

**Report of the Editors, *Canadian Slavonic Papers* / *Revue canadienne des slavistes*  
Rolf Hellebust & James Krapfl, May 9, 2025**

*Canadian Slavonic Papers* / *Revue canadienne des slavistes* published two double issues in 2024, totalling over 50 pp. more than the previous year. It was also the first year of a new, London-based editorship led by the independent scholar Rolf Hellebust—and that move was not without its challenges. Hellebust is extremely grateful for the contribution of our assistant editor, Antony Kalashnikov, and no less so for that of the former editor James Krapfl, who continued to manage the journal's finances and agreed to return as a co-editor in January of this year, which has greatly facilitated the timely processing of submissions. We would also like to recognize the continuing contribution of editor emerita Heather Coleman and other members of the *CSP/RCS* editorial staff.

### **Publication**

Volume 66 (2024) contained a total of 626 pages. We published 21 refereed articles, two thematic cluster introductions, two reports, a roundtable on the winner of the Association's 2023 Taylor & Francis Book Prize (Ann Komaromi's *Soviet Samizdat*), 46 book reviews, and two essays by emeritus CAS members reflecting on the association's seventieth anniversary. Each double issue featured a robust thematic cluster proposed and in large part edited by our editorial board members. For the spring, Dejan Guzina proposed the cluster "Symbolic Geographies of Post-Yugoslav Identities" and edited it together with his colleague Srdja Pavlović, while for the fall Alla Nedashkivska orchestrated a cluster on "The War against Ukraine: Language, Culture, and Media" with fellow guest editors Holger Kusse and Beatrix Kress. Of the 38 contributors, twelve were based in Canada, six in Germany, and four in Ukraine, with eleven other countries represented. As with the previous year's issues, the foci of our two large clusters meant that many 2024 articles fell under the rubric of contemporary history, yet they also addressed an impressive range of other research topics: literature, art, music, cinema, folklore, and linguistics, as well as memory, trauma, cultural, and media studies.

Oleksandr Pankiev won our 2024 Article of the Year Award, sponsored by Taylor & Francis, for "Changing Motifs in Digital Folklore Characters of the Russo-Ukrainian War," his contribution to the "War against Ukraine" cluster. The most frequently downloaded contribution to vol. 66 has been Siniša Malešević's article, "Grounding Civic Nationhood: The Rise and Fall of Yugoslav Nationalism, 1918–91," with 2,264 downloads since it was published on July 10.

### **Subscriptions and Readership**

In 2024, in addition to 165 subscribers via EBSCO, approximately 3,000 institutions had access to the journal (the final number is not yet available from Taylor & Francis). A few dozen of the latter were still through stand-alone subscriptions, but the vast majority were through online "subject collection" subscriptions, such as T&F's "Politics, International Relations, and Area Studies" and "Social Sciences and Humanities" library packages.

The best measure we have of actual readership is full-text downloads. We had 96,712 downloads in 2024—a decline from our all-time high in 2023, but still more than in any previous year. Readership remains high this year, and downloads from Taylor & Francis Online in the first quarter of 2025 were up 9% compared to the same period in 2024. Approximately 49% of downloads over the past year were in Europe with 33% in North America, indicative of growing European readership. As usual, the U.S. accounted for the highest number of downloads, followed by Canada, with the U.K. third; Germany, China, the Netherlands, Australia, Poland, Russia, and Ukraine rounded out the top ten. The largest number of downloads by institution was from the University of Western Ontario, followed by Oxford, Toronto, University College London, and McGill.

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## **Indexing and Impact**

*CSP/RCS* is indexed by all the most important abstracting and indexing services in the humanities and social sciences, several of which also track citations and assign rankings to journals on that basis. The most prominent of these rankings is Clarivate's "impact factor," associated with the indexer's "Web of Science," and in 2024 *CSP/RCS* earned the highest impact factor of any interdisciplinary Slavic studies journal: 1.313. We are on track to exceed this performance in 2025. Our rankings have also improved considerably in the Scopus database. We remain strong there, as ever, in Literature and in the Visual and Performing Arts, where last year our citations put us in the top 5% and 10% of all journals publishing in these fields, but we also made it to the top 13% in history. Our "Cite Score," Scopus's equivalent of the impact factor, was 1.1—higher than it has ever been. Anything above 1 in both ranking schemes is very good, indicating that each article is cited on average at least once.

Driving much of the increased impact have been the thematic clusters *CSP/RCS* has published on topics of current interest, especially the 2022 forum on Russia's invasion of Ukraine, but also our 2023 forum on decolonization and the 2021 thematic cluster on the previous year's events in Belarus. Increasing impact is like investing: the more one has, the more one can get. Already the higher metrics are attracting more and better quality submissions, so the upward trend could become self-sustaining. CAS members are therefore encouraged to help maximize our returns by citing *CSP/RCS* wherever possible.

## **Agreement with Taylor & Francis**

Our publisher, Taylor & Francis, has been uniformly pleasant to work with, and we appreciate the many services it offers, from marketing and distribution to typesetting and supplementary

copy-editing. Our current publishing agreement will expire at the end of 2026, so this summer we will begin negotiating a new contract. The journal's growing readership and impact mean that it is generating ever higher income for Taylor & Francis, which we see in increased royalties, so we should be in a good bargaining position.

## **Administration**

As mentioned in last year's report, 2024 saw significant changes in the way *CSP/RCS* is edited, in the scope of the Editor's responsibilities beyond the journal, and in the geographic distribution of work. While James Krapfl already found it necessary to put the word "office" in quotation marks in his reports from 2021 to 2023, our circumstances became considerably more virtual in 2024. Although the journal's London-based editor has the advantage of being able to meet with Taylor & Francis representatives whenever necessary, there are things that remain beyond his practical capacity, such as dealing in person with Canadian banks or handling books received by the journal for review. Thus, much of the physical, IT, and human resources that are critical for the functioning of *CSP/RCS* (and *CAS* in general) have remained at McGill and the University of Alberta, the institutional homes of the journal's two previous editors. We owe a continuing debt of gratitude to them and their universities.

We have already mentioned the stellar work of Antony Kalashnikov, our assistant editor. Guillaume Sauvé, the previous assistant editor, continues to help with French-language content as an editorial assistant. We are also supported by a strong team of associate editors (Heather Coleman, Piotr Kosicki, and Inna Tigountsova). Natalie Cornett at McGill continues as book review coordinator, a role created in 2022. Jane Hacking and Eva Plach continue as Language & Linguistics and History book review editors, respectively, and we are extremely pleased to welcome two new book review editors: Jakub Burkowicz, Douglas College (Social Sciences) and Megan Swift, University of Victoria (Literature & Culture).

Many thanks to all these members of the *CSP/RCS* editorial staff, as well as to our editorial and advisory board members, who continue to render faithful service, recommending reviewers in their fields and often taking on the review of manuscripts that are difficult to place, offering opinions on editorial policy, and proposing special issues. Special thanks go to board members who volunteered for this year's article prize jury: Piotr Kajak, Donna Orwin, and Christine Worobec.

*CAS* members have, as always, made an essential contribution as book reviewers and article referees. We would especially like to thank those who have generously contributed their time and expertise to evaluate manuscripts submitted to *CSP/RCS*. Without their anonymous work, the standards of our collective enterprise would be impossible to maintain.

## **Finances**

The *CSP/RCS* Financial Report appears on the next page. The Report reflects our fiscal-year cash flow (i.e., income and expenses). Our annual equity for the past year is \$21,854.80, includ-

ing \$995 we collected for the Canadian Association of Ukrainian Studies. The decline of the Canadian dollar combined with the increase in our readership means that our royalties and the annual contribution that Taylor & Francis pays us for editorial expenses have increased, since both are paid in British pounds. Taylor & Francis manages production, distribution, and mailing; we continue to manage our own membership list and pay a set rate of \$25/member plus sales tax per volume for our individual membership subscriptions. Our membership income remains steady, though an increase in membership means we have had to pay more for members' copies. This expense is more than offset, however, by returns on our investments, which in 2024 were simply GICs, but which earned interest at rates over 4%. Overall, our finances are in excellent shape; our total equity on March 31, 2023 was \$291,507.81.

The health of our finances is important, because if we want to maintain the journal, we will in the future probably have to offer more support for the Editor, since the amount of support universities are willing to provide is diminishing. Thanks to thoughtful stewardship by CAS's Finance Committee and our diversifying investments, we are meeting our goals in this regard.

**CSP/RCS Financial Report**  
**April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025: 2024 Fiscal Year**

<i>April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025</i>		<i>April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024</i>		<i>April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023</i>	
<b>INCOME</b>		<b>INCOME</b>		<b>INCOME</b>	
Membership and Subscription	15,839.00	Membership and Subscription	16,029.00	Membership and Subscription	16,026.14
T&F Contribution	18,228.00	T&F Contribution	17,523.63	T&F Contribution	17,066.70
Royalties	19,840.10	Royalties	17,142.89	Royalties	15,001.79
Prize Funds from T&F	750.00	Prize Funds from T&F	750.00	Prize Funds from T&F	750.00
Interest	5,154.68	Interest	3,154.27	Interest	3.87
Donations	200.00				
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>60,011.78</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>54,599.79</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>48,848.50</b>
<b>CAUS Dues</b>	<b>995.00</b>	<b>CAUS Dues</b>	<b>894.00</b>	<b>CAUS Dues</b>	<b>767.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		<b>EXPENSES</b>		<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Bank Charges	314.69	Bank Charges	168.76	Bank Charges	154.58
PayPal	538.77	PayPal	543.52	PayPal	538.12
CAS Transfer	5,105.53	CAS Transfer	2,225.00	CAS Transfer	2,245.00
CAUS Transfer	200.00	CAUS Transfer	325.00	CAUS Transfer	0.00
Computer Equipment and IT Services	3,758.58	Computer Equipment and IT Services	5,266.00	Computer Equipment and IT Services	136.97
Office Supplies	237.32	Office Supplies	1,047.80	Office Supplies	200.57
Members' Copies	6,754.78	Members' Copies	5,939.33	Members' Copies	5,224.41
Postage and Delivery	4.72	Postage and Delivery	104.24	Postage and Delivery	171.03
Prize Disbursements	750.00	Prize Disbursements	750.00	Prize Disbursements	250.00
Salary, Wages	14,492.59	Salary, Wages	12,194.72	Salary, Wages	14,879.27
Editor's Stipend	6,000.00	Editor's Stipend	6,000.00		
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>38,156.98</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>34,564.37</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>23,799.95</b>
<b>Equity April 1, 2023</b>	<b>21,854.80</b>	<b>Equity April 1, 2023</b>	<b>20,035.42</b>	<b>Equity April 1, 2023</b>	<b>25,048.55</b>