

# Editor's Note

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*SPECTRUM Journal of Global Studies* is initiated and run by the students of the Department of International Relations of the Middle East Technical University. First I would like to thank them for their enthusiasm, courage and hard work to make the printing of the first issue possible. I am happy to see that when given initiative and encouragement, students can actually succeed in accomplishing the most difficult tasks.

The aim of our journal is to become one of the leading and highly reputed journals in the field of international relations. Our most important task will be to make sure that the journal meets all the standards of a first class journal. *SPECTRUM* will be happy to publish different types of critical work that contributes to our understanding and explanation of international relations. Our theoretical understanding of international relations is too much embedded in Eurocentric and Western concepts of rationality and instrumentality. This unfortunately gives us only very limited and ahistorical forms of explanation inadequate to understand the world system both in its totality and in its particularity. There is an expanding body of work dewesternising and derationalising the dominant international relations discourse and we want to be one of the focal points where this type of work is published and discussed. This is a current and novel theoretical development and some of the members of our advisory board are distinguished representatives of this important theoretical innovation in our field. No need to say that their support will be invaluable for us.

The first issue of our journal is based on the papers given in our last METU International Relations Conference on Hegemony *or* Empire in June 2008. Our conferences have now become an important annual event with increasing participation ever year. Until our Journal gets a firm hold in the international relations community, we will be encouraging the participants that come to our Conference to publish their presentations in our Journal and not to commit them to any other source.

I would like to conclude by expressing my hope for the support of all IR academic community to *Spectrum*.

*Editor in Chief*  
FARUK YALVAÇ