

## **Towards the 72<sup>nd</sup> issue of the *Faculty of Philosophy's Annual***

I am very pleased to present the 72<sup>nd</sup> issue of the *Faculty of Philosophy – Skopje' Annual*. In this interregnum year, between the important jubilees that marked the previous two editions of the Annual (70 issues of the journal in 2017 and the 70 years of Annual's existence in 2018) and the forthcoming significant jubilee of the Faculty of Philosophy - Skopje next year - 2020 (100 years of existence of the Faculty), it seems that we cannot emphasize this issue of the journal from the prism of some more significant celebration. No major innovations were introduced in the past year, as was the case in the previous three issues. At first sight, this represents a very standard issue of the journal. However, the authors, the editorial board, and anyone who participated in the publication of the journal should best express such an opinion. From an editorial perspective, I can confirm that each published word carries its own weight, and any shared scientific dilemma or eureka represents a specific scientific cosmogony whose value cannot be found in some external factors, such as jubilees. In its field of reference, each article represents a certain shift in ideas or achievements in that field or in the author himself, a change that cannot be quantified. Even if this change is small, it is still a certain movement forward. In that sense, no edition of the Annual that has seen the light of day is an ordinary or insignificant issue. Submerging the ever-new and unexplored scientific worlds is always challenging and fresh, and such a feat can only seem to the one without the adventurous spirit as already seen and a commonplace.

If, as we noted in previous years, jubilees are an occasion for repose, to evaluate the work done, then with this issue we can mark the end of the reflection on the methodology of the Annual, and slowly accelerate the reflection on how the Annual can further deepen its role in improving the quality of scientific and research work at the Faculty of Philosophy.

In terms of quantity, the Annual is richer than the last year, and in this issue we can read 26 peer-reviewed papers (52 in total including English translations) in the field of philosophy, pedagogy, history, history of art, psychology, security, defense and peace, social work and social politics, special education and rehabilitation, gender and family studies. Balancing this disciplinary diversity was again a challenge for the editorial board, but it was accepted from the beginning as condicio sine qua non. The greatness of the Faculty of Philosophy will always remain in its diversity, and the task of any editorial of the Annual is to face the challenges that this diversity brings.

This issue is the last one for the editorial board in this formation. I thank all the members of the editorial board for their dedication and patien-

ce in contributing to the creation of these four issues of the Annual. I thank them for their passion in realizing the challenges we have set ourselves in order to fulfill the responsibility and task entrusted to us.

In antiquity, the optimistic idea is created that excellence in our actions is not the result of a certain innate disposition, nor is any coincidence; excellence is learned and it must be practiced. Not everyone can achieve it, but everyone has a tendency to achieve it; the individual himself must choose to achieve and upgrade it. Special attention is paid to self-knowledge, self-control and spiritual autonomy. The Stoics go on further: each of us has a duty and a task to attain excellence. According to Aristotle, the excellent is exempt in the laws that apply to others because this man is the law itself. According to these ancient recommendations, we can derive the implication that the only parameters by which our excellence can be "measured" are the internal ones. The internal regulator knows best how to lead the individual because it works from the inside, the only perspective that is valid. It must be the result of a strong will, thoughtfulness, patience, and a sincere desire to follow on what is our duty by nature. Thinking in this direction, I see the Faculty of Philosophy's Annual as an internal "unit of measure" for the scientific autonomy of the Faculty of Philosophy. How much we "practice" excellence can be shown in our actions realized in our immediate, home environment. It is where we are our most authentic self. Therefore, I wish in the future that the Annual would increasingly witness our scientific self-knowledge, self-control, and autonomy.

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Editor-in-chief