

EDITORS' FOREWORD

This special issue of the *Journal for Communication and Culture* offers a glimpse of the applications that comparative approaches may have in humanities and the social sciences. While it was not our purpose to exemplify comparative analysis in *all* fields of research pertaining to these areas, we did, nonetheless, strive to provide a diversified array of comparative approaches, to the best of our capabilities.

As such, the structure of this issue perambulates comparative philosophy in intercultural studies (Japanese and Western philosophy), but also within a single contemporary philosophical movement (Critical Theory). We then propose a paper that comparatively tackles a case study in the philosophy of law, and move on to an example of how empirical studies make use of their findings to offer a fresh perspective on already heavily debated social issues (in this case, freedom of speech). Last but not least, the issue closes with a media study on press partisanship, which offers a comparative view on how the latter has shifted from periodicals to their readership.

We believe that the collection of papers in this issue manages to provide readers with an outlook on the possibilities of applying comparative analysis in most fields of knowledge in which JCC has taken interest throughout the last years. We take this opportunity to thank the scholars that have contributed with texts to this issue, as well as the referees that have helped peer-review the papers herein.

The Editors