

Editorial

The EJRR's last issue of the year hosts a wealth of timely and risk-significant contributions. The symposium on the financial crisis in the EU whose first part was published and introduced to our readers by its editor in the previous issue is completed by three more essays. Additionally, another three articles are dealing with some of the most actual regulatory challenges facing policymakers: counter-terrorism, consumer-responsive food safety regulations as well as the impact of the EU risk regulation at the Member State level.

Christina Eckes, author of *EU Counter-Terrorist Policies and Fundamental Rights: The Case of Individual Sanctions* (Oxford University Press, 2009), discusses the role of the judiciary when called upon to review the legality of multilayered counter-terrorist measures stemming from the exercise of externalized executive powers. She argues that the extended powers of the executive and of the judiciary should be contained and guided by a principled choice of the constituent power. Anna Szajkowska's article examines the extent to which national and EU authorities are able to take into account non-scientific factors, such as consumers' perceptions, economic considerations and ethical concerns, when regulating food safety. She does so by analysing the level of regulatory autonomy allocated to them by European Courts. Maria Eduarda Gonçalves, who has co-authored the influential *Taking European Knowledge Society Seriously*, a report prepared by the EU Expert Group on Science and Governance, provides an insightful account of the impact that the emerging EU risk regulation system is having at the national level. By relying on three case studies exemplifying the Portuguese approach vis-à-vis risk regulation, she offers some possible explanations for the difficulty of Europeanising risk regulation in her country.

As usual, our correspondents keep us abreast of the latest developments in different risk regulation policies by covering issues such as the new EU regulatory framework for plant protection products, the legality of fat taxes under EU and WTO law, the regulatory definition of nanotechnologies as well as the interplay between the regulation of toxic chemicals by the host state and the substantive provisions of NAFTA Chapter 11.

In the case notes' section you will find several annotations of important risk-related EU and WTO rulings as well as one from the EFTA Court.

Finally, a detailed account of the themes discussed during the 3rd Summer Academy on Global Food Law and Policy round off the issue.

I wish you a pleasant reading!

Alberto Alemanno