

EDITORIAL

Growing up the South Eastern European Journal of Public Health

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The South Eastern European Journal of Public Health (SEEJPH) is an online, open-access, international, peer-reviewed journal, which was launched in 2013 (1). It covers all areas of health sciences, with a main focus on public health. SEEJPH is a journal originating from the ten years of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe (2001-2011), but aiming to provide a forum for all countries in transition worldwide, whose research work would otherwise be hardly visible. From this point of view, this journal strives to promote particularly an area referred to as “*Health Transition Research*” (1).

Time is passing, though, and our “baby”, the SEEJPH, is already two years old by now, or more precisely four volumes “old” – volumes with excellent peer-reviewed contributions from many parts of the world and fascinating discussions e.g. on a view back to the Maastricht Treaty on European Union by the leading negotiators of the time (2); “endorsement” of a public health profession (3); the South East European Health Network (SEEHN) (4); the European public health education accreditation system (5); public health ethics (6); as well as several other outstanding original research and review articles tackling a wide range of public health issues.

Time to prepare for preschool furtherance? Yes, indeed! We moved to the Open Journal System (OJS), kindly hosted by the University of Bielefeld in Germany. OJS provides all the necessary technical facilities including online submission and review process. But, not only that! In addition, we are now registered in Index Copernicus and are currently under consideration by several other electronic databases.

Our executive editorship remains in Tirana, Albania, but we are happy to have engaged now regional editors covering the globe:

- Samir N. Banoob, President, International Health Management, Tampa, Florida, USA, for the Middle East.
- Evelyne de Leeuw, Editor-in-Chief of Health Promotion International, Sydney, Australia, for the Western Pacific Region.
- Damen Haile Mariam, University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, for the African Region.
- Charles Surjadi, Faculty of Medicine, Atmajaya University, Jakarta, Indonesia, for the South East Asian Region.
- Laura Magana Valladares, Secretaria Académica, Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública, Mexico, Mexico, for Latin America.

However, the journal will grow only upon a firm and long-term commitment of experts and researchers worldwide who believe in the professionalisation of public health in order to advance public health education, training, research and practice.

We learned from many sides that SEEJPH is considered a valuable contribution to Public Health in South Eastern Europe and transitional countries worldwide. We look forward to applying for an impact factor as soon as it looks promising. Your high level contributions will help a lot. Thus, no time to celebrate but to grow up our little child to adolescence and adulthood!

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