

**LETTER  
FROM THE  
EDITOR-  
IN-CHIEF**

**Dear Readers,**

As we present this Fall edition of *The Cyprus Review*, we find ourselves at a significant juncture in the evolution of academic publishing, influenced markedly by advancements in artificial intelligence (AI). The intersection of AI and academic journals is a crucial one and the multifaceted implications that AI innovations bring to the scholarly community must be examined. In embracing AI, academic journals can significantly enhance their operational efficiency, improve their discoverability and quality of research, and expand accessibility, ultimately contributing to the progression of knowledge dissemination. Yet, it is ultimately the synergy of AI and human expertise that ensures a balanced and thorough process.

While the benefits of technological advancement are numerous, it remains crucial to navigate the ethical considerations and maintain the integrity of research communications. As with any technological tool, the deployment of AI in academic publishing necessitates a vigilant approach to ethical considerations. Journals must ensure that AI algorithms are transparent and regularly audited to uphold the integrity of the publication process. While AI can streamline certain processes, the interpretative and evaluative skills of human reviewers remain indispensable. Despite the technological advances, the foundational values of academic rigor, quality, and integrity remain paramount in the mission of scholarly publishing. As we navigate these changes, the editorial team at *The Cyprus Review* remains dedicated to delivering high-quality research and facilitating important discussions about the future of academic publishing.

Like every year, *The Cyprus Review* celebrated research excellence with its *Cyprus Review Annual Book Awards Ceremony* (CRABA 2024), for books published in 2023, which was held on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024. The Lifetime Achievement Award was conferred this year to Andreas Theophanous and to Diana Markides, in

recognition of their distinct significant body of published work, especially in connection to the evolution of the Cyprus Question. In the ‘Political Sciences and History’ category, the ‘Stanley Kyriakides Award’ was conferred to Antonis Hadjikyriacou for his book *Χερσαίο Νησί. Η Μεσόγειος και η Κύπρος στην Οθωμανική Εποχή των Επαναστάσεων* (Ψηφίδες), while the ‘Junior Researcher Honourable Mention’ was awarded to Kyriakos Iacovides for his book *Τρεις Αριστερές (ΕΔΑ, ΚΚΕ, ΑΚΕΛ) και το Κυπριακό Ζήτημα* (Επίκεντρο). In the ‘Social Sciences’ category, ‘Honourable Mention’ was awarded to Ioanna Alexandrou for her book *Ελληνικόν Γυμνάσιον Αιγιαλούσης 1948-1976* (Αιγιαίον) and to Theodoros Rakopoulos for his book *Passport Island. The Market for EU Citizenship in Cyprus* (Manchester University Press). In the ‘Law’ category, the ‘Constantinos Emilianides Award’ was conferred to Christos O. Ioannides for his book *Το Δίκαιο στους Τομείς της Υγείας* (Hippasus) while the ‘Junior Researcher Award’ was given to Stella Mala Heracleous for her book *Το Νομικό Πλαίσιο του Διαδικτυακού Μισαλλόδοξου Λόγου* (Hippasus). Special thanks as always, to all the participants and to the Scientific Committees that examined these works. Our new Call for nominations for *The Cyprus Review Annual Book Awards* (CRABA 2025), for books published in 2024, can be found on our website and at the end of this issue.

The collection of articles in this issue delve once again into a wide array of scientific disciplines, thus exploring a diversity of research topics. The first article, by Zenonas Tziarras (University of Cyprus), examines the Republic of Cyprus’ foreign policy in the Eastern Mediterranean, particularly its involvement in regional cooperation and the formation of quasi-alliances, evaluating the success of the Republic’s policy since the early 2010s. It is argued that, despite some progress, the country’s foreign policy is hindered by lack of vision, insufficient strategic planning and institutional capacities, leaving it susceptible to domestic politics, populist rhetoric, and geopolitical shifts.

The second article, by Despina Sfountouri, Alexandros Antonaras, Melpo Iacovidou and Ioanna Papasolomou (University of Nicosia), examines the current state of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) reporting within small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Cyprus and Greece, particularly in light of the recent Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive. It highlights the low maturity level of these SMEs in ESG reporting and proposes a model framework to aid in data collection and disclosure, addressing the need for a cost-effective and user-friendly approach.

In the third article, Erica Charalambous (Coventry University) explores the epistemology of dance, by focusing on how it is captured, archived, transmitted, and reused as a form of knowledge. The author uses her autoethnographic dance experiences to establish a genealogy that serves as a foundation for critical analysis, linking the practitioner's perspective with cultural and social history through a post-structural methodological approach.

The fourth article, authored by Vasileia Anaxagorou (University of Cyprus), explores the role of performance art in Cyprus as a medium for challenging historical narratives and addressing sociopolitical issues, despite initial resistance to its acceptance as a legitimate art form. Through the pioneering work of Arianna Economou, who combined avant-garde techniques with political activism, the study highlights how performance art has facilitated inter-communal exchanges and contributed to the development of Cyprus's art scene.

As always, the issue is enriched with our Book Reviews Section, which presents recent bibliographical research pertaining to Cyprus. This Section is followed by our new Call for Papers on "Challenges and Prospects of Cyprus Education in a VUCA (Votality, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity) World." In this respect, the Call invites scholars, researchers, educators, policy-makers, and practitioners, to contribute to a critical discourse on the transformation of the Cypriot educational landscape.

At the end of this issue you can find our recent Call for nominations for *The Cyprus Review Annual Book Awards* (CRABA 2025), for books published during 2024. Like every year, we invite nominations in the fields of (I) History and Political Science, (II) Social Sciences, and (III) Law, either in Greek or in English, which have Cyprus as their subject matter.

Once again, we express our heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to the creation of this issue. We encourage our readers to explore its content, interact with the authors, initiate discussions, and support the advancement of academic Cypriological research.

**Christina Ioannou**  
**Editor-in-Chief**