this issue address some of the leading issues in contemporary international affairs, to the study of which the University of Tulsa and other institutions of higher education are devoting the resources of a broad number of disciplines. Not only lawyers, but political scientists, historians, and philosophers, among others, are engaged in debates over international human rights, the clashes between state sovereignty and the new world order, and the ethical dilemmas posed by the existence of powerful intelligence agencies in a democratic society. Interdisciplinary teaching and research on issues such as these, as well as on issues relating to energy and the environment, are hallmarks of the University of Tulsa as it enters into its second century, and I am pleased the editors have chosen their subjects so well in this commemorative volume.