Editorial Note

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After being re-founded several years ago, the Ljubljana-based *Journal of International Relations and Development* (JIRD) has established itself as the leading internationally peer-reviewed academic journal in International Relations (IR) and International Political Economy (IPE) from Central and Eastern Europe. In 1999, it became the official journal of the *Central and East European International Studies Association* (CEEISA). Hence, it was perhaps only a question of time before its international distribution was extended, such as through the present arrangements with Palgrave Macmillan. With this, JIRD is embarking on a new journey supported by its own important tradition.

JIRD's concern is truly pan-European in a global context. JIRD has set itself the task of overcoming the persistent academic divisions in post-Berlin Wall Europe, at least in the study of international affairs. It invites scholars from the region to come to the fore and will continue to provide a forum where Eastern or Western European researchers, still largely unaware of each other, can render their findings open to exchange and debate. It decided to enhance the successful formula of international cooperation — the editors from the previous term of office came from Ljubljana and Prague — to make the editorial team even more international. Thus, the main editorial office in Ljubljana is headed up by one of the coeditors, whereas the other is located in Copenhagen/Uppsala and the book review editor is from Prague.

Yet, for all its unavoidable European touch, JIRD only makes sense as part of an ongoing international academic discussion. We do not want to encourage European provincialism, as difficult as this might be sometimes. Instead, we are striving to keep publications at an internationally competitive level whose findings must be confronted with the state of the art and where different viewpoints and academic traditions, including those that are less well-known, are taken into account. Anything else would hardly match the spirit of a journal seeking to expand visible scholarship in IR and IPE. The centrepiece of this strategy is the double-blind international peer-review process that JIRD has been successfully practising for several years.

JIRD's editorial policy follows in the tradition of journals of international studies' associations.

We will continue to feature articles, review essays, fora for discussions, and special issues. We seek submissions that usually have a theoretical component and/or relate to debates in the discipline of international relations in a wide sense. Further, we are open to all currents of international studies. Hence, we are looking for submissions from all different fields of IR and IPE, from its different theoretical schools and quantitative, qualitative, purely theoretical, or philosophical/normative methodologies. Finally, despite the regional association link, in fact, *JIRD* has no exclusive regional focus. In tennis terminology, it is a 'CEE Open' tournament where the best make it wherever they come from and on whichever court they play.

A final word of gratitude goes to Zlatko Šabič and his team in Ljubljana and Prague who have managed to get *JIRD* to where it is now, to our board and to the referees who oversaw and helped guarantee the journal's quality.

The Editors