

A YEAR IN REVIEW - 2018

It's been a very good year!

As we work towards our goals, we have a lot of achievements to share with you.



Visibility and discoverability

Our [Facebook group](#) is growing at such a rate that we can barely keep up welcoming everyone as we are reaching even wider audiences through this channel. Our mailing list has been reaching out to targeted audiences - readers, editors and reviewers - with specific campaigns.

In September ESNBU's application was approved and the journal was included in DOAJ. In November it was included for coverage in World of Science Emerging Sources Citation Index, beginning with the issues from 2017, and in early December we signed an agreement with EBSCO. In mid December the National Centre for Documentation and Information (NACID) included the journal in the list of refereed and referenced titles.

At the same time we have been witnessing an increasingly higher number of hits to the website from around the world, stretching to China, Australia and Africa, and especially North American universities and university libraries.

Our goals to improve the transparency of our publishing process have lead us to launch a section of our site – [ESNBU Backstage](#) – to state our values, and provide information about the editorial and reviewing procedures. In the aims of educating the readership and in particular researchers at the beginning of their academic career, we started building a Knowledge base.

Industry best practices

In keeping with the latest industry best practices we have updated several policies. Firstly, we have been transitioning towards full implementation of ORCID ID since early in 2017. As of 2019 it will be mandatory for corresponding authors and editors. At the same time we are educating our authors on the benefits of having this identifier.

Secondly, we are explaining more of our policies regarding the “openness” of the journal. Besides open access to articles and applying the Commons CC-BY-NC license, we are making explicit the “open data” aspect of open access, and we are encouraging authors to open their data with a suitable license of their choice. We are also educating the authors about the benefits of providing their data as open to access, use and reuse and how it can help their visibility as researchers, the discoverability of their outputs, and the trust they build with fellow scholars and publishers. For more detail, read the [Knowledge base](#) in the Backstage section of our web site.

Editorial board new term of office 2019-2022

The first Term of Office of the ESNBU Editorial Board underwent a renewal in November after the set period of four years, 2015-2018. This involved the replacement of members, inviting others, and renewing some of the existing members for another term.

In this issue, we are paying tribute to Desmond Thomas, Tatiana Fed and Maria Stambolieva who are leaving to pursue other commitments and we are welcoming two new members of the Editorial board, Tadd Graham Fernée and Abdelmajid Bouziane, for the next term of office 2019-2022.

We are thankful to the leaving members, but we also owe gratitude to the ones who are staying to keep helping us make ESNBU an even better quality academic journal.

Meet the [new Editorial Board 2019-2022](#) on the ESNBU web site and find details about the [Editorial Board functions](#).

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has been with us on this journey so far and who have contributed to the development of the journal.

Enjoy reading this thematic issue!

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Managing Editor

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