

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

**Dear Readers,**

As the semester winds down, our team is taking a break over the Christmas holidays and I am once again reflecting on the year that was for our Journal. Seeing *The Cyprus Review* grow in the past few years has been very rewarding, but it has also come with many challenges. As a flagship journal of cypriological research in our community, *The Cyprus Review* upholds the ethical principles and standards of scientific publication, which are also safeguarded by our very strict double-blind review process. The great increase in the number of articles that we have been receiving has not compromised these principles at all, and we are more ready than ever to intensify these efforts and work towards sustaining a high degree of scientific rigour in an even more timely fashion.

Promoting cypriological research to the wider community, while at the same time rewarding excellence in research and inspiring others to engage in the field, is an integral part of our role. This is something that we address through our Annual Book Awards Ceremony (CRABA), which was held this year on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023. The books under consideration were those written in 2022. In the category of History and Political Science, the ‘Stanley Kyriakides Award’ was conferred this year to Dr Nikos Moudouros for his book *Διεκδικώντας την πατρίδα. Η τουρκοκυπριακή αντιπολίτευση την περίοδο 1964-2004* (Ψηφίδες), while the Junior Researcher Award in the same category was conferred to Dr Beatrice Pestarino for her book *Kyprion Politeia: The Political and Administrative Systems of the Classical Cypriot City-Kingdom* (Brill). In the field of Social Sciences, the ‘Peter Loizos Award’ was conferred to Maria Mathaiou and Argyro Xenofontos for their book *Τα Παραμύθια της Κύπρου* (Κέντρο Επιστημονικών Ερευνών), while Nicoletta Demetriou received an Honourable Mention in the same category for her book *Ο Κύπριος Βιολάρης. Η Προφορική Ιστορία μιας επαγγελματικής τάξης στον εικοστό αιώνα* (Ψηφίδες). In the field of Law, the Junior Researcher Award was conferred to Maria Kyprianou

for her book *Η Πύθμιση της Πορνείας στην Κύπρο* (Νομική Βιβλιοθήκη). The ‘Lifetime Achievement Award’ was conferred to Polys Polyviou in recognition of his significant body of published work, especially on Cypriot public and private law.

This issue includes six articles. The first, by Alexia Zalaf, Andronikos Chatzis, Anastasia Economou and Diamantoula Pappa, investigates the relationship between intimate partner violence, perceived stress, and quality of life in Cyprus during and after the first lockdown as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The second article, by Theodoros Tsakiris, considers how the effects of the Russian-Ukrainian War have been catastrophic for the EU-Russian gas trade. In this context, the author explores the opportunity for the Republic of Cyprus to be part of the EU’s strategic long-term pivot away from Russian gas.

Alex Ioannou focuses in his article on the redesign of Eleftheria Square, trying to position it within Nicosia’s urban historical context. As such, the paper encourages discussions about the historical dimension of urban development and urban change in Nicosia.

Evaghoras L. Evaghorou analyses Turkey’s strategy in relation to the Cyprus question, as well as its political and negotiating positions. According to the author, determining the strength of this connection between Turkey’s political and negotiating positions and its wider strategic pursuits, leads to conclusions regarding a possible resolution of the Cyprus problem.

Nicos Trimikliniotis critically reviews historical debates over anticolonialism and liberation struggles in Cyprus. His article is essentially a contribution to the history and historiography of Cypriot communism, inspired by two recent volumes on Cypriot communism.

Finally, Marina Athanasiou-Taki explores the ways in which artists experience the issue of national/cultural identity and its connection with language during the second decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century in Cyprus. In this context, the author focuses on the use of the Cypriot dialect by Greek Cypriot directors in theatre performances.

This issue also features a Policy Paper by Andreas Theophanous, entitled *The Cyprus Problem, the EU and the UN: An Overall Assessment and the Way Forward*. The author utilises Reports that he submitted over time in an attempt to assess the current phase of the Cyprus Problem and to submit a brief proposal for its resolution.

In this issue's Book Review Section, you can find 19 reviews. They all concern strictly cyprological books, which have been recently published.

At the end of this issue you can find our open Calls for Papers for our upcoming Special Sections. There are currently three open Calls: The first on "Cypriot Diplomacy and its Evolution Post-EU Accession"; the second on the "Twenty Years after the Accession of the Republic of Cyprus to the EU"; and the third on "Cyprus and International Law" dedicated to the memory of Dr Kypros Chrysostomides.

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