

EDITORIAL

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The year 2015 marks the fourth year of Nordic Journal of Migration Research (NJMR). Similar to any four-year old child who begins to be more independent and imaginative and develops fast at this age, NJMR too is in a period of significant transformations. The biggest development in the life of this four-year-old is the introduction of an electronic submission platform, which was launched last October. NJMR had grown so fast, with increasing number of new submissions, that it became difficult to manage it manually. The electronic submission system not only makes the production process easier to handle, more reliable and professional, but it also importantly adds to the transparency of the production process vis-à-vis authors. Now, authors can check on the process of their manuscript any time online. The electronic submission, hopefully, also increases the efficiency of our processes while we continue to hold on to the quality and peer-review integrity. Having said that, the publication timeline depends less on working technology than on the good-will of the academic community. In times when time has become a rare commodity, and academic competition is the name of the game, there is more and more pressure to decline an invitation to review a manuscript. Yet, acting as a reviewer is the academic service that all scholars depend on. Thus, agreeing to act as a peer-reviewer and providing a just and thorough review is a true gift to the community—a gift that will certainly bring good academic karma for years to come. We wish to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all scholars who have contributed to the journal, and the academic community, their time and expertise by acting as reviewers. We also want to thank all our colleagues who have reviewed books for the journal during these years.

As any guardian of a four-year-old will know, a child at this age often shows new sides of competitiveness. Similarly, at NJMR, we have decided to embrace this phase of child development by launching two new competitions this year. First, we introduce an annual Special Issue competition for guest edited themed issues to be published from December 2016 onwards. In the previous years, we have increasingly received many Special Issue proposals. Rather than evaluating and deciding randomly on these Special Issue proposals, we want to increase transparency and fairness in relation to Special Issue publications by comparing several proposals at once. Please see the journal homepage for guidelines on sending an SI proposal to the managing editor, Tiina Vaittinen. The deadline of submission is May 15th, 2015. Second, we want to promote the authors of NJMR by launching a competition to select the best article published in NJMR. The winner will be announced at the biannual NMR conference, the forthcoming in Oslo 2016. For this competition, the article prize committee will select the best article published in 2014–2015. We call upon all friends of the four-year-old NJMR to embrace these new developments this coming year.

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NJMR Referees Vol. III-IV

The editorial team is grateful to the following scholars who have invested their time and expertise in the peer-review processes during the production of volumes III and IV (2013–2014).

It is only through the help of qualified referees that we can ensure high standards of publication.

Thank you!

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