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Prof. Sonia Mallek

Editor-in-Chief of the
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Editorial

Editorial Foreword

The College of Law continues its commendable year by holding an annual conference on a topic that coincides with the requirements of development and modernity witnessed by Qatar. The conference on "Law in Keeping Up with Tourist Activity: Specificities and Prospects" was held on 4th and 5th of February 2019 by Qatar University, College of Law. It was organized in cooperation with the National Tourism Council, and under the auspices of Sheikh Dr. Thani Bin Thani's law firm/ office and legal advice.

The State of Qatar hosts many important tourist attractions/destinations, whether popular markets, beaches or museums, and archaeological/historical locations, most notably the archaeological site of Zubara Castle, which was registered in 2013 on the UNESCO World Heritage List. This cultural diversity and richness of civilization has led Qatar to become an important tourist destination in the region. Qatar's access to several regional, continental and international sporting events - the most important of which is the 2022 FIFA World Cup - has been one of the primary reasons behind the global attention Qatar has received, leading to a booming tourism sector. Tourism, like all human activities, is a subject of law, which requires an indispensable organization for its effective integration into society. Social integration of tourism is needed for several reasons: Its economic weight, social function, cultural dimension, and its environmental impact.

With regard to legislation, the Qatari legislators have been interested in regulating the tourism sector. That is since the issuance of Law No. (7) of 1982 on the organization of travel and tourism offices (canceled), then the issuance of a modern legislative package, to regulate the tourism sector in all its aspects. This includes Law No. (6) of 2012 on the organization of tourism, Law No. (17) of 2013 on the organization of exhibitions, and the Emiri Resolution No. (36) of 2014 on regulating the General Authority for Tourism, and Law No. (26) of 2006 on organizing air travel offices.

In order to promote legal knowledge, the College of Law at Qatar University undertook enormous tasks and responsibilities as the center of legal expertise in Qatar. The College decided to organize this conference - in cooperation with the concerned authorities - in order to shed light on various legal aspects of the practice and organization of tourism. This was done to create a legal environment that could be attractive to national and foreign investments in this vital sector, which leads us to review and study comparative experiences, in order to develop the Qatari legislative system to upgrade the tourism sector at all levels, contributing to Qatar National Vision 2030.

The activities of the conference lasted for two days. The readership will find in this issue a set of research studies presented at the conference, which was subject to double peer-revision according to the policy of Qatar University Press.

The editorial family thanks all researchers for their contributions that make this international journal an inexhaustible aid to all those who have a passion for knowledge in the Arab world and the globe, hoping that the papers published in this issue will serve its readership.

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