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PREFACE

This symposium commemorates the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The historic document was concluded in Helsinki on August 1, 1975, by the highest representatives of thirty-two European countries, the Soviet Union, Canada, and the United States. Our goal is to provide a forum for evaluation of the Helsinki process prior to the Madrid review meeting in October. To permit a comprehensive treatment of this important topic, this symposium combines the spring and summer issues (Nos. 2 & 3) of volume 13.

The Final Act contains a number of provisions designed to establish or strengthen ties among the participating states. Because of the comprehensive nature of the document, it was deemed necessary to limit the scope of this symposium. Accordingly, we have chosen to focus on the humanitarian provisions for several reasons. First, they raise complicated issues of sovereignty, domestic compliance, and international law. Second, they are the most controversial provisions of the Act, as evidenced by the Belgrade Follow-up meeting in 1977-78. Finally, many signatories contend that the most serious problems of implementation exist in this area.

Unfortunately, the viewpoints of East European signatories are not represented in this issue despite efforts to secure articles from legal scholars in these countries. With this exception, we feel that the symposium provides a comprehensive treatment of the human rights provisions of the Helsinki Accord.

The articles in this issue have been thematically arranged into three major groups. The first three authors provide a general overview and theoretical analysis of the Final Act's humanitarian provisions. The next four examine the unique "Follow-up" mechanism of the Act in light of the first review meeting in Belgrade. The remaining articles examine the implementation of Helsinki promises by the signatory States. Many of the authors have included recommendations for the Madrid Conference.

We are indebted to each author for his or her contribution to the success of this project. In addition, we gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Department of State, the Ford Foundation, and the Helsinki Watch Committee of New York in soliciting articles. In-

dividuals who provided valuable advice include: Alexander Heard, Chancellor, Vanderbilt University; Helen Sen, Helsinki Watch Committee of New York; Harold Russell, former Legal Adviser, Department of State; Francis Sutton and Felice Gaer, Ford Foundation; Vratislav Pechota, Visiting Scholar, Columbia University; Spencer Oliver, Sam Wise, and Marty Sletzinger, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe; John Buchanan, United States House of Representatives; and Jeffrey Gallup, David Martin, and Wesley Kriebel, Department of State.

It is hoped that this symposium, by providing constructive recommendations for the Madrid Review Conference, will ultimately contribute to the development of the Helsinki process.

The Editors