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ADDRESS TO THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

Dear colleagues, scholars, and legal professionals!

The Academy of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan is pleased to introduce the International Journal of Justice, an international peer-reviewed electronic journal of legal scholarship and practice founded by the Academy, and invites all scholars, researchers, legal practitioners, and educational institutions in the field of law to engage in close cooperation with the Journal.

Pursuant to Presidential Decree No. PD-141 of 21 August 2025, "On Measures to Fundamentally Improve the System of Training Highly Qualified Personnel in the Field of Justice," the Academy of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan was established on the basis of the Higher School of Judges under the Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan. In addition to training judges and judicial personnel in accordance with international standards, the newly established Academy was entrusted with advancing legal scholarship and strengthening research capacity.

The need to provide a scholarly foundation for these objectives gave rise to the idea of creating, within the Academy, an

internationally recognized, English-language academic platform. This initiative was formalized through the Regulations governing the Editorial Office of the International Journal of Justice, which were approved by the Council of the Academy of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The Journal thus commenced operation as the Academy's official electronic scholarly publication.

The Editorial Board of the International Journal of Justice comprises 18 leading scholars and legal practitioners from nine countries. Its members are affiliated with prestigious higher education institutions, research centers, and international organizations in countries including Finland, Singapore, Poland, the United States of America, Hungary, Spain, Lithuania, and the United Kingdom.

The international members of the Editorial Board include Anselmo Reyes, Judge of the Singapore International Commercial Court (Singapore); Borzu Sabahi, International Arbitrator (United States of America); Krisztina Karsai, Head of the Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Sciences at the University of Szeged (Hungary); Lorenzo Mateo Bujosa Vadell, Professor at the University of Salamanca (Spain); Maged Mamdouh Kamel Shebaita, International Arbitrator and Doctoral Candidate at the University of London (United Kingdom); Sakari Kristian Melander, Professor at the University of Helsinki (Finland); Sławomir Marek Redo, Chairperson of the Expert Council for the Development of Scientific Research at the Faculty of Law and Administration

(Poland); and Vigita Vėbraitė, Professor at Vilnius University (Lithuania).

The participation of distinguished international scholars, judges, and legal practitioners representing diverse legal systems and academic traditions strengthens the Journal’s international profile and contributes to maintaining high standards of academic quality, professional expertise, and scholarly integrity. Their involvement also promotes the exchange of comparative legal knowledge and strengthens academic cooperation between Uzbekistan and the international legal and research community.

The Journal's fundamental purpose is to promote and disseminate in-depth research on pressing issues of law and legal practice at the national and international levels, judicial and legal reforms, and their substantive implications. It serves as an open platform for advancing legal awareness and legal culture; subjecting national legislation to scholarly analysis; identifying conflicting legal provisions and systemic problems in legal practice; and developing evidence-based proposals for their resolution.

One of the principal strategic objectives of the International Journal of Justice is to serve as a distinctive scholarly bridge that contributes to advancing legal research in Central Asia to a new level. The Journal seeks to connect legal scholars, researchers, and practitioners across the region with the international academic community and to create an open academic platform for exchanging advanced research approaches and experience.

As part of its long-term development strategy, the Editorial Board has identified full alignment with international scholarly standards and leading practices in academic publishing as a priority. Accordingly, over the coming years, the Journal plans to progressively meet the criteria required for inclusion in internationally recognized indexing and citation databases, particularly Scopus and Web of Science.

This strategic direction is intended to enhance the Journal's scholarly standing; increase the international visibility and scholarly impact of its publications; broaden the participation of foreign researchers; and strengthen the position of legal research from Central Asia within the international academic landscape.

The Journal's central aim is to bring national experience in judicial and legal reform to the attention of the international scholarly community, while also exploring opportunities to incorporate into national legislation the leading developments in global legal scholarship and the experience of foreign jurisdictions in lawmaking and law enforcement. In other words, the Journal seeks to serve as a scholarly bridge between national and international legal spheres and to reinforce the principles of justice and the rule of law through research.

The International Journal of Justice is distinguished from comparable publications by the breadth of its scope. It brings together scholarship on political and legal issues in state and societal development; improving lawmaking; developing civil society institutions and priority areas for liberalizing the judicial and

legal system; ensuring legality; protecting human rights and freedoms; combating crime and strengthening public order; examining the work of courts and law enforcement bodies; raising the legal awareness and legal and civic awareness of citizens, particularly young people; training highly qualified legal professionals and developing a national school of legal thought; and addressing current issues in the development of international law and the incorporation of its norms into national legislation.

The breadth of the Journal's scope is also reflected in its organizational, legal, and distribution arrangements. The Journal is published electronically in English and is freely accessible to readers in Uzbekistan and internationally. It is accessible both in Uzbekistan and internationally, providing an open platform for national and international scholarly communities. The Journal is published quarterly, with special issues published where appropriate, reflects the Journal's flexible and dynamic structure. The inclusion of highly qualified domestic and international experts on the Editorial Board further strengthens its scholarly capacity and international profile.

The Academy of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan is firmly committed to developing the International Journal of Justice as an enduring platform that advances legal scholarship, integrates national and international legal experience, and strengthens the theoretical and scholarly foundations of judicial and legal reform. In this connection, we warmly invite scholars, researchers, legal practitioners, and academic institutions to collaborate with the

Journal, submit high-quality research for publication, and contribute to the development of an internationally recognized platform for legal scholarship.