

Foreword

Welcome to the second issue of 2023 for the *Pertanika Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities (PJSSH)*!

PJSSH is an open-access journal for studies in Social Sciences and Humanities published by Universiti Putra Malaysia Press. It is independently owned and managed by the university for the benefit of the world-wide science community.

This issue contains 22 articles; four review articles, two case studies and the rest are regular articles. The authors of these articles come from different countries namely India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Ukraine and Thailand.

Iryna Simkova and colleagues provide interesting research to analyse the results of implementing the transdisciplinary approach in teaching English professional spoken interaction to mediators at the universities of Ukraine within emergency remote teaching. The study was conducted with complex empirical and theoretical scientific research methods. According to the study, applying the transdisciplinary approach in teaching ESP to mediators corresponds to a new pedagogical perspective, which future mediators within emergency remote teaching can use. Further details of the study can be found on page 491.

A research article, "An Analysis on Youth Drug Abuse: Protective and Risk Factors in High-Risk Area," sought to identify protective factors that successfully protect youth in high-risk locations and to examine the presence of risk factors in that particular community. According to the research, youth living in hot spot areas have internal and external protective factors. These include things like religious knowledge and practising religion, positive peer influences, and understanding the dangers of drug abuse. The lack of effective coping skills and negative peer influence are some of the reasons that trap youths into abusing harmful drugs. The detailed information of this article is presented on page 585.

Muhammad Safwan Ibrahim and colleagues use a convenience sampling approach to explore Malaysian foreign workers' perspectives on their rights and welfare. The study discovers that forced labour indicators were present among Malaysian foreign workers, suggesting their welfare is not effectively protected. Following these findings, effective policy and legal intervention strategies can be developed to reinforce the rights and welfare of foreign workers in Malaysia. Details of this study are available on page 765.

We anticipate that you will find the evidence presented in this issue to be intriguing, thought-provoking and useful in reaching new milestones in your own research. Please recommend the journal to your colleagues and students to make this endeavour meaningful.

All the papers published in this edition underwent Pertanika's stringent peer-review process involving a minimum of two reviewers comprising internal as well as external referees. This was to ensure that the quality of the papers justified the high ranking of the journal, which is renowned as a heavily-cited journal not only by authors and researchers in Malaysia but by those in other countries around the world as well.

We would also like to express our gratitude to all the contributors, namely the authors, reviewers, Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Board Members of PJSST, who have made this issue possible.

PJSST is currently accepting manuscripts for upcoming issues based on original qualitative or quantitative research that opens new areas of inquiry and investigation.

Chief Executive Editor

Prof. Ir. Dr. Mohd Sapuan Salit

executive_editor.pertanika@upm.edu.my