

## Dear Readers,

Welcome to the pages of *Anti-Discrimination Law Review*, our new international publication. In your hands is the first issue of a journal which is intended as a professional forum for sharing legal thinking on the issues which over the past few decades have gained worldwide recognition in legislation, case law, as well as jurisprudence. The journal, as one of the few international undertakings of this type, will be a place where different views on anti-discrimination law can be presented.

On these pages, we will be seeking the sources and the meaning of antidiscrimination law in a range of different areas – legal norms at the national, regional and international level, legal traditions, including the constitutions of individual states, legal culture of various communities, as well as in the acts and omissions found in courts, legislation, interpretation and legal science.

Our unwavering position is that the prohibition of discrimination, grounded in human dignity, is an inherent element of the generally accepted standard of human rights protection as well as a necessary instrument ensuring the full exercise of this protection. This is because discrimination significantly constrains the ability to effectively exercise human rights, and thus seriously undermining, or sometimes even putting in question the standard of their protection. It contradicts their universality and inviolability.

This journal aims to encourage and stimulate debate on the meaning of nondiscrimination on such prohibited grounds as sex, age, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity, race and ethnic origin, nationality, religion and belief. These pages will be open to authors from around the world – both representatives of the academia and legal practitioners, who are willing to share their knowledge and experience with worldwide readers.

I am convinced that launching the publication of *Anti-Discrimination Law Review* is a significant undertaking for legal science. It is of particular importance today, when the whole world is engaged in a debate on the universality of protection against biased, unequal treatment, the limits of human rights protection, the meaning of the prohibition of discrimination and the balancing of non-discrimination with other legal rights. Scientific developments in other fields (e.g. biotechnology, information technology, or ecology), too, add impetus and new meanings to the discussion on the

prohibition of discrimination. *Anti-Discrimination Law Review* intends to be actively involved in this debate.

Anti-Discrimination Law Review will be a space for the free and creative exchange of ideas by all those interested in the legal aspects related to one of the fundamental principles and values of contemporary constitutionalism, that is the prohibition of discriminatory treatment.

At the same time, I would like to thank our publisher, Wolters Kluwer, for their decision to publish *Anti-Discrimination Law Review*. I am convinced that the editorial team, editorial committee, and the board of advisors alike will do their utmost to ensure that this journal represents the highest possible academic and editorial standard, and all that will be met with appreciation by you – our Readers.

Prof. Andrzej Wróbel Editor-in-Chief