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AUTHOR'S FOREWORD TO THE THIRD EDITION

The new edition of *English for Law* has been fully updated and expanded to reflect the changing times and the ever-increasing importance of English in the world. After the publication of the second edition, which coincided with the United Kingdom's final departure from the EU through the so-called Brexit process, the role of English has continued to spread. Within the EU, even though English is no longer the official language of any Member State (since Malta and Ireland, where English used as a mother tongue, chose Maltese and Irish as their official languages), we can now safely say that English still plays an extremely important role as one of the three working languages in EU institutions and as a lingua franca in the EU and in the rest of the world. In the world of the law knowledge of English continues to be important for anyone interested in cross-border transactions, human rights, contract law and many other areas of the field.

The new edition, therefore, includes many changes. The first part of the book has been expanded with new topical information and now features practical exercises that allow students to review important concepts and practice their linguistic skills in legal English from the very start of the book. In addition, an entirely new chapter has been added that addresses the two main legal systems in the English-speaking world: England (and Wales) and the United States. Together with the practical activities, in the second part of the book there are now exercises to satisfy all levels of student ranging from a B1 to a C1 level. The activities are designed in such a way that they should help students to improve both their knowledge of general *and* legal English. These activities should also be aimed to provide students with valuable help in preparing for the language examination in public competitions (*concorsi*). Moreover, two practical units have been added to the book, one about International Law as well as an entire unit devoted to writing skills in legal English. The previous editions did not fully address this important skill, so this lack has been addressed in the new edition. This edition is dedicated to my students at *Roma Tre University, UNINT* and the *Scuola superiore della magistratura* who have helped me to make this book more understandable and comprehensive over the years. Special thanks go to Cherryll Harrison for offering her untiring editing help and Massimiliano Rezza for his continuous support throughout the process.

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