

Editorial: The Use of English as a Universal Language

As usual, this issue of the IJCLLIR covers a variety of countries. First of all, we offer an assessment of the situation in China where experimentation is being done with contracts of employment to promote the creation of a 'socialist market economy'. The analysis of Ying Zhu and Iain Campbell is extremely accurate and reveals highly promising developments. The two articles which address issues in African Labour Law are equally comprehensive. Enyinna Nwauche explains how jurisdictional conflicts between trade unions may be solved through judicial resolution in Nigeria, while Nicola Smit addresses the HIV issue from the angle of discriminatory practices, building on the South African experience.

The second part of this issue focuses on Europe. Paul Germanotta and Tonia Novitz discuss a possible Community perspective in dealing with the legal protection of the right to strike: a theme which deserves great attention because of the increasing transnationalisation of industrial relations in multinational corporations. Spain is covered by Carmen Agut Garcia and Jaime Yanini Baeza who present new arrangements in part time work, which has been re-regulated to support job creation policies. Finally, we invite the reader to become familiar with perspectives on EU enlargement, an extremely delicate issue, investigated by Mária Ladó (one of the leading experts in this field).

All these materials can be offered to the attention of the readers only because we use English as a universal language. We find the fact that hundreds of readers around the world may take advantage of our work exciting and reassuring at the same time. But there is a price to be paid which I would like to emphasize: the English we use is far from perfect. So many authors whose native tongue is other than English send us their articles and the quality of English is occasionally poor, although the scholarly level is high. We do our best to make the text readable, correct, clear, and simply acceptable. In short, and to make the point: we make the effort to cover countries where English is not widely spoken because the IJCLLIR must really be international and comparative. We rely on the indulgence of our readers for the quality of the English language and hold authors who would like to contribute the IJCLLIR to high standards. Our thanks in advance for your understanding.

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