Dear Readers,

I would first like to take the liberty, on behalf of my most esteemed colleagues and collaborators, as well as in my own name, of saying how proud I am due to the publication of the 14th issue of the international scientific journal ToMS (“Transactions on Maritime Science”), published by the Faculty of Maritime Science of the University of Split. As has been the case before, the papers have been submitted to three double-blind reviews, of which at least one from abroad, i.e. a country different from the one in which the author lives.

This issue can boast the largest number of papers so far – as many as eleven, as well as an impressive list of foreign authors, as many as ten. It brings eleven papers from several scientific areas: marine engineering, nautical science, safety at sea, commerce in ports, electronics, maritime medicine, as well as the ones aimed at improving and promoting ways and methods of teaching the English language to students. In any case, there is something for everyone interested in navigation, either at sea or rivers.

In the section entitled News we bring two papers. I would hereby particularly like to draw your attention to the tradition of preserving the building of historical boats in the villages of the Island of Murter which seems, regretfully, to be sinking into oblivion. We believe this effort to be the last defence line against such, undesired and undeserved, outcome.

The section also includes reports on various regattas, as well as a number of exhibitions and summer workshops.

The Croatian cultural heritage has by no means been omitted. We take exceptional pride in the fact that the poem hereby published is the work of Jakša Fiamengo. Born in 1946, he is a prize-winning poet from Komiža on the island of Vis, a distinguished member of the Croatian Academy of Science and Art, as well as the author of numerous texts and lyrics for popular music and Dalmatian klapa (a capella) songs. This poem has been set to music by Duško Tambača and performed by Klapa Gusarica of Komiža. This contribution is presented in a bilingual form in the striking translation by Mirna Ćudić Žgela. Readers of the electronic edition can also listen to this outstanding performance.

We always remain in the hope that the papers we publish will encourage your cooperation.