Editorial

A New Editor-in-Chief and the Special Issue on Transnational Fascism

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Madelon de Keizer not only designed and launched the e-journal *Fascism: Journal of Comparative Fascist Studies* queen-like as a new ship to venture forth on the vast ocean of academia, but has been its tireless captain for three years. Now she hands the wheel over to Professor Nigel Copsey, who, helped by Marjo Bakker and Brill, will make sure that it suffers the fate neither of the *Marie Celeste*, mysteriously abandoned by its passengers and crew, nor the *Costa Concordia* which ran aground in farcical and tragic circumstances. As Consultant Editor and on behalf of the growing community of comparative fascist studies, I would like to express my gratitude to Madelon for her creativity, enthusiasm, and hard work as Editor in Chief, and wish her well in whatever new venture she turns her hand and mind to. Meanwhile Nigel Copsey, whose new position coincides with the opening of a new *Centre for Fascist, Anti-Fascist and Post-Fascist Studies* at Teesside University (UK) of which he is co-director, will for the next three years doubtless take the journal and its hopefully increasingly active and expert crew into unexplored areas of this expanding field of research.

This special issue of *Fascism: Journal of Comparative Fascist Studies* hopes to contribute to the question how fascism's narrow racist and xenophobic nationalism was and is compatible with the fascist sense of belonging to a new phase

of world civilization based on nationalist and racial values by scrutinizing fascism's transnational character within six case-studies: the unresolved tensions over foreign policy and race within the Berlin-Rome Axis; how Latvia's authoritarian regime reflected and refracted the wave of European fascism; the way the Romanian fascist experience contains elements which 'problematize' the claim of fascism's claimed revolutionary nature; the light which the highly neglected case of Russian fascism in Manchuria throws on the need to distinguish different spheres and layers of transnationality; the two-way process of cultural transfer in Imperial Japan's relationship with the European Axis powers; the opportunity that the post-2008 global financial downturn has given neo-fascists to adapt the inter-war myth of fascism as a socio-economic 'third way' between capitalism and communism to its diagnosis of the international crisis and its remedy. Finally, with my contribution to the new section 'Debate on Fascism' we hopefully open up to a much needed discussion on Islamofascism in this journal.