EDITORIAL – 10th Edition

The **Cognitio Journal**, published by the School of Magistracy of Paraíba (ESMA) and linked to the **Court of Justice of the State of Paraíba**, reaches its 10th edition, consolidating itself as a space for critical and interdisciplinary reflection. It brings together research that engages with central issues of contemporary society, ranging from global governance to fundamental rights in Brazil.

Among the highlights, we are honored to present the article by Norwegian jurist **Anne Hellum**, internationally recognized for her work in women's rights, gender equality, and anti-discrimination. A specialist in the application of **CEDAW**, Hellum offers an analysis of reports on Nordic countries, revealing tensions between international reputation and the effectiveness of equality standards. In the same field, the article by **Ana Alice Tejo**, co-authored with **Luiza Salgado** and **Thaís Ramos**, examines how the internalization of international norms for the protection of women has influenced Brazilian judicial public policies, with the **Maria da Penha Law** as an institutional milestone.

This edition also features a study by a professor from the University of Montreal on the **BRICS** and their representative legitimacy; the article by **Ana Luiza Quirino** and **Annaline Marques**, reflecting on the impacts of the **January 8, 2023 anti-democratic acts**; and the contribution of **José Herbert Luna**, who discusses free legal aid not only as a procedural benefit but as a pillar of the Democratic Rule of Law.

Other works include **Elen Cristina's** study on constitutional hermeneutics and interpretive methods in the Supreme Federal Court; the analysis by **Geraldo Porto** and **João Victor Diniz** on the evolution of plea bargaining; and **Antonieta Maroja's** article on the risks of the adultization of children and adolescents in the digital environment. In this same line, **Liana Lobão** highlights that digital exclusion goes beyond lack of internet access, encompassing literacy and socioeconomic conditions. Meanwhile, **Marianne Salvão** revisits the debate on biological factors in human behavior, drawing from the contributions of **Cesare Lombroso**.

Finally, inaugurating the new section **Technical Essays**, Justice **Reis Friede** analyzes the effectiveness of the **Statute of the Elderly**, showing that

although the law guarantees preferential and individualized service, in practice many of these rights remain limited to the formal sphere.

The **Cognitio Journal**, in its 10th edition, reaffirms its commitment to scientific excellence and the dissemination of critical reflections that strengthen democracy, justice, and human rights. By bringing together contributions from national and international scholars, the publication consolidates itself as a plural and interdisciplinary space, capable of engaging with the major challenges of our time.

With themes ranging from global governance to gender issues, constitutional hermeneutics to digital transformations, the protection of children and the elderly to the analysis of anti-democratic acts, this edition reaffirms the mission of **Cognitio**: to promote qualified academic debate and contribute to building a Judiciary that is more inclusive, democratic, and committed to the effectiveness of fundamental rights.

Enjoy your Reading

Milena Barbosa de Melo