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## **Note from the Editors**

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# Note from the Editors

Over the winter of 2021, *open* was the word on everyone's lips, usually as part of a question – *How long will everything be able to stay open? Are we going into another lockdown? Will we have to work remotely?* As we watched the headlines for new regulations and wore our masks around the university corridors, the COVID-19 pandemic forced us all to reconsider the openness we had once so casually taken for granted.

However, the flipside of the coin also became apparent. Adapting to the necessary regulations led to creative digital solutions that had once seemed impossible, such as hybrid classrooms. Once the time came to discuss possible themes for the new issue of TXT, it was exactly this question that interested us most: what *openness* can mean in our divided, digital, and dizzyingly fast-changing world.

With *The Open Issue*, we made the decision to leave the prompt for the call for papers as *open* as possible. Driven by curiosity, we wanted to see just how many perspectives we could gather on the connection between text and *openness*, and we were not disappointed. From the potential of Open Access to cultural exchange, the digitization of incunabula to podcasting, we received a treasure trove of contributions that we are proud to present in the 2022 edition of TXT Magazine.

Now more than ever is the time to celebrate *openness*. Sharing ideas, research, and knowledge across boundaries, taking advantage of digital technologies, and working together as a (global) community are essential as we move forward into a somewhat uncertain future. This issue brings together contributions from countries such as the Netherlands, Germany, Greece, Iran, Canada, and Mexico. It explores forms of knowledge creation and communication beyond the scholarly article, through both visual and written art. These are also texts. This is also *openness*.

*The Open Issue* is the result of hard work and collaboration. There would be no journal without the efforts of our editorial team, our faculty supervisor Fleur Praal, our sponsors at Eleven, and of course the authors and creators. We would like to offer our thanks everyone involved for their contributions to this edition of TXT. We are excited and proud to present *The Open Issue* to you, our reader, both in print and digitally, wherever you may be.

Kunmi Shonubi & Hanna Olters  
*Co-Editors-in-Chief*