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Editorial

Wolfram Elsner¹

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Dear reader of the REPE issue #5 (2–2021),

This is the first “regular” REPE issue, fully based on independently submitted articles. “Stand-alone” papers that were neither solicited from leading scholars in the field, as was the case for issues 1 and 2 last year, nor invited in the frame of one of the special issues, as in issues 3–2020 and 1–2021. As said in an earlier editorial, we could not expect young scholars to submit their individual papers to a new journal with no formal impact factor yet. Nevertheless, the two special issues that we had so far did include articles of young scholars indeed.

This issue is made up from well-established senior scholars and well-known mid-career scholars. But, one paper is from a young scholar, indeed, under the support and co-authorship of a senior scholar: *Jonas Rama’s* and *John Hall’s* paper may serve as a kind of a model to bring in young scholars even in regular issues and even as we are not ranked yet, just as the special issues have served and may serve in the future as such a potential channel or platform for young scholars. A special thanks goes to John.

Otherwise, this is an “American” issue, or an “Anglo-Saxon” one, if we count *Phil O’Hara’s* contribution from Perth, Australia (below), to that “common wealth.” It collects first-class American and British evolutionary institutionalists and socio-economists, *George DeMartino*, *Tae-Hee Jo*, *Rojhat Avsar*, *John Hall* with *Jonas Rama*, and *Phil Arestis* and *Nick Karagiannis* with *Sangkwon Lee*. All of them with results of their cutting-edge research as evolutionary institutionalists and social economists be it epistemological, methodological, interdisciplinary- “naturalistic,” or “spatial-geographic” (with the Latin American development perspective or with a focus on China’s developmental and entrepreneurial state). And, by the way, all being active members of AFEE, ASE, and EAEPE. Please check out this little “competitive exhibition” of research from the “Anglo-Saxon” world.

Phil O’Hara has contributed something special that we have very much welcomed as developing our basics further, a discussion of the editorial team’s initial “manifest-like” editorials of issues 1 and 2, 2020. It helps clarifying our editorial strategy and its theoretical, applied, and policy-oriented foundations. We are grateful

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to Phil to bring in ideas and conceptions that we not had in the focus yet. At the same time, this is hoped to serve as a call for further discussion and further developing the profile of REPE. Please feel invited to contribute to the future discussion rubric of REPE.

Finally, this is a somewhat “leaner” issue, with its only five contributions. Some later special issue will profit from this issue’s leanness, as it may provide one article more above the regular format (with usually seven papers). As has to be expected, we still do not have such an abundant backlog of articles to pursue our editorial goal of compiling relatively homogeneous, “thematic” regular issues. While what follows will be another two special issues (3–2021 and 1–2022), the next regular issue in 2022 will hopefully be able to source its articles from a richer backlog as we have now. As it looks, we can peer optimistically into REPE’s future.

Enjoy this issue!

Wolfram Elsner

Editor-in-Chief

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