

Editors' note

The second issue of ANZJES for 2022 is the outcome of the joint conference of the Australasian Association for Communist and Post-Communist Studies (AACaPS) and European Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand (ESAANZ), hosted by the RMIT University's European Union Centre of Excellence in November 2021.

The conference was held in a hybrid mode at the time Australia and other parts of the world were coming out of the lockdowns and restrictions related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Over the past two years, we became acutely aware of the Covid-19 related borders and boundaries. The borders and boundaries are not only physical, but they can also be psychological and indeed systemic. These borders and boundaries are acutely relevant to the regions of our interest (Europe, Eurasia and Asia). No wonder the main theme of this conference was 'Beyond Borders and Boundaries: Europe, Eurasia and Asia'.

The conference has attracted over 60 papers from scholars and postgraduate students who are coming not only from Australia and New Zealand but also from many other countries in Asia, Europe and North America. It has also included an exceptional keynote speaker, Professor Juliet Johnson from McGill University, Canada – a scholar with an outstanding international reputation in research on post-communist Europe; two outstanding conference lecture presenters, and an exciting panel with diplomatic representatives including His Excellency Dr. Alexey Pavlovsky, Russian Ambassador to Australia who shared his knowledge on the long-lasting conflict in Nagorny Karabakh.

This ANZJES issue represents a sophisticated mix of papers from scholars with European and Eurasian perspectives on issues related to pandemic, nationalism, devolution, sovereignty, governance, and economic performance in the EU and/or Central Asia and China. It is another important contribution to the European and Eurasian Post-Communist scholarship in Australia

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