

From the Editors

It is a great privilege to introduce this new double issue of the *AEMI Journal*, for the most part prepared by a new team of editors. Let us first introduce ourselves and explain the chain of events that has led to this moment. Hans Storhaug, the first and only editor of the *AEMI Journal* for 15 years, proposed in late January that the Slovenian Migration Institute should take over the editorship of the Journal as it has many decades of experience in editing and publishing its own academic journal, *Two Homelands: Migration Studies*. The new AEMI board agreed. After careful consideration at the Institute, three editors were named along with a mentor to supervise their work. The new editors Dr. Klara Kožar Rosulnik, Špela Kastelic, MA, and Maja Gostič, MA are working closely together with their supervisor Dr. Janja Žitnik Serafin, who has 30 years of experience as editor of academic journals and monographs. Besides, as Mr. Hans Storhaug pointed out in his foreword published in *AEMI Journal* 1 (2003), “[...] it was Janja Žitnik, research consultant at the Slovene Centre for Migration Studies, who at the annual meeting in Stavanger in 2002, formally proposed to the General Assembly that AEMI should publish its own journal. Her idea was unanimously supported and adopted, and this is the result.”

The decision on the 2017–2018 double issue was made by the new AEMI board in April 2018. The issue is based on a selection of papers presented at the 26th AEMI Conference in Santiago de Compostela (Spain) in 2016, and those presented at the 27th AEMI Conference in Husum (Germany) in 2017. The focus of the Santiago conference was on *European migrant diasporas and cultural identities*, whereas the theme of the Husum conference was *‘At home or alienated’ – Migrants and receiving countries between integration and parallel society, between ‘culture of welcome’ and xenophobia*. The papers from the Santiago conference were selected and partly edited by Hans Storhaug, while the papers from Husum were selected and edited by the new editors. The last article in this issue is from the conference in Turin in 2015.

Furthermore, we would like to address some of the changes that are coming with the new editorship. As Mr. Hans Storhaug pointed out repeatedly over the years of his editing of the *Journal*, there has been a great need for instructions for authors that would help them prepare their articles. It is necessary to adopt a uniform citation style and general guidelines that should be followed consistently throughout the *Journal*. Hence, we are publishing “Instructions for Authors” in this double issue and – hopefully – on the AEMI webpage. Moreover, we have set some additional criteria (e.g. the maximum length of the text, adequate level of English) for the selection of articles for publication. As there were no instructions available at the time when authors of this double issue were preparing their articles, we took the liberty of harmonizing the citation style of the Husum papers with the new guidelines as

much as possible. It was a bit more difficult with the Santiago papers as they were already edited by the previous editor, so we made a compromise there and edited those articles in a more limited way.

Perhaps we should also clarify the structure of this double issue compared to the previous ones. As we have not received the protocols of the last two AEMI conferences and as the AEMI board agreed that the protocol of each conference should be available on the AEMI webpage, we decided not to insist on publishing the conference protocols in this or the future volumes of the *Journal*. For this reason, we are only publishing – besides the selected papers – both conference programs and the welcome speeches from the Husum conference that were obtained from their authors specifically for the purpose of their publication.

It has been a great challenge as well as a privilege to take on the new editorship of the *AEMI Journal*. Special thanks go to Dr. Patrick Fitzgerald for his voluntary proofreading that has been ever so helpful to us. And finally, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to Hans Storhaug for all the hard work he has done with the *Journal* throughout these past 15 years. As we admitted in one of our letters to the Board, we probably will not be able to meet the standards he has set but we will certainly try our best.