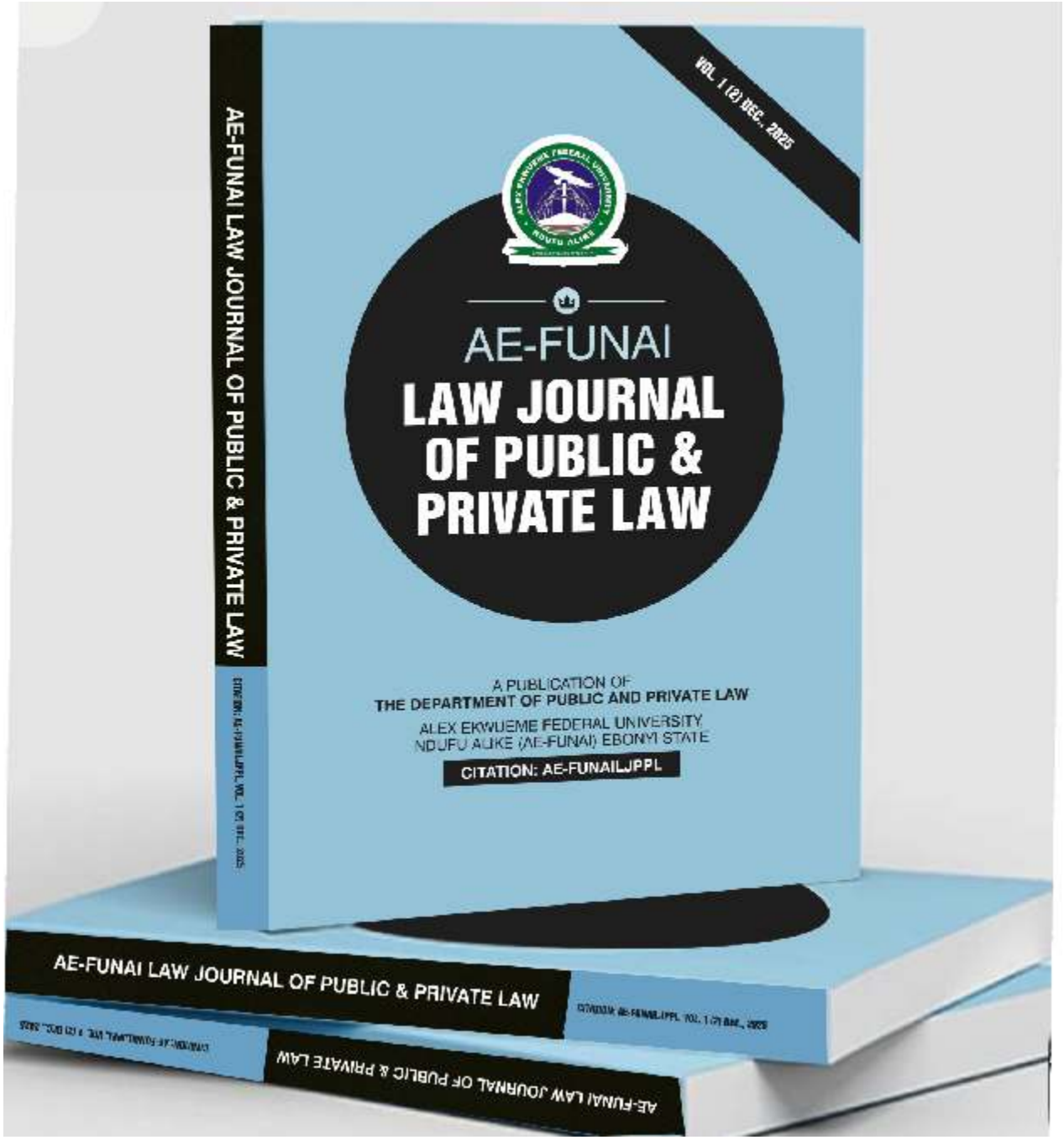

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EDITOR'S NOTE TO CONTRIBUTORS

It is with profound delight and scholarly pride that I welcome you to the inaugural edition of the Alex Ekwueme Federal University Law Journal of Public and Private Law (AE-FUNAILJPPL), a peer-reviewed academic publication of the Department of Public and Private Law, Faculty of Law, Alex Ekwueme Federal University, Ndufu-Alike, Nigeria.

The emergence of this Journal marks a significant milestone in our collective commitment to the advancement of legal scholarship in Nigeria and beyond. As a department rooted in both tradition and transformation, we have conceived this platform to foster rigorous intellectual engagement, critical analysis, and constructive discourse on the evolving contours of Public and Private Law. Our mission is to interrogate contemporary legal issues through original research and to shape the direction of legal thought in a world increasingly defined by complexity, digital innovation, constitutional transitions, global regulatory shifts, and plural legal systems.

This maiden edition is a testament to the vibrancy of ideas and the diversity of perspectives within our legal community. The articles featured herein reflect a fine blend of doctrinal, comparative, and empirical approaches, addressing pressing issues ranging from constitutionalism, judicial activism, corporate governance, digital rights, contract enforcement, family law dynamics, international commercial law, to emerging challenges in regulatory frameworks and human rights protection. Our contributors; steemed academics, jurists, practitioners, and early-career scholars have demonstrated intellectual rigour and analytical depth that this Journal aspires to uphold in all future editions.

As Editor-in-Chief, I am especially proud that this first edition coincides with a critical period in Nigeria's legal development and global engagement. Legal scholarship must no longer remain on the periphery of policy and societal discourse. We therefore envision this Journal not just as a repository of ideas but as an active participant in shaping law reform, governance, and justice delivery, locally and internationally. It is our firm belief that sound scholarship influences sound policy, and sound policy strengthens the rule of law.

We are indebted to the Editorial Advisory Board, our reviewers, contributors, and the Department of Public and Private Law for their unwavering support and dedication to excellence. I must also commend the pragmatic and dynamic editorial team whose intellectual passion and painstaking editorial work have made this maiden publication possible.

To our readers, academics, legal practitioners, policymakers, judges, and students, we extend an invitation to engage deeply with the ideas presented in this Journal. We welcome your feedback, critiques, and contributions as we continue to build a scholarly legacy that is both reflective and forward-looking.

As we turn this new page in our academic journey, we are reminded of our duty to knowledge, to justice, and to the generations that will look to this Journal as a beacon of critical thought and legal innovation. We hope this first edition inspires, provokes, and contributes meaningfully to the rich tapestry of legal scholarship.

Welcome to the beginning of something enduring.

Dr. Onyegbule Kelechi, ***Af.IMHL, ACIArb(UK)***
Editor-in-Chief

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