



# *Intergenerational Justice Review 2/2010:* Call for Papers

## **‘Ways to Legally Implement Intergenerational Justice’**

The peer-reviewed journal *Intergenerational Justice Review (IGJR)* aims to improve our understanding of intergenerational justice and sustainable development through pure and applied ethical research. Published quarterly in English and German, the *IGJR* (ISSN 1617-1799) seeks articles representing the state-of-the-art in the politics, law, and philosophy of intergenerational relations. It is published on a professional level with an extensive international readership. The editorial board comprises over 50 international experts from ten countries, representing eight disciplines. The *IGJR* is not only read by the scientific community but also by members of parliaments, decision-makers from the global economy and persons with a general interest in intergenerational justice.

The editors are seeking articles in English for the upcoming issue 2/2010 of the *IGJR*:

### **Ways to Legally Implement Intergenerational Justice**

The topic:

Democracies - both the representative and the direct type - face a structural problem, namely the tendency to favor the present over the future. Future individuals are not yet born, that is why they are unable to be involved in today's decision-making process. Deliberative democracy, in its narrow form, can collide with the imperatives of intergenerational justice. In the bid for votes, every party is obliged to focus on the preferences of the present electorate. In so far politicians of all parties, who want to look further ahead than the next election, have a disadvantage in the competition with their short-term thinking political rivals. This may result in short-termism of the whole political system.

This *IGJR* issue deals with ways to reconcile democracy with intergenerational justice (or sustainability – if understood as safeguarding the needs of future generations) by institutionalising the interests of future generations in the decision-making process of today. Conflicts between the interests of present and future generations are likely in two fields: the environment and in financial politics. The failure of the Copenhagen Summit on Climate Change has blatantly shown that the world does not yet dispose of the adequate mechanisms to incorporate the interests of future generations in today's decision-making processes.

Rising budget deficits and high public debts may harm the interest of future generations. In the last two years, deficits soared in almost all countries to new highs.

Thus the upcoming *IGJR* issue will focus on the implementation of intergenerational justice through legally guaranteeing environmental sustainability and financial solidity. Key questions are:

SRzG

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- *Which models for legal implementation of intergenerational justice and/or sustainability exist on national, European and international levels?*
- *What form is the most appropriate one and why? What are new and innovative approaches? What role could NGOs and IGOs play?*
- *What has actually changed in those countries which have enshrined the principles of intergenerational justice and/or sustainability in their constitutions after these amendments?*
- *What are the procedures for those who neglect their constitutional requirements with regard to intergenerational justice and/or sustainability?*
- *What criteria can be used to assess the impact of institutions aimed at safeguarding intergenerational justice, such as the Ombudsman for Future Generations in Hungary?*
- *Which countries have the best record in environmental sustainability (esp. climate protection) and sound public finance? Is there a correlation between the legal implementation of intergenerational justice and this performance? How could this be measured?*
- *What are adequate legal definitions, for example for 'generation', 'intergenerational' and so forth?*

#### **Notification on two events**

First, the Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations has been asked to host an event on the sustainability of EU2020 (the successor of the Lisbon Agenda) in Spring 2010. The event will be fully paid by the European Commission and will take the shape of a one day seminar for approximately 100 participants. The Venue will be the Commission's Representation in Germany, Berlin.

Second, there will also be a scientific symposium in Lisbon, Portugal, on 27/28 May 2010 with the title 'Ways to Legally Implement Intergenerational Justice'.

Authors of successfully reviewed papers will have the opportunity to present their papers on one of these two conferences.

#### **Size limit of final manuscript:**

Up to 30,000 characters (including spaces, annotation etc.). These are between 4,500 and 5,000 words.

#### **Abstract Submission Deadline**

31 January 2010. The size of the abstract is only 800 characters (half a page).

#### **Manuscript Submission Deadline**

31 March 2010

#### **Contact and further information:**

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