



From the editors: celebrating the 40th anniversary of journal of legal pluralism and unofficial law

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In the editorial to this year's first issue we announced the 40-years' anniversary of the Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law — after it had been initially established much earlier (in 1969) as *African Law Studies*. It is with great pleasure that we can now present this anniversary issue; a tribute to the journal, and to all people who have contributed and are contributing to its development. Special thanks are due to all authors who responded positively to our call for contributions to the anniversary section of this issue, which clearly shows the relevance and importance of studying legal pluralism in a wide variety of domains of life. The issue as a whole consists of two sections: a special anniversary section, for which the publisher has provided free access; and a regular section containing articles and book reviews.

Earlier this year we decided to invite readers, members of the Commission on Legal Pluralism, and others who are engaging with legal pluralism in their work, to contribute to this anniversary section. While we invited some authors to write specific contributions, others decided on their own topics. The result consists of three types of contributions: full articles dealing with various aspects of legal pluralism; shorter essays, in which authors reflect on aspects of legal pluralism, their own experiences discovering or working on legal pluralism; and interviews/interview articles, which report on conversations with people working at the interface of scientific analysis of legal pluralism and policy, have knowledge on developments in a specific country or region, or are experiencing on a daily basis the politically sensitive aspects of legally plural societies.

The anniversary contributions to this issue also provided an opportunity to experiment with a greater variety of types of publications in the journal in the future. As announced earlier, this anniversary issue is also the last one to appear under the current title. From 2022, the journal will continue as *Legal Pluralism and Critical Social Analysis*. We will pay more attention to this and other changes in next year's first issue, but publishing a greater diversity of contributions, including essays and interviews, is one of our ambitions for the journal's future.

This is also the last issue, in which the journal has a separate advisory board. From 2022 onwards we hope to work with an expanded team of associate editors, who are active for the journal by regular contributions —such as reviewing manuscripts, writing their contributions to the journal— and thus “co-own” it and co-determine its future. On behalf of the Commission, editors and associate editors hereby we express our thanks to all past and current members of the Advisory Board of the journal.

We wish you much reading pleasure with this anniversary issue!

The editors