

Editorial

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Executive Editor of SLOVO, 2018-2019

I am pleased to introduce the Spring issue of SLOVO (Volume 32), the peer-reviewed academic journal managed and edited by the postgraduate students at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies at UCL. This issue upholds the publication's interdisciplinary tradition, comprising articles from a wide range of disciplines, from literature to cultural anthropology.

The articles, which cover a broad region including Russia, East Europe and the Caucasus, have been selected by SLOVO's Editorial Board and were subject to a rigorous peer-review process. The issue opens with Alisa Sopova's extremely interesting ethnographic work, exploring the engagement of civilians with the material culture of war in eastern Ukraine. The second article, written by Ketii Chartolani, deals with the underexplored topic of Soviet Georgian science fiction and its contribution to the formation of Georgian national identity. Subsequently, James Livingstone takes the reader on a journey through Dostoevsky's world, examining the role that dreams play here. The section of research articles concludes with Arleen Ionescu's article, using witness descriptions to analyse the tragic Communist Romanian Pitești experiment.

The film reviews segment includes Teodosia Dobriyanova's review on Viktor Kossakovskiy's documentary film *'Aquarela'*, Savina Petkova's commentary on Kirill Serebrennikov's *'Leto'*, Elizabeth Woods's analysis of Anatoly Vasilyev's *'Asino'* and Philip Lugmayr's review on Klim Shipenko's *'Salyut 7'*. Also included in this issue is Gary Lawson's review on Vladimir Yakunin's newly published book *'The Treacherous Path: An Insider's Account of Modern Russia'*, and Promise Frank Ejiofor's commentary on Mukhtar Hajizada's article *'Challenges and Opportunities for Establishing a Security Community in the Wider Black Sea Area'* published in Southeast European and Black Sea Studies.

The completion of this issue was only possible thanks to the commitment of the 2018-2019 Editorial Board members: Managing Editors, Deborah Sutton and Anastasia Agafonova; Film Review Editor, Isabel Jacobs; Book Review Editors, Oliver Banatvala and Elizabeth Woods; General Editors, Joseph Graham and Jakub Ruzsarczyk; and PR Manager Stanca Oproiu. I should mention that the academic supervisor of SLOVO has changed this year. Therefore, I would like to express my gratitude to both Professor Alena Ledeneva, who held the role of supervisor until

2019, and Dr Sergei Bogatyrev, who has agreed to take on the supervising baton for the publication of this work. Their advice and support have been invaluable throughout the entire process. Also, I would like to sincerely thank the former Executive Editor of SLOVO, Katherine Allison for sharing her experience with us. Finally, I must acknowledge the role of the peer-reviewers who have collaborated with us and helped ensure the high quality of the journal is maintained.

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