

## **International Perspectives on teaching Social Studies**

**Dr Anatoli Rapaport, Purdue University**

### **Editor International Perspectives**

I offer two wonderful articles providing international perspectives from different parts of the world. One provides a window of clarity about what happens in Turkish social studies classes and how international education trends such as assessment are affecting these classroom practices. Turkey has followed United States' models of good practice in social studies but has in the United States itself assessment has become an issue, not because models have changed but because in Turkey traditional standardised tests have continued despite professional learning for teachers and their communities. Dr Açıkalın provides ideas for future developments for both Turkish and U.S. social studies.

The other article I have had the honour to review provides guidance for social studies teachers in the United States to help them explore some of the contradictions in the rhetoric between different sides of current issues such as the Arab Spring. Dr Saada provides useful examples of how 'Othering' is used in current media debates and suggests approaches that may help develop critiques around these debates.

I commend the articles to you and thank my colleagues for their work.

Anatoli