

Foreword

In the tapestry of our globalised, post-truth contemporary world, woven with threads of exponential transformations, profound uncertainties, entangled with modernity and the issues surrounding sustainability, humanity as a race, stares into the abyss of inquiry. While piloting the labyrinthine passages of modernity, globalisation, and sustainability, we are confronted with various compelling questions: *What does justice mean in a world that no longer adheres to linear constructs of time and space? Will our legal frameworks remain relevant amidst fragmentation, fluidity, and an ever-shifting global order? How must we re-establish coherence in an era defined by disjuncture?*

It is in the backdrop of these existential and epistemological questions that this timely volume, “*Traversing the Trial—Law and Justice in a Globalizing World*”, brings a constellation of scholars who confront these questions with not only intellectual vigour and depth but also with profound purpose, intellectual depth and innovation, and critical imagination. The editors of this volume have congregated and curated, through astute observation and vision, a compelling collection of chapters transcending jurisdictions, disciplines, and generations of academic thought. This volume critically engages with epistemic crises that have been precipitated by globalisation. Additionally, this volume explores the illustrious and transformative potential of law as well as legal imagination to reclaim meaning in these disoriented times.

The distinguishing factor about this book lies in its audacious willingness to challenge the frameworks of modernity whilst posing and offering a dialectical vision of law. Here, the authors as well as the editors see law not as a mere static compendium of norms but as a dynamic territory of resistance, renewal, and hope. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) norms are also reimagined and approached not as mere policy slogans but as an embryonic space where humans can reassert and reclaim their agency in the global discourse. This is law as praxis, law as critique, and law as a moral imperative for a fractured world.

Transversing a wide terrain, the explorations in this book encapsulate the recalibration of multilateralism and the normative reimagining of international economic

law, to the moral claims of third-generation human rights and the promise of collective memory in the Global South. These explorations, while reflecting an urgent need for restoring lost synchrony of time and space, also deliberate on reclaiming our “situationality” in a world that often appears unmoored.

At O. P. Jindal Global University, we have sought to reimagine legal education and interdisciplinary inquiry to ensure that we meet the demands of the globally complex reality. This book aligns with our vision. It invites readers, students, scholars, policymakers, and even citizens to inhabit a more reflexive, relational, and responsible approach to law, justice, and sustainability. It reminds us that hope is not antithetical to realism, but rather its most courageous companion.

I commend the contributors for their contributions to this book and producing this work of lasting intellectual value. I also congratulate my three outstanding colleagues, Professor S. G. Sreejith, Professor Dabiru Sridhar Patnaik, and Ms. Ishita Khetarpal, the editors of this book, for their initiative in conceptualizing this book. May this book serve as both a map and a compass for those who are committed to charting a more just and sustainable global future.

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