The fifth volume of our journal is hereby launched. The journal’s relatively short existence cannot be compared with the long-standing tradition of its mother journal Právník, established in 1861. Five years ago, on the occasion of 150th anniversary of Právník, the oldest legal journal in Europe and maybe worldwide, we decided to launch project of its English parallel – The Lawyer Quarterly (TLQ). A historic comparison between the two journals is obvious. While Právník has always played an important role to promote Czech legal science and Czech legal terminology The Lawyer Quarterly is seeking to reflect challenges of the 21st century to promote Europeanization and globalization of legal science.

TLQ was launched as a supplement to Právník and from its third volume as an independent journal. Nevertheless it was not intended as an English digest of translations from Právník. We have always been strictly publishing solely original articles. The ultimate question was whether TLQ would become a panel of Czech authors or whether we would be able to include as well authors from abroad. The outcome was a pleasant surprise. We welcomed among our contributors colleagues not only from central Europe (Hungary, Poland or Slovakia) but as well from Belgium, France Germany, Netherlands or Russia, Netherlands, France or Russia. We appreciated articles about less known legal systems like Albania or Israel. From the very first beginning of its existence, The Lawyer Quarterly approached to a model of a European platform of exchange of ideas on legal research. We were honored to publish contributions of top representatives of European legal and political institutions like Professor Robert Badinter, former President of Constitutional Council of France or Professor Herbert Schambeck, former President of Austrian Parliament.

TLQ is multidisciplinary law review which as a particular opportunity for those branches of national law having rare access to exchange of views in foreign languages. Unlike European law, international private law or international public law where exchange of ideas in international journals is rather common, typically “domestic” legal disciplines of a small size country like Czech Republic are not always in a focus of interest of “great” overseas legal reviews.

During our short history, Czech legal ideas were twice strongly present on the events of International Academy of Comparative Law: in 2012 in Taipei and in 2014 in Vienna. On these occasions we renewed an old tradition dating back to 1960s and 1970s and we published Czech national reports to these conferences.

A prestigious legal journal needs to include as well information about current legal research and events. Each issue of TLQ has been bringing information about conferences and events particularly in our country in order to inform our foreign colleagues about our scientific life. Most issues have been including reviews and annotation of books or monographs, mainly written in Czech language which could not be easily read abroad.
On the threshold of fifth volume of The Lawyer Quarterly I would like to thank first to our contributors for their most valuable articles and to the editorial board. Our gratitude should be addressed to our publisher the Institute of State and Law of the Czech Academy of Sciences, in particular to its director dr. Jan Bárta, co-founder of TLQ and last but not least to executive editor dr. Antonín Lojek and assistant Ms. Hana Cihelková for their daily effort to guarantee continuity of our journal.

Professor Michal Tomášek
Head of Editorial board of The Lawyer Quarterly