

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dear Readers,

The publishing of this volume is not only special because it celebrates the fifteenth year of activity of this volunteer-based publication, but, more importantly, it represents a little light in a year of darkness for many researchers.

The year 2020 has been an extraordinarily challenging time for many. Some of us saw their research project put on a hold while the world was finding its way through the pandemic. Some other saw their ambitions and future project compromised by the precarious and unpredictable circumstances we are living through as a community.

For this reason, now more than ever, I know that for many of our writers to see their articles coming to life in this student-led publication represents a double victory. On one side, our writers can look at the future, confident that their work has been recognised by an academic publication. On the other side, our writers can keep on working on their projects knowing that a community of their peers has selected, appreciated and perceived great value in their work.

This volume also represents a rebirth for the publication as, for the first time in fifteen years, the journal has been structured in a more organic and professional fashion. It is a great success to see our issue 13 coming to life as it shows that our vision for the future of the SJPR is not merely a dream: but it is an achievable and feasible goal. For this, I would like to thank our team of Assistant Editors, who so generously donated us their time and energy throughout the entire year; my irreplaceable Co-Editors, Anna Kensicki, Natalia Matveeva, Yunzi Han who have been extraordinary companion of adventure; and, the Doctoral School team, in particular Dr Yenn Lee for her infinite patience.

As Natalia and I bid farewell to our readers after three amazing years, I can only wish my successor, Yunzi Han, a wonderful and unforgettable time running the new team as Editor-in-Chief. I am sure that, a year from now, she will have achieved even more amazing goals.

Last but not least, thank you to you, our readers, for your support and for your time. We hope that the SJPR continues to be a platform for the SOAS research community's voice to be heard and a safe haven where students and researchers can share their knowledge while showcasing their amazing projects and discoveries.

Being a community is now, more than ever, an important value upon which we should focus to rebuild our society, as a university and as human beings. Having being part of one of the little pieces keeping the SOAS research community together has been an honour, and a pleasure.

Farewell and enjoy the reading of this extraordinary issue 13.

The Editor-in-Chief

Federica Gamberini