

**Public Law at the Crossroads of Technology,
Jurisprudence and Governance in
Contemporary Europe**

Editors:



Hitomi TAKEMURA

Activity

Hitomi Takemura is a professor of international law, Hitotsubashi University, Japan. Her research focuses on the effectiveness, efficiency, and legitimacy of international criminal justice, as well as the obligations and responsibilities of states and individuals for core crimes. She has gained a wealth of experience researching and teaching international law at Japanese universities. She is member of Japanese Society of International Law, American Society of International Law, Criminal Law Society of Japan, International Human Rights Law Association, the Japanese Association of Sociology of Law and Kyushu International Law

Association. She earned an LL.M. in international law from Hitotsubashi University, an LL.M. in public international law and international criminal law from Leiden University, and a PhD in law from the Irish Centre for Human Rights at the National University of Ireland. She also worked as an intern at the Appeal Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in 2003 and for the International Criminal Court in 2005. She was a Fulbright researcher at the Fletcher of Law and Diplomacy in 2024. She has also obtained several grants, including: 2025 Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B) of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) for the research topic of Multidimensional Study on Ensuring Implementation of International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law by Third States in Armed Conflicts; 2024 Fulbright Scholarship, Research Program Grantee; 2023 Grant-in-Aid for Fund for the Promotion of Joint International Research (Fostering Joint International Research) of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) for the research topic of the Scope of the Due Diligence Obligation of States, Individuals, and International Organizations with respect to the Prevention of Crimes under International Law.

Publications

Professor Hitomi Takemura is the author of numerous articles and book chapters, including: Book Chapter: 'Investigation and The Role of the Prosecutor', in Kuniko Ozaki and Keiko Ko (eds.), *International Criminal Court*, 3rd. ed. (Toshindo, 2024) pp. 217-244; Book Chapter: 'Chapter 9 International Law and Individuals' and 'Chapter 16 the Law of Armed Conflict, in Nobuyuki Kato, Hiroyuki Banzai and Takuhei Yamada (eds.), *International Law* (Yuhikaku, 2024) pp. 227-253, pp. 417-447; 'Russia-Ukraine Crisis and International Law', in Kumiko Haba, Sokou Tanaka and Yumiko Nakanishi (eds.), *Encyclopedia of European Union* (Maruzen, 2024) pp.

564-565; Co-edited Book: Shuichi Furuya, Hitomi Takemura, Kuniko Ozaki (eds.), *Global Impact of the Ukraine Conflict: Perspectives from International Law* (Springer, 2023); 'The Asian Region and the International Criminal Court', in Yumiko Nakanishi (ed.), *Contemporary Issues in Human Rights Law: Europe and Asia*, Springer, 2017, pp. 107-125; 'Reconsidering the Meaning and Actuality of the Legitimacy of the International Criminal Court' *Amsterdam Law Forum*, vol. 4, no. 2 (May 2012) pp. 3-15.



Steve O. MICHAEL

Activity

Adding to his vast international experience, Dr. Steve O. Michael has been appointed Rector and CEO of Danubius University (DU), Romania where he has been the Vice President of the University's Board of Trustees since 2015. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Michael was the Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CDU), a California-

based private, non-profit university in partnership with the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). During his 7-year tenure under the Carlisle Administration, Dr. Michael was instrumental in leading Charles R. Drew University through visionary strategic planning that resulted in an unprecedented campus growth, academic program expansion, full program and institutional accreditation, financial stability, curricular transformation, effective shared governance, restoration of Graduate Medical Education (GME), foundational plans for an additional medical education program, and astounding national rankings and recognition, to mention but a few. Dr. Michael was the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Arcadia University, where he served for 5 years. Under the Greiner's Administration at Arcadia, Dr. Michael led the University through two strategic planning initiatives that resulted in the expansion of international programming, enrollment growth, academic program expansion, and establishment of College of Arts and Science, The College of Health Sciences, The School of Global Business, The School of Education, and The School of Continuing Studies.

At Kent State University where he spent most of his career, Dr. Michael rose through the ranks to full professor and Vice Provost in charge of the University Diversity Program, Undergraduate Studies, International Affairs, and Faculty Professional Development. Dr. Michael directed over 20 doctoral dissertations and theses on topics that ranged from TQM in higher education to financing higher education, and from internationalization of higher education to evaluation of college president's effectiveness. His leadership advanced Kent State's diversity agenda at the national level, enhanced diversity education in undergraduate curriculum, established Kent State's China Office, revamped Kent State's Geneva Program, expanded professional development programming for faculty, among other accomplishments. Professor Michael was one of the principal founders of the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education (NADOHE) and its first Vice President and Interim President. He was also one of the principal founders of the Association of Chief Academic Officers (ACAO) — the national association of provosts and chief academic officers in the United States. Dr. Michael was a co-founder of the Global Advancement of Private Universities and Colleges (GAPUC), which later morphed into the Association

for the Global Advancement of Universities and Colleges (AGAUC) — an association dedicated to internationalization of higher education. Dr. Michael is a professor of higher education management with research interest that includes the application of business strategies to institutional management, entrepreneurial higher education, and globalization of higher education. He has published widely in most of the leading international and national refereed journals in the field of higher education on topics such as diversity in higher education, cost reduction analysis and financial constraints in higher education, presidency and trusteeship, academic program reviews and discontinuation, and marketing of higher education. He is an active presenter at international conferences and a consultant on higher education issues. Dr. Michael was a British/Canadian Commonwealth Scholar and the first recipient of the Sheffield Award for the best article published in the Canadian Journal of Higher Education (1992). His awards include Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education, Outstanding Faculty Award from Phi Beta Delta, Dean's Awards for professional achievements, and a letter of recognition from the Governor of Alaska. He was a guest professor at the European Peace University in Austria, Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics (JUFE), Nanchang and Beijing Wuzi University in China. For several years, he served as the Liaison Officer for the Educational Management Association of South Africa. On the invitation of the former Minister of Education of Moldova, he was the first keynote speaker at the country's premier international conference on Higher Education. Dr. Michael served on the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Educational Management – the leading international refereed journal on education management; the American Psychology Association's Journal of Diversity; and once the associate editor of the Journal of Research in Education. He served as a reviewer of USAID/ALO International development grants and sat on the Board of Project GRAD of Akron, Ohio. His latest book is entitled *Financing Higher Education in a Global Market*. Dr. Michael earned his doctorate from the University of Alberta, Canada. He is a graduate of Harvard Institutes for Higher Education and a trained accreditation consultant-evaluator by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Professor Michael was an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow at Carnegie Mellon University with extended training at the University of Bath and City University of London, United Kingdom. In recognition of his works around the Black Sea region, Dr. Michael was awarded an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Danubius University, Galati, Romania. His wide-ranging international background extends from the Sub-Saharan Africa to the Sub-Arctic Alaska. Professor Michael is a retired volunteer soccer coach and a golf enthusiast.

Publications

Professor Steve O. Michael is the author of numerous articles and book chapters, including: "Managing Student Engagement in a Virtual Learning Environment: A Case Study of Clustered Versus Dispersed Synchronous Virtual Learning". *Didactica Danubiensis*, 4(1), 2025, 7–28; "Philosophy of Education:

Reflection on American Context", *Didactica Danubiensis*, 1(1), 2021, 9–16; "Internationalization of Higher Education: An Imperative for the 21 st Century Global Society." *Acta Universitatis Danubius. Relationes Internationales* 7.1 (2014); "Multiculturalism in the Context of Africa", Chapter 9 in Kenneth Cushner (ed.), *International Perspectives on Intercultural Education*, Routledge, 2013; "The cost of excellence: The financial implications of institutional rankings." *International Journal of Educational Management* 19.5 (2005): 365-382; "Higher education institutional collaborations: An analysis of models of joint degree programs." *Journal of Higher Education policy and management* 25.2 (2003): 131-145; "Indicators of presidential effectiveness: A study of trustees of higher education institutions." *International journal of educational management* 15.7 (2001): 332-346.

