

“Id-Dritt” Editorial Note

By

Claude Micallef-Grimaud, B.A., Dip. Not. Pub.

The new Editorial Board (2005-2006) is pleased to unveil the latest edition of ‘Id-Dritt’ – an GhSL publication. Following the work of our predecessors, modifications were made to the appearance and structure of the journal in a bid to improve on what had already been achieved. ‘Id-Dritt’ now enjoys a new format and should in fact, sit neatly among other legal text books but stick out at the same time – being the only entirely student-produced publication of its kind. Eventually, this volume will also form part of a collection of similar publications dating back to 1944 which have also been re-vamped and are now being re-published in this new and improved format. Of course content-wise, this journal retains articles of the best quality, written by eminent figures in the legal profession - both local as well as foreign.

On this note may I draw your attention to the contribution made by Ms. Cherie Booth (Barrister and wife of the current British Prime Minister – Mr. Tony Blair) who gave us special permission to publish the paper she delivered in a lecture here in Malta. I was among those lucky enough to attend that day but I realize that there are many who would have liked to but did not have the opportunity to take in what she had to say. When I personally put forward this point to her she did not hesitate in giving her consent. The same can be said about Mr. Justice Christos Rozakis – the Vice President of the European Court of Human Rights as well as Mr. Chief Justice Luzius Wildhaber (the President of the European Court of Human Rights). These three prominent figures in fact, have

provided us with riveting papers relating to Human Rights – something we decided to focus on especially in this edition.

This volume is also of particular importance being the first following Malta's membership of the European Union and also other legislative and institutional innovations that have occurred since the last publication, among which we find the various radical amendments to the Maltese Civil Code. In this issue in fact, we have decided to give some of these amendments great importance because we realize that finding authoritative commentaries on such matters can be very vexing indeed. One will in fact, find three complementary articles dealing with these amendments in this edition including a great focus on the Law of Succession. There is also an article dealing with some controversial amendments to the Maltese Criminal Code.

Another area we decided to focus on is money laundering – a topic often given little attention to. In this issue, one will find two articles dealing with this topic; one from a local perspective dealing with some important very recent amendments and the other from a more international perspective written by the Maltese Attorney General himself.

The other articles range across a spectrum of subjects – from specific topics like *Renvoi* in Private International Law and Governmental Liability in Administrative Law to more general issues like Lawyer-Client Relations. All the material here is helpful both to the law student as well as to the legal practitioner, but it is also accessible material for the general public. Hopefully, 'Id-Dritt' will become an integral part of every lawyer's office in the near future and its ever growing popularity with non-legal professionals will also reach new heights.

On my part, I really must thank all the authors for their patience and support, the vice editors (Jean Carl Debono and Benjamin Valenzia), the GhSL President (Kenneth Abela) for his dedication and great enthusiasm towards this publication, the editorial

assistants and also the rest of the GhSL staff without whose help all this would not have been conceivable.

I also thank you, the reader, for constantly voicing your support and believing in this on-going project.

Claude Micallef-Grimaud
University of Malta
September 2006