

Introduction

Foreword

**By The Rt Hon Sir Leon Brittan QC,
Vice-President of the Commission of
the European Communities.**

It is with particular pleasure that I welcome the launch of the *European Business Law Review*. At this important time for the European Community and for the rest of Europe, the challenges and opportunities for business and for lawyers have never been greater. The emphasis in this *Review* on business law throughout Europe, East and West, North and South, reflects the widespread interest in European

developments and the international dimension of business law, covering the economic and social aspects of legal activity as well as the more traditional commercial aspects.

In the Commission, my particular responsibilities are competition and financial services. These are areas in which law and policy interact in pursuit of economic goals. The Community's 1992 programme is leading to the creation and maintenance of an open, competitive internal market. This has boosted the Community's standing in the world at a time of crucial change in Europe and elsewhere. A competitive economy is now widely seen as the best way to satisfy consumer demands and

encourage industrial efficiency capable of confronting the rigours of world markets. The new Community merger regulation will be one of the major instruments in bringing this about. As a result of these developments, the law and legal issues are increasingly European in scope and require extensive and broad knowledge and analysis.

I hope that the work of this *Review* will contribute to improved understanding and analysis of legal developments in the business field and I wish the *Review* every success.

Leon Brittan