

Preface

The idea of this book was born from the inspiration that two of us (S. G. Sreejith and Dabiru Sridhar Patnaik) gained out of the course, “*Law and Justice in a Globalizing World*” which we co-taught for the postgraduate students of Jindal Global Law School in 2016. In the course, the theory of globalization was a prolegomenon, which was followed by discourses on geopolitics, political economy, law, and global justice. The theory of globalization did not reappear anywhere in the course and most of the subsequent modules were stand-alone discourses on globalization in various domains of human socialization. We shared this concern, constantly discussed and dialogued on it, and meditated in our respective solitudes, which continued for the next few years. Then Ishita Khetarpal joined the conversation which added a new fillip to it.

It was then that the idea of a book took birth. Initially we thought of jointly authoring a monograph. However, soon we understood the risk of it falling into the same pattern of discourse to which our course fell. Then we decided on an edited volume which would give us the advantage of building a discursual framework within which all chapters authored by the experts on the functions of law could be fitted in. The editors’ privilege would give us the opportunity to situate each chapter, and all the ideas in them, within the theoretical framework shaped out of the theory of globalization that until then remained a nonrecurrent material—as introduction—in our scheme of things.

By the time we were ready to contact Springer with our book proposal in which we had envisaged the ways and means to traverse the trial of a globalizing modernity (that’s how we cast the theory of globalization, as a theory of a trial), we discovered the new hope in the horizon, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We went back to the board, did everything yet again, and returned to Springer with the addition of SDGs in our scheme. When we contacted some of our potential authors, they liked the idea of the “dialectic of hope” which we wanted to develop through the SDGs.

Springer reciprocated our idea and enthusiasm, which led to this edited volume in this form.

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