Acknowledgement

This volume, *Rule of Law, Justice, and the Future of Democracy: Reflections from IVR 2024 Seoul*, is published in celebration of the 31st International Congress of the International Association for Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy (IVR). As one of the world's leading academic platforms for interdisciplinary dialogue between law, philosophy, and the social sciences, IVR 2024 Seoul marks a significant moment in bringing together diverse intellectual traditions and contemporary legal challenges into global conversation.

The articles collected here reflect the spirit of the congress, particularly by exploring the central themes of Rule of Law, Justice, and the Future of Democracy. They demonstrate a commitment to bridging theory and practice, classical thought and modern dilemmas, global perspectives and local contexts. Each contribution offers a sophisticated perspective on how law interacts with culture, society, and philosophical inquiry.

The Rule of Law is a central theme of this volume, analyzed through the symbiosis of law and culture as a major premise of the rule of law (Ion Craiovan), and an exploration of the difficult task of ensuring the predictability and accessibility of the law through the situation in Romania (Ramona Duminică). It also provides a historical ideological overview of the concept of the rule of law (Zoltan J. Toth). The conflict between technological innovation and legal frameworks is also addressed, examining the tension between human rights protection and regulatory sandbox experiments (Marina Davydova), and the impact of the fragmentation of law and sustainable development on national legal systems (Laura Maria Franciosi). Justice is explored through fundamental and applied questions, including how Aristotle's concept of justice is applied in modern models of legislative regulation for euthanasia in some European countries (Georgii Sibirtsev), sociological leads for defining the concept of justice in South Korea (Christophe Duvert), and a legal and cultural analysis of mediation justice in the era of Big Data (Lu Liu). These themes lead to a broader exploration of The Future of Democracy and Legal Thought, which includes a critique of the liberal, individualist foundation of human rights (Diego Poole), a modern interpretation of the trial of Socrates and the individualistic unperceived prejudice (Aurelio de Prada), a conception of legal causation theory with the application of the Interventionist Accounts (Nobuaki Yamamoto), and a discussion of suspension as an effect of legal dynamics (Matheus Pelegrino da Silva).

These works invite readers to engage deeply with the evolving landscape of legal thought. IVR 2024 Seoul is more than an academic gathering – it is a celebration of law as a lens through which we understand humanity, ethics, and the structures of our shared world. This book, Rule of Law, Justice, and the Future of Democracy, stands as a testament to that celebration, offering scholars, practitioners, and thoughtful readers a rich tapestry of ideas and insights.

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