Our first cover article in this issue, by Marcelo Garcia and Ronce Almond, examines an increasing tendency by governments to "weaponize air-space" as part of "coercive diplomacy" strategies. Such strategies may involve abrupt airspace closures, the seizure of control of another state's airspace, or the unilateral withdrawal of traffic rights. Examples of such "coercive diplomacy," the authors contend, include Chinese actions in the Taiwan Strait, Russia's intervention in the Crimean peninsula, and the recent airspace blockade against Qatar. (Mr. Garcia is Manager, Regulatory and Corporate Affairs at Qatar Airways, but he and Mr. Almond write on their own behalf.) These actions may relate to regional disputes driven by non-aviation-related agendas, but the authors argue that they violate the Chicago Convention and undermine the international civil aviation framework. They suggest that ICAO's lethargic dispute settlement procedures require reform, including revision of the Chicago Convention to authorize provisional measures to enjoin state actions that violate the Convention.

Our second cover article is by Diana Moss, President of the American Antitrust Institute. Ms. Moss examines antitrust-immunized airline alliances, which, she argues, have "serious implications for U.S. consumers," including a negative effect on competition in domestic and international markets. She argues that the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT')s awards of antitrust immunity (ATI) should be made subject to sunset provisions whereby airline participants would have to periodically demonstrate that their immunized alliances have benefited consumers before the DOT would renew a grant of ATI. She also suggests that the DOT should not grant ATI unless nonaligned carriers are able to enter a relevant market and compete with immunized alliances. In addition, she rejects the argument that immunized alliances require ATI to compete with each other in an "alliance market."

Our third article, by Jordan Labkon of Vedder Price and Barry Moss, CEO of Avocet Risk Management, examines the impact on aviation finance of CORSIA, which is ICAO's multilateral carbon offsetting scheme, designed to reduce the impact of aviation emissions. CORSIA went into effect on January 1, 2019, and is expected to affect over 700 aircraft operators around the world. The authors recognize that CORSIA has attracted widespread international support, but also highlight concerns in the aviation finance community about its potential impact on aircraft owners and lessors. In particular, they focus on risks and uncertainties about how (and how differently) CORSIA's requirements will be applied to, and enforced against, aircraft owners and operators by different countries.

This issue is my last as Editor-in-Chief of The Air & Space Lawyer. It has been my great privilege and pleasure to contribute to The Air & Space Lawyer over the past nine years. I extend heartfelt thanks to John Palmer and Melissa Vasich, who have provided outstanding support and editorial craftsmanship as our publication's ABA Staff Editor during my tenure. I also thank Managing Editor Brent Connor and a wonderful group of colleagues on the editorial board. The Forum and The Air & Space Lawyer are fortunate to have secured an excellent new editorial team, led by incoming Editor-in-Chief David Berg and Managing Editor Kathy Yodice. Many of you know Dave from his years of service as Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Airlines for America and a longtime leader (and former Chair) of the Forum. Kathy, who is Managing Partner at the Law Offices of Yodice Associates and a former attorney at the FAA, has been a great contributor to the publication for many years as an assistant editor. Congratulations and best wishes to Dave and Kathy. I also welcome the appointment of two new assistant editors, Roy Goldberg and Scott Wilson. Please see page 19 of this issue for more information about Roy and Scott. I hope to continue to contribute to The Air & Space Lawyer in the future and encourage you to do the same. Please contact Dave (airberg600@gmail.com) and Kathy (kathy.yodice@yodice.com) with your ideas for, and comments on, the publication.

David Heffernan
Editor-in-Chief

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