

Acta Nova Humanistica: **the New Academic Journal of** **New Bulgarian University**

Acta Nova Humanistica is the title of New Bulgarian University's latest academic journal, dedicated to the humanities. Its mission, bolstered by open access and English as its working language, is to open new horizons for both established and emerging scholars, extending their reach to a broader academic audience beyond Bulgaria. As the title suggests, the journal deliberately avoids narrow specialisation, striving instead to support and encourage interdisciplinary approaches to the issues in focus.

The New Bulgarian University campus, located on the city's outskirts near the foot of a mountain, offers beautiful views and clean air. Yet this location also presents the risk of seclusion in the 'ivory tower' of academic life. In response, *ANH* is an attempt not only to step beyond the university's 'corridors' but also to transcend the constraints of 'corridor academia.' The journal reflects a growing awareness within today's academic world of the tension between regulatory demands for narrow specialisation in individual disciplines and the modern trends in humanities research toward inter-, cross-, and trans-disciplinary approaches. One of the journal's goals is to overcome this 'corridor-like' approach to academia.

This aim aligns with mission of New Bulgarian University, whose goal is 'to be innovative and enterprising in the development of university education, research, and creativity through general classical, interdisciplinary, and specialised training, and research and creative activity within open international networks.' Central to the University's academic profile, as reflected in its curricula, is the principle of interdisciplinarity across the humanities and social sciences. Part of its mission is to foster dialogue and fruitful collaboration across disciplines from all areas of the academic spectrum – including its farthest reaches.

This principle finds expression in both the curricula and the overall academic environment that NBU strives to cultivate. Colleagues would

often share that one of the rewards of teaching and/or undertaking research at NBU is the opportunity to engage with and listen to the critical perspectives of senior colleagues who work and students who study in entirely different academic fields.

Acta Nova Humanistica aims to build on the traditions established in the University's curricula and academic culture by bringing them into the realm of academic publishing. The journal plans to publish two issues per year, each with a predefined focal theme or problem, or dedicated to a figure of significance to the academic world. While a leading theme will guide each issue, contributions will not be limited solely to that topic. The first two issues are dedicated to Julia Kristeva, while the third issue, currently accepting submissions, will focus on the work and legacy of Tzvetan Todorov. The journal is open to researchers not only from New Bulgarian University but also from other Bulgarian and international academic institutions and research centres, welcoming contributions from both junior and established scholars.

The journal's inaugural issue is an opportunity for the editorial team to extend their gratitude to both the contributors and guest editor, as well as to the staff of the University Book Centre and Publishing House at New Bulgarian University. Their tireless efforts have made this beginning possible. They have succeeded in setting a standard that the journal will strive to uphold in future issues.

Best wishes for success to all colleagues involved!

From the Editorial Board