

Editorial

This issue of *Id-Dritt Law Journal* is important for a number of reasons. Firstly, it represents a comeback of *Id-Dritt* since its last publication in 1991. Secondly, owing to the sad but hopefully temporary demise of *De Jure*, the law journal published by the Chamber of Advocates, *Id-Dritt* has found itself remaining the only local legal journal on the market at present. Therefore it was of utmost importance to re-launch this publication, owing not so much to the fact that it is the Law Society's main source of income, but also to its importance as a law journal in the local legal environment.

The Editorial board, in its collection of articles, has attempted to cover a wide range of subjects, some of which deal with hot topical issues and others which deal with specific questions of law. Since it is the intention of the Editorial Board to issue *Id-Dritt* on a bi-annual basis for the time being, each issue will be of considerable length and will include a large number of articles. Therefore our doors are always open to anyone who would care to contribute. Hopefully, our initiative to relaunch this publication will be upheld, strengthened and developed by all future Law Society committees since we feel that this publication, now nearly thirty years old, has taken its place as a minor but, nevertheless important institution within both university and professional legal circles in Malta.

On a different note, the Editorial Board of *Id-Dritt* and the Law Society Committee would like to extend their sympathy to the family of the late Prof. J. Micallef on the sad occasion of his passing away. Prof. Micallef was one of our Honorary Presidents and a lecturer in the Faculty of Laws for three decades. He had become somewhat of an institution within the legal world because of his dedication and commitment to his students and the profession as a whole. He will be sorely missed.

I must also take this opportunity to congratulate, on behalf of the Editorial Board and the Law Society Committee, HE Prof. Guido De Marco, one of our Honorary Presidents, on his appointment as President of the Republic of Malta. Prof. De Marco has always encouraged the Law Society in all its activities and has been a keen follower of the progress of the re-launch of *Id-Dritt* throughout its development.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, I would like to thank the Directors and Staff of Standard Publications Ltd., particularly Mr Wilfred Kenely, without whose help this project might have been rendered impossible. I would also like to thank all contributors to the publication who showed enthusiasm and interest in the Law Journal and many of whom had the opportunity of participating in the production of past issues whilst they were Law Students themselves. Last but certainly not least I would like to thank the Law Society Committee of 1998 who gave me the opportunity of editing this issue of the journal as well as the members of the Editorial Board whose hard work and perseverance in the difficult task of article-collecting ensured the successful outcome of this issue of *Id-Dritt* Law Journal.

George Said
Editor