This issue contains two articles and an essay. Mohamed Salah Eddine Madiou’s and Samira Al-Khawaldeh’s article “The Artist’s Way: Mohsin Hamid Confesses an Artistic Trauma in his Non-Fiction” argues that, in addition to being a novelist of globalization, politics, economics, and capitalism, Mohsin Hamid is a novelist of art. Hamid’s non-fiction works express “his artistic experiences and struggles in the globalized world of art.” His fiction, by contrast, is tentative and symbolic in exposing his artistic life. However, Madiou and Al-Khawaldeh argues that even Hamid’s fiction is not only “metafictional,” but also “autobiographical.”

Ghada Hashem Talhami’s “On Humanitarian Law and the U.S. Double Standard” discusses the intricacies of international humanitarian law and the laws of war and the way in which the U.S. uses convoluted arguments to justify its use of “targeted killing.” Furthermore, the author discusses how technology, primarily the use of drones, has facilitated U.S. justifications in assassinating General Qasem Suleimani on January 3, 2020, pointing out the illegality of that act according to international law. Be that as it may, U.S. “manufactured threats” to national security cannot be garbed in the gown of international law.

The editor’s essay “The Role of the Individual in History: Reflections on Min Zawaya Ath-Thakira: Ala Hamesh Thawrat 14 Tammuz Ám 1958” discusses Tareq Y. Ismael’s memoirs about the Iraqi July 14, 1958 military coup. Ismael found himself in the thick of events, which he narrated in relation to his role in that defining period of Iraqi contemporary history. The memoirs also deal with Ismael’s life in North America and his connections to the Arab world in that period and his intellectual production that continues to this day. The essay’s discourse draws lessons regarding the relationship between the individual and the larger context in which one finds oneself.