

From the Editor-in-Chief

Oleh S. Ilnytzkyj

Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, University of Alberta

Welcome to the first issue of the new online academic journal, *East/West: Journal of Ukrainian Studies* (EWJUS). I am proud to be associated with this historic moment and I hope to win the trust and following of my colleagues, whom I invite to contribute to future issues.

The aim of EWJUS is to develop into a foremost venue for the dissemination of research on all facets of Ukraine, while living up to the highest peer-review standards. The journal is committed to handling submissions in a prompt and thorough manner, and promises expeditious publication to its authors. Over the next months we will take steps to ensure that major Internet search and indexing services will begin registering our content.

East/West: Journal of Ukrainian Studies is a new beginning that rests on a long tradition. As our name implies, we are building on the work of two venerable publications: *Skhid/Zakhid* (East/West), which has been appearing in Kharkiv since 1998 as a publication of the Kowalsky Eastern Ukrainian Institute; and the *Journal of Ukrainian Studies*, which dates its existence to 1976. Links to the electronic archives of both publications will become available on our site in the future. In launching *East/West: Journal of Ukrainian Studies*, the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies is consolidating its resources and adapting to the reality of online publishing, which, while not without its challenges, is unquestionably a blessing for the dissemination of knowledge.

The journal's mission is to foster original scholarship and help nurture the international community of researchers who deal with Ukraine in its historical and/or contemporary dimension. We are especially interested in new theoretical and methodological approaches to Ukraine, its culture, language, literature, and society. Comparative and interdisciplinary perspectives are welcome. Given Ukraine's geographic position and historical experience, we encourage contributions on cultural geography and geopolitics; empires, regions, borders and borderlands; dominant and subordinate cultures; collective identities, multiculturalism, nationalism; and the sociocultural foundations of Ukraine's modernization.

Our first issue hints at our ambitions, scope and strategy. We are fortunate to have contributions on a broad range of themes from scholars

that hail from several countries. EWJUS will be published twice a year, but individual articles and reviews may appear on our site as soon as they are ready. We are currently at work preparing several thematic issues and sections, among them, on the Holodomor, on Gender, and Borders.

I would like to thank the former editors, respectively, of *Skhid/Zakhid* and the *Journal of Ukrainian Studies*, Volodymyr Kravchenko and Roman Senkus. Their work inspires my own. Roman has assisted in the transition from print to this first online presence. My deep appreciation goes also to all members of the Editorial Board and my Book Review Editor, Svitlana Krys. All these individuals took a leap of faith by joining me in this new enterprise. I encourage reader to acquaint themselves with this fine international group of scholars by going to the “About” link on our site.

As an invitation to readers and contributors, we are making our first issues temporarily accessible free of charge. We are requesting, however, that everyone register as a “Reader” with our site and log in to view our content.

Enjoy the issue! I welcome your feedback and suggestions (editorinchief@ewjus.com).