



Legal Aspects of the Human-Animal Relationship

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Message from the Guest Editors

Throughout much of the world, animals, whether captive or wild, share one common element: their protection, welfare and usage is governed by law. Law plays a key role in promoting welfare, reducing harm and representing societal viewpoints on the purposes for which animals may be “acceptably used”, whether for meat, research or entertainment. However, it is frequently argued that laws are variably effective and can only provide minimum standards. Consequently, there is much debate about the nature of regulation, enforcement, and legal reform needed to improve outcomes for animals. In this Special Issue, we seek to provide robust discussion on these concepts. We invite authors to submit both reviews and empirical research on all aspects of the legal relationships governing the welfare or protection of non-human animals. This includes discussion relating to animal protection, conservation and animal management laws across all jurisdictions. We particularly welcome cross-state or country comparisons, and papers providing insight into the effectiveness of law in animal protection. Papers of a theoretical nature proposing avenues for law reform are also of interest.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2023, ranks 10/80 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 16/167 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.0.

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