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## Letter from the Editors

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Dear Readers,

Since July of 2020, *The Liberty University Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy*'s articles have been downloaded over eight thousand times from every inhabitable continent. We are deeply grateful to our readers, writers, and editors who have contributed to this undertaking.

We created the journal to serve as a voice of reason and truth in an ever-changing world. We are grateful to report that *The Liberty University Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy* remains committed to promoting academic excellence, rigorous peer-review, and above all, a thoughtful, ethical, and Christian perspective in writing about the people, the policies, and the politics of our nation and our world. We are hopeful for the future of civil discourse.

For this fourth issue, we once again had many submissions and are publishing here the best—with topics that range from illegal abortion to Chinese grand strategy, to Yemen's health crisis, and critical race theory in categories that include domestic public policy, international relations and foreign policy, national security, and political philosophy.

This upcoming March 24-26, the journal along with the Helms School of Government, will hold our second public policy conference entitled "[A Nation Divided? Assessing Freedom & The Rule of Law in a Post-2020 World](#)," with several panels tackling the issues of our day, including how to balance freedom and the rule of law from different worldviews. The conference will be both in-person and online. Students, faculty, alumni, and friends of Liberty are welcome to present research on legal and regulatory issues, upholding liberty and justice, and foreign and international issues. Register and learn more [here](#).

This publication would not have been possible without the guidance of Dean Robert Hurt and Associate Dean Joel Cox. In addition, the help of Faculty Advisors Dr. Mary Prentice and Dr. Kahlib Fischer proved to be invaluable. Mr. Titus Pettman, Mrs. Melanie Lamm, and Mrs. Barbara Potts offered great assistance. Additional help and guidance were also graciously given by Dean Ron Miller, Associate Dean Jason Ross, and Administrative Online Dean Suzanne Caruso.

Special thanks to the several faculty and staff editors, including Professors Robert Cooper, Stuart Mattfield, Aaron Van Allen, Dr. Kahlib Fischer, Dr. David Holt, and Dr. Mary Prentice.

Special thanks also to Andy Langeland, our Marketing Director, and Paul Prentice for marketing and graphic design/communications assistance; as well as to the Assistant Editors in Chief, Elizabeth Atinuke Ayowole, Parker Bott, and Carolina Mejia; and the many student editors that helped along the way: Christian Butler, Joseph Carl, Natalie Cawston, Jacob Chace, Faith Chudkowski, Kerry Good, Ashley Gore, Maggie Hedrick, Samuel Jones, Megan Muldoon, Paul Prentice, Charles Scroggins, Savannah Snyder, and Rachel Solsman.

We editors could not publish this journal without several free-thinking, freedom-loving people. The journal needs more people like yourself who are thoughtful, engaged, and willing to follow the truth, wherever it may lead. From an idea in a classroom to an internationally read publication, the journal has grown into a beautiful reminder of what can happen when we work together for the common good of keeping our republic.

The journal has many opportunities to stay engaged, including attending our upcoming conference or submitting to our next edition. Please register for our conference [here](#). Submissions for the next volume of the journal will open on February 15, 2022, and close on May 15, 2022. We routinely publish short research papers (up to four pages single spaced), as well as longer research articles (up to twelve pages single spaced) in addition to short book reviews. Submit to our journal [here](#).

The next edition of the journal will be published in the Summer of 2022. We look forward to meeting you at our conference this March, as well as reviewing your submissions this spring!

Sincerely,

*The Liberty University Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy* Editors-in-Chief

Bess Blackburn, Shaddi Spencer, Catherine Latchford, & Hayden O'Connor