

FOREWORD

A disturbing feature of 2015 has been the massive migration of refugees from the Middle East and Northern Africa, seeking resettlement in Europe and other countries prepared to assist in this humanitarian crisis. The causes of the migration can be attributed substantially to political unrest and violent conflicts, and also to deteriorating environmental conditions, exemplified in poverty and a desire for better survival prospects. The major humanitarian consequences and responsibility are reflected in several articles in this issue.

Firstly, Philippa Norman addresses from a feminist perspective the marginalised position of women in the environment and international law, and the dominance of economism. Vanessa Wills assesses the Clean Development Mechanism arising under the Kyoto Protocol, and Bethany Horner addresses both the CDM and the REDD+ elements. Samuel Leonard provides a critical analysis of the present effectiveness of New Zealand's emissions trading scheme. Kristen Jones analyses energy efficiency in New Zealand's light transport fleet, and advances the need for new fuel efficiency standards. Pip Wallace and Shaun Fluker assess the adequacy of legislation in New Zealand for the protection of threatened wildlife species and compare legislation in Canada. Connie Bollen evaluates the management of the effects of intensive dairy farming on waterways in New Zealand. A related issue of health risks posed by cadmium from fertiliser in soil and food is addressed by Catherine Dearsley. The potential for nuclear energy to be introduced into New Zealand and a re-examination of government policy is the subject of the article by Brendan Abley. Two book reviews by Katherine Sanders and Royden Sommerville respectively complete the issue.

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