

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF FAMILY LAW

WELCOME NOTE

PATRICK PARKINSON,
University of Sydney (Sydney, Australia),
President of the International Society of Family Law

It is my pleasure to greet the birth of the new, but long awaited, *Russian Law Journal* on behalf of the International Society of Family Law. The goals of the Journal correspond with the principles of the International Society of Family Law: to promote research on subjects of worldwide interest, to encourage interdisciplinary work, and to advance legal education. ISFL was founded in 1973 as an independent, international scholarly association dedicated to the study and discussion of family law. The function of the Society is to provide an international forum for analysis of legal policy applied to family relationships. It exists to bring together scholars of any relevant discipline, as well as practitioners, policy makers and others with an interest in this area of law.

The fascinating developments in Russian/Soviet family law in the 20th century are of international importance. Russian family law was in the vanguard of legislating for the equality of men and women in family relations, no-fault divorce, and the equal status of children born in and outside of marriage. All these norms which are now broadly accepted got their starting push in Russia in 1917. Current developments in Russian family law also seem interesting, but the sources of information in this field are limited these days. The new Journal should help to fill this gap and provide the international family law community with substantial academic information about legislative, judicial and doctrinal developments in Russia. As well, the Journal might be a forum for worldwide family law scholars to provide information to Russian colleagues about current developments in other countries.

I wish the *Russian Law Journal* a long and successful life full of first rate and challenging articles written by the best authors and engendering, lively, scholarly discussion.

COURT OF THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

WELCOME NOTE

ANNA SOKOLOVSKAYA,

President of the Court of the Eurasian Economic Community (Minsk, Belorussia)

As the President of the Court of the Eurasian Economic Community I am very proud to appear on the pages of *Russian Law Journal*, a new promising project initiated by leading Russian scholars.

The *RLJ* is of a particular interest for the Court of the Eurasian Economic Community, a body hearing cases involving companies from all over the world in relation to the Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia, since its' main purpose is to expand cross-fertilization between the legal cultures. This purpose is very important in course of the Eurasian integration which will culminate in 2015 with creation of the Eurasian Union, transforming markets of the member states into the large single one.

I am wishing the *RLJ's* Editorial Council and Board productive work in establishing this forum for discussion.