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EDITORIAL PREFACE

SEEU Review, Volume 20, Issue 1, June 2025

We are delighted to present the first issue of the 20 volume of the SEEU Review for the 2025 year. As the flagship journal of South East European University, our commitment to fostering academic dialogue across disciplines remains steadfast. The articles published in this issue have been rigorously selected, reflecting both the growing interest in contributing to the SEEU Review and our commitment to upholding academic excellence.

In line with our editorial standards, all submissions underwent a thorough double-blind peer-review process and were screened using the *Ithenticate* similarity check system to ensure originality and quality. This issue features a rich variety of research papers spanning the fields of social sciences, law, economics, public administration, international relations, languages and literatures, communications, environmental studies, and beyond.

The research featured in this edition offers significant insights into contemporary issues and emerging trends across diverse fields. Among the highlights, a critical analysis examines the transformative potential of artificial intelligence in education, weighing both the challenges and opportunities this technology brings to modern learning environments. Another notable study investigates criminal offenses related to illegal construction within the legal framework of North Macedonia, providing fresh perspectives on law enforcement and compliance.

Furthermore, a comparative analysis explores the right to know one's genetic origin in both North Macedonia and Albania, highlighting the tension between genetic identity and legal barriers. Methodological innovation is showcased through a refined approach to understanding public sentiment towards agile and digital transformation, utilizing advanced Twitter sentiment analysis and topic modeling.

This issue also delves into inclusive governance, with a focused study on institutional management in North Macedonia's water sector. The evolving landscape of media engagement is addressed through an analysis of TikTok as a tool for audience engagement by Kosovo's national TV broadcasters. From a socio-political standpoint, we present research on the impact of political instability on North Macedonia's growth, and an in-depth exploration of the economic and business viability of IT outsourcing in the country.

Other noteworthy contributions include an investigation into journalists' perspectives on ethnic divides in North Macedonia and an examination of confrontation rights for criminal defendants in the nation's hybrid legal system. The issue also features a comprehensive analysis of gender-based violence, considering cultural, legal, and economic dimensions within the context of the Istanbul Convention. Finally, a statistical assessment evaluates the efficiency of scanning tools in identifying unique vulnerabilities in web applications, contributing valuable knowledge to the field of cybersecurity.

As always, the SEEU Review operates on principles of academic integrity and transparency. Authors bear full responsibility for the content of their articles, and the views expressed are solely those of the respective contributors. The journal's editorial team takes great pride in presenting this issue and believes that the findings and discussions herein will contribute to the advancement of knowledge and innovation across disciplines.

We invite our readers to engage with these articles, which we hope will inspire further research and dialogue.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in the SEEU Review.

Dr. Besa Arifi
SEEU Review Editor-in-Chief