

## INTRODUCTION TO EDITION 9

We deemed it necessary to provide this edition of the SOAS Journal of Postgraduate Research with an introduction, in order to explain the changes that occurred over the past and current academic year, fundamentally shaping the present publication.

The completion of this edition faced several challenges, which cumulatively led to a delay in its final publication date. One of the reasons for this was a change in the editorial team that occurred in late 2016, and brought about also a reorganisation in the Journal's processes and operations.

The review process and the selection of papers of this edition were conducted under the editorial leadership of Roshni Menon, who worked remotely and dedicatedly from her field site in India to coordinate the review process of the year's submissions to the Journal. The editing of the selected papers and the operations leading to the final publication were undertaken by the new editorial team, led by Romina Istratii and Monika Hirmer. Romina acted as reviewer for the first round, while Monika had submitted her own article for review.

When the new editors took over, by fair and transparent election process as conducted by the RSA (Research Students' Association), the new editors were called to work first on completing edition 9, which had not been completed within the timeframe of the academic year 2015-16. This inevitably included editing and proofreading the papers for publication. This final editing was done with the support of a professional service. It should be clear that Monika served as editor-in-chief only after the review process had been completed by Roshni Menon, and she was in no way involved in the paper selection and particularly in the acceptance of her own paper. It should also be mentioned that Romina's role as reviewer for edition 9 was completed before she ran in the elections as editor-in-chief; the two roles are in no way linked to each other, nor did the former in any way lead to the latter.

We also want to bring to the attention of the reader that this year the Journal is published with a new layout. The current PDF publication will also be accompanied by its limited printed version, for the first time in the history of the Journal. It is equally noteworthy that the papers are published under the Creative Commons copyright licensing, and have been given permanent URLs, which will enable them to become visible in library search engines, making them accessible to a larger readership of the student and academic community.

### EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

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Review Process: Roshni Menon

Editing and Publication: Romina Istratii and Monika Hirmer

### ASSISTANT EDITORS

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Iris Lim, Juliana Cordeiro De Farias Bosslet, Jay Carr

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