Foreword

Specific circumstances have led the executive committee of our journal to accept highly interesting guest-edited themes for subsequent issues in 2017 and 2018.

I would like to reiterate our appreciation to the guest-editing team who contributed to Issues 16:2 and 17:1 in 2017–18, dealing with international migrations in Southeast Asia, and also to the authors of the few miscellaneous articles that supplemented these issues.

Issue 17:2 gives me the opportunity to thank another guest-editing team, based in Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and Singapore, for the publication of a series of attractive articles focusing on labour and development in Southeast Asia.

The very concepts of East Asia and East Asian studies refer to both Northeast and Southeast Asian regions, but sometimes there has been an inflection in favour of Northeast Asia (China, Korea, Japan, Korea, Taiwan). Our journal followed this trend during its early years, with a high concentration of articles in contemporary Chinese and Japanese studies.

In recent years, however, our journal has started to restore the balance of published articles between both sub-regions of East Asia. The previous two issues, with this one, mainly cover Southeast Asia, meaning that this rebalancing strategy has achieved its objective. In coming years, the *EJEAS* readership may expect the publication of articles covering both contemporary Northeast and Southeast Asian studies, or sometimes the entire East Asian region on specific internal or external matters.

Finally, with the conception and design of *EJEAS* starting in 1999–2000, we are gradually approaching our 20th anniversary. Ideas and suggestions to further improve the content and quality of this young adult journal are most welcome. They will be examined during the first semester of 2019 as a special agenda to be considered by the *EJEAS* executive committee. Young and mid-term experienced scholars are also warmly invited to submit their application if they are interested in joining the executive committee or the editorial board.

Philippe Régnier
Chief Editor, *EJEAS*