Preface

History in Flux was launched a year ago to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the History Department at the Faculty of Humanities at Juraj Dobrila University of Pula in Croatia. During this turbulent year of 2020, the journal’s homepage at Hrčak, the online platform for Croatian academic and professional journals, has been visited nearly four thousand times, and each paper’s page approximately two to three hundred times. We view this as an accomplishment for a new journal published by a small university and that presents the work of predominantly young scholars. As editors, we have continued according to plan by publishing this second volume in December 2020, and we hope it will be at least as successful in reaching an audience as the first one.

This issue presents six papers on contemporary history that were originally presented in a shorter form at two conferences held at Juraj Dobrila University of Pula. Anna Katalin Aklan’s paper comes from the third biennial conference in the series Past, Present, Future, which was organized around the topic Peace in History: Avoiding War and the Quest for Social Justice by the History Department in May 2019. The papers by Péter Vukman, Lenka Krátká, Juliette Ronsin, Smiljana Milinkov, and Andrew Hodges are based on their presentations at the fourth international conference Socialism on the Bench: Continuities and Innovations held in September 2019 and organized by the university’s Centre for Cultural and Historical Research of Socialism. Hence, this issue focuses on leaders of nonviolence, various aspects of the history of socialism, and how this history is reflected in the post-socialist period. It presents new research into national histories and how they intersect, and it includes cases connecting Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, France, Yugoslavia, Serbia and Croatia.

The call for the journal’s next volume is now open, and prospective contributors are invited to submit their papers. These contributions will help the journal to continue working toward its original goal of serving as a meeting point for global and local perspectives on history from antiquity to the present, and to create a bridge between international audiences and historiographies traditionally published in their national languages.

Editors