

From the Editor-in-Chief

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The current volume of *East/West: Journal of Ukrainian Studies* is a special thematic issue titled “Kharkiv: The City of Diversity.” Guest edited by Volodymyr Kravchenko (Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies [CIUS], University of Alberta) and Oleksiy Musiyezdov (V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University), it presents four articles, one reflective essay, and two translations of research previously published by the guest editors in Ukrainian. The articles collectively study the multi-ethnic and multicultural diversity of the second largest city in Ukraine and the first capital of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. The issue opens a door to discussion and analysis of Ukraine’s major cities and their often-competing historical legacies. The topics in the issue include a description of post-Khrushchev Kharkiv and its multi-ethnic community of writers; the urban semiosphere of Kharkiv in the post-Maidan period; the language ideologies of Russian-speaking Kharkivites in the wake of the Russo-Ukrainian military conflict of 2014; the evolution of Kharkiv as a university city; and an assessment of several urban places in Kharkiv that feature a special “soulfulness.” The issue also presents an array of reviews of recent books devoted to Ukrainian studies and features one review essay.

Our future publications include a special issue that examines the imperialism, the colonialism, and the famine in comparative perspective. Its content is based on the Holodomor Research and Education Consortium conference held in Kyiv in 2017. Another thematic issue that we are planning (in co-operation with the CIUS’s Contemporary Ukraine Studies Program), is regarding the Intermarium and security in the Black Sea region, based on the round table discussion held in Kharkiv on 23 November 2018.

I am pleased to report that EWJUS continues to enjoy stable growth. Our readership statistics show a steady increase, thanks to our inclusion two years ago in the Directory of Open Access Journals and the MLA Directory of Periodicals. Since my last report (fall 2019), the journal’s articles and reviews have been downloaded more than 15,000 times, in over 100 countries. This summer, EWJUS’s Internet site was upgraded to version 3 of the Open Journal Systems (OJS). This was the first major software upgrade for us, but I am delighted that it brought a more user-friendly and visually appealing

interface, and a more intuitive interface for editorial workflow. The only caveat that remains is the static version of the “Books for Review” page; however, a proper plugin is being currently developed. We ask all potential colleagues interested in reviewing books for us to send a direct request via [email](#) to our book review editor Tania Stech (CIUS, Toronto Office, University of Alberta). In a couple of months, we hope to have in place a feature that allows interested parties to request books for review via the EWJUS site.

As noted in a previous editorial, I hope to launch an English-Ukrainian translation of EWJUS articles this fall, and to include EWJUS in more databases and scholarly indices. An agreement with Coalition Publica—a partnership between the Public Knowledge Project and Érudit, a Canadian not-for-profit organization that provides publishing and dissemination services to Canadian scholarly journals—is currently in the works. EWJUS’s content will soon be featured in [Scholar’s Portal Journals](#), a service of the Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL), recent partners of the University of Alberta Libraries.

I am grateful to our guest editors Volodymyr Kravchenko and Oleksiy Musiyezdov for their work on this issue, and to our book review editor Tania Stech for her continuing contribution to the diversity and quality of the book reviews we publish. As always, I appreciate the careful work of our two copy-editors, Marcia Craig (Edmonton, AB) and Ksenia Maryniak (CIUS, University of Alberta), and our editorial assistant Cossette Massa (BA, MacEwan University; now pursuing an MA program at Ryerson University). A separate thank-you goes to Ksenia for her work on the translation of Oleksiy Musiyezdov’s article, published in this issue. I also acknowledge Halyna Klid (CIUS, University of Alberta) for her attractive cover design.

Finally, I wish all EWJUS readers good health amidst the current COVID19 pandemic, and I hope the current issue will bring some necessary intellectual pursuits and creative stimulus to the life under quarantine! EWJUS is an open access platform, and our issues are available for free and without subscription—please share our publications with colleagues and interested parties.

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