

Editorial

This issue of VRU / World Comparative Law is the result of a cooperation with the *Zeitschrift für Rechtssoziologie* / Journal for Sociology of Law. Parallel issues of the two journals inquire into the implications of “strategic litigation” for legal practice and research (vol 39 issue 2 – 2019 of our partner journal). This journal cooperation goes back, in turn, to a workshop on strategic litigation held at Humboldt University Berlin in September 2017, which brought together many of the authors whose work we now publish.

Strategic litigation is frequently associated with the US-American Civil Rights Movement and similar progressive legal strategies. A closer look, however, reveals that litigation aiming at socio-legal change beyond the individual case – to use a minimal definition of the term – is much more widespread and diverse in geographical and ideological terms. While our partner journal uncovers emerging practices and scholarship in a large civil law jurisdiction of the Global North, namely Germany, this issue of VRU / World Comparative Law turns to the Global South and to transnational connections: Jackie Dugard reflects on the South African experience with strategic litigation, partly drawing on her own first-hand experience. Such first-hand experience also grounds the contribution by Michael Bader, Miriam Saage-Maaß und Carolijn Terwindt on strategic litigation against multinational enterprises in the case of *Jabir et al. v KiK*, which Pakistani claimants brought before German courts.

By highlighting parallels and entanglements between North and South, the focus on strategic litigation thus also embodies the new mission and name of our journal: In addition to its traditional focus on the law outside Europe and North America, VRU / World Comparative Law also seeks to bridge the North-South divide in comparative law and to capture the interdependencies and entanglements between different world regions on an interconnected globe.

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