From the Editor-in-Chief

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The current issue of East/West: Journal of Ukrainian Studies is a special thematic issue dedicated to the city of Odesa (a companion volume to EWJUS's earlier issue on Kharkiv). Guest edited by Volodymyr Kravchenko (Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies [CIUS], University of Alberta) and Jessica Zychowicz (Fulbright Ukraine and the Institute of International Education, Kyiv Office), the issue features five articles that collectively study the cosmopolitan and ethnically diverse character of Ukraine’s third most populous city and the largest port on the Black Sea. The topics in the issue include Odesa’s economic and social structures in the late nineteenth century, Soviet attempts to protect Odesa’s municipal well-being in the early 1920s, literary and cultural aspects of the Odesa-myth, and Odesa’s contemporary shifting linguistic landscape.

The present issue also features an essay on the responsibility of historians at the time of Russia’s manipulation of history to justify its genocidal war against Ukraine, a translation of a Ukrainian article on the topic of Polish-Ukrainian dialogue related to the restitution of cultural property displaced during World War II, a review essay, and several book reviews that appraise recent works in Ukrainian studies. Finally, the issue offers an obituary for Andrew Gregorovich—a librarian at the University of Toronto and a scholar of Ukrainian history.

Future publications of EWJUS will include another thematic issue on Ukraine’s major cities (focusing on Dnipro and Zaporizhzhia) and a special issue dedicated to the environmental humanities in Ukrainian studies.

This is the second year of the English-Ukrainian translation initiative for EWJUS. The translation of EWJUS articles into Ukrainian is performed by senior graduate students in the MA Translation program at the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. The project is headed on the Ukrainian side by Prof. Lada Kolomiyets and Dr. Olena Pidhrushna. I am so grateful to the supervisors and student translators who continued to work on this project during a time of Russia’s war against Ukraine! In 2021–22, students completed the translation of articles selected from vol. 8, no. 2 (fall 2021) and vol. 9, no. 1 (spring 2022). Translations of articles from vol. 8, no. 2 are now available on the EWJUS website under “Translations” as well as
alongside the original articles in the table of contents of this volume. I expect to publish translations of articles from vol. 9, no. 1 in the winter. Altogether, twelve articles are now available in Ukrainian translation on the EWJUS website, making EWJUS publications available for readers in Ukraine.

I continue to develop the visibility and academic profile of EWJUS. This year, an academic partnership was established with the Central and Eastern European Online Library where EWJUS’s publications are now indexed. I am presently developing an equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) statement for EWJUS, following the most recent trends in the field of scholarly publishing.

The publication of the present EWJUS issue (vol. 9, no. 2, fall 2022) was made possible with the generous support of the Anna and Nikander Bukowsky Endowment Fund at the CIUS. I am grateful to Volodymyr Kravchenko and Jessica Zychowicz, the guest editors for this issue, to our book review editor Tania Stech (CIUS, Toronto Office), to our copyeditors Marcia Craig (Edmonton, AB) and Ksenia Maryniak (CIUS), to our editorial assistants Cossette Massa and Yaldar Abzakh (MacEwan University), and to Marko Stech, the director of CIUS Press and scholarly publications.

EWJUS unequivocally condemns Russia’s war against Ukraine. As the editor of EWJUS, I sincerely hope that our authors and readers are safe, or at least as safe as they could be in these difficult times. Ukraine will prevail!

October 20, 2022