

affairs. This UN organ could then help to coordinate economic decisions expressive of international interdependence and global security.

If during the Cold War many parts of the Third World were given aid on account of expediency, there is no reason for that aid to be shifted now to Eastern and Central Europe. The commitment to human dignity, one of the ends to be pursued by the international community according to the UN Charter, requires reverence and respect for those who have the least in actual achievements or power and therefore counsels against such a shift. I know Reisman's focus on that change is merely a statement of what is likely to take place, but a view of international relations that is less descriptive and more prescriptive would perhaps have urged a modified tone.

WINSTON E. LANGLEY\*

#### TO THE EDITOR IN CHIEF:

A growing wave of global problems threatens the existence of human civilization. Although this danger can only be averted by intensifying the cooperative efforts of states, the international community, as currently organized, cannot meet the growing needs. Higher levels of cooperation and organization are required.

The necessary conditions for enhancing international cooperation may seem to have been created by the termination of the "Cold War," success in the sphere of disarmament and confidence building, and the restructuring of relations between states on the basis of international law. On the other hand, recent developments in the Persian Gulf have shown that the danger of acts of aggression that threaten the whole world has not yet been eliminated. This continuing danger once again demonstrates that the international community must take drastic and decisive measures against aggression wherever it occurs.

In this respect I cannot but express my admiration for the selfless attitude of the American people regarding Iraq's aggression in the gulf and the personal courage of President George Bush. Regardless of the outcome in the gulf, potential aggressors will now have to consider that their crimes will face a strong reaction from the international community.

At the same time, the developments in the gulf have shown that the unity and organization of the international community in the face of a common threat are inadequate, which makes it all the more evident that new, extraordinary steps should be taken toward securing a peaceful legal order on a global scale.

Under the existing international system, sufficiently radical decisions cannot be made. Since the decision-making power is practically in the hands of executive officials, parliamentary representatives are inevitably drawn into solving crucial problems. The logical expedient would be to establish a parliamentary assembly within the framework of the United Nations, but revising the UN Charter could take a long time.

Convocation of a world parliamentary congress in the second half of the coming decade could be the first step toward such a goal. This congress would be charged with defining the global legal order of the twenty-first century.

History demonstrates that a reliable legal order is a necessary condition for the normal functioning of national, as well as international, society. Lawyers thus bear great responsibility for working out the fundamentals of the future international legal order and ways to achieve it. They could set the process in motion by con-

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vening a world congress of lawyers in 1995 to draft recommendations for the world parliamentary congress. An international preparatory committee should be set up to organize the congress, "The International Legal Order of the Twenty-first Century."

I am sending a copy of this letter to the editor in chief of the *Sovetskij Zhurnal Mezhdunarodnogo Prava* (Soviet Journal of International Law).

IGOR LUKASHUK\*

#### THE FRANCIS DEÁK PRIZE

The Board of Editors is pleased to announce that the Francis Deák Prize for 1991 has been awarded to Professor David D. Caron of the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law. Professor Caron's prize-winning article, *The Nature of the Iran–United States Claims Tribunal and the Evolving Structure of International Dispute Resolution*, appeared in the January 1990 issue at page 104.

The Deák Prize honors the memory of Francis Deák and is awarded annually to one of the younger contributors to the *Journal* for an article of outstanding merit. In extending its congratulations to Professor Caron, the Board of Editors gratefully acknowledges the abiding interest in international legal scholarship of Philip F. Cohen, President of the Institute for Continuing Education in Law and Librarianship, through whose generosity an award is presented to the recipient of the prize.

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