

An Interest in the Constitution

In the Law Review this time there are three articles on the draft Faroese Constitution in addition to a note on our current regime.

With this the debate on the future constitutional arrangement of the Faroe Islands is truly underway.

The draft Faroese Constitution is intended to improve the governing, solve the federal knot, lay a foundation stone under the Faroese identity, and structure the democratic debate.

The debate on the Faroese Constitution must therefore concern these questions. Analysis of the present system and recommendations on the future governing is imperative.

Among the constitutional conquests in the draft are the first time ever formulation of human rights in Faroese, improved legislative procedures including mandatory hearings and possible referenda, and a national accord on the Faroe Islands as a Land, the Faroese as a Nation, and procedures for future amendments of the federal relations.

The Faroese Constitution is providing the democratic vocabulary, institutions, and procedures. The Faroese Constitution will replace the current Statute on Governing, therefore, creates the framework for all the future legislation of the Faroe Islands.

Tim Murphy, who teaches law at the University of Akureyri in North Iceland, has raised the issue of other rights. Jonas Landstad Fjeldheim, a promising Norwegian lawyer, deals with equal rights, and Rúni Rasmussen, the persistent Secretary of the Constitutional Committee, portrays constitutionalism in this context. Finally, the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Law Thing speaks out on the Faroese trade treaty with Iceland, how that treaty should have been handled in the Law Thing.

Hereby, the scholarly constitutional debate is truly underway on the Faroese Constitution and several more articles based on the draft have been offered to this law review.

Let the debate continue!