

HELVIDIUS

The Columbia Undergraduate Journal
of Law and Public Policy

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Helvidius: The Columbia Undergraduate Journal of Law and Public Policy is published in April. *Helvidius* was founded in August 1989 by Peter Tomassi (CC '91) to serve as a forum for the discussion of diverse issues concerning law and public policy. The editors welcome submissions at all times. Submissions should be directed to: *Helvidius*, 201 Lion's Court, 521 West 114th Street, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027. All materials are subject to editing and will not be returned without postage supplied by the author. The articles printed here reflect the opinions of the respective authors.

The continuous support of our writers, our staff, our readers, the SGA, the USO, and various local businesses has made it possible to produce yet another issue of *Helvidius*.

As always, *Helvidius* remains dedicated to its original purpose of providing a forum for the presentation of ideas and issues that concern our world today. In this edition, writers address the growing importance of software development, economic concerns abroad, and the state of the judiciary. In addition, the Journal includes discussions of nationalism in West Africa and Greece as well as assessments of Bill Clinton's Presidency.

Helvidius is also fortunate to publish speeches delivered by Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen and President of the World Bank Group James D. Wolfensohn. On behalf of the Journal, I thank them for their generous contributions.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Christine Park, the International Affairs Editor, for her sincere enthusiasm and unwavering dedication. Her efforts on behalf of *Helvidius* are truly commendable.

As a graduating Senior, I step down from the position of editor-in-chief with the knowledge that *Helvidius* has a secure foundation due to a legacy of nine years. I wish future staff members the best of luck and leave with the hope that regardless of any changes the Journal may undergo, the traditions of *Helvidius* will be upheld with as much fervor in the future as in the past.

Ann M. Jung

Helvidius: The Columbia Undergraduate Journal of Law and Public Policy is named after Helvidius Priscus, a Roman statesman and philosopher in the first century AD. Helvidius Priscus was known for his virtue, independence of mind, and staunch advocacy of republican government. His beliefs brought him into direct conflict with the emperors Nero and Vespasian, both of whom banished him. Helvidius's defense of liberty and freedom of speech as well as his opposition to dynastic succession, eventually led to his execution. Thus, he is remembered as the first martyr for free speech.

NATO at 50: New Challenges in a New Age

Delivered by Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen
Munich Conference on Security Policy
February 8, 1998

After President Harry Truman led America through the end of the Second World War, he tried to settle an age-old debate. The Marxists had declared that humans are but flotsam on the uncontrollable currents of history. But Truman said no, "Individuals make history, and not the other way around. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better."

I thought of these words as I prepared to come to Munich for several reasons. First, I thought of the founder of this Conference and how saddened I was that this would be his last Wehrkunde. There are few individuals in modern European history who prove the truth of Truman's words more than Ewald Heinrich von Kleist.

Baron von Kleist seized his first opportunity to make history in 1944 as a 22 year-old lieutenant in the German Army, when more than once he risked his life in attempts to assassinate Adolf Hitler. The reward for his courage was arrest and detention in a concentration camp. But Baron von Kleist did not give up the fight. After the war and the ensuing division of Europe, he seized every opportunity to help keep Germans and Europeans free, and established this annual Wehrkunde Conference in 1963, building it into the premier conference on NATO security issues.

For more than a third of a century Wehrkunde has, like a magnet, drawn together the leading figures from across the NATO alliance. As head of the American delegation to the Wehrkunde Conference from 1985 to 1996, it has been my honor and privilege to work with Baron von Kleist and count him among my most respected of colleagues and friends. Baron von Kleist, from all of us, "Thank you for the history you have made."

I also thought about Truman's words as I prepared to come here because I think that Truman would have been both proud and astonished by how members of the Atlantic community — including many individuals here in this room — have transformed the security of Europe.

For more than 40 winters, voices in Europe told us that the Iron Curtain was an inescapable peril, a permanent divide, while others preached that we would have to compromise our values and accommodate evil. The spirit of NATO proved these voices wrong. We stood together, stood fast and stood firm. The Cold War did not end with a bang or a whimper; thanks to NATO, it ended with the resounding crash of the Berlin Wall being toppled. The nuclear stand-off has been stood down. In Ukraine, missile fields have been transformed into sunflower fields. And our children stand to inherit not peril, but peace.

The end of the Cold War brought forth the question, "Whither NATO?" And some skeptics answered, "Let NATO wither," insisting that the Alliance has lost its