

In 2020, UBIAS celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It was in October 2010, when representatives of more than 30 Institutes of Advanced Study and other associated institutions were assembled in Freiburg. The purpose of FRIAS' call was to form a highly innovative consortium of the university-based institutes pursuing the promotion of interdisciplinary study in the leading research universities around the world. The idea of organizing such a consortium was an ingenious one, as current lively activities of UBIAS eloquently testify. But what is behind the success of UBIAS? As was the case in Freiburg 2010, the *dialogues* between institutions and scholars from various cultural and academic backgrounds contributed to developing the cooperation of UBIAS.

Every research begins with *dialogue*; it will always start from the *dialogue* with self, followed by *dialogues* with the previous scholarship, researchers in the same field, or those in different research areas. The process of academic investigation requires constant questioning and exchange of ideas, and the *dialogue* is key to conducting interdisciplinary research and the cutting-edge scientific explorations.

In society, too, the *dialogue* is an indispensable magic spell to resolve prolonged discord and deepen mutual understanding. It could be a solution to a profound social problem of "Fake or Fact". The same can be said in international relations, even though some issues, such as war, climate change, bioethics and nuclear related topics, require further discussions. The *dialogue* underlies and forms our modern society, but it is unclear how it will be valued in the future that could be highly regulated by AI. From a different point of view, we might need to ask whether the notion of *dialogue* be extended to other animals and plants?

In science, the *dialogue* would sometimes be a research activity itself. The mathematicians engage in seeking the general theorem of numbers which is hidden in the nature, the physicists are trying to find a law behind the numerous experimental phenomena. Also, biologists tries to figure out the statistical rule that emerges as the consequence of genetically inherent properties. Those scientific activities are all based on the *dialogues* to the nature or the real world. Therefore, for the natural scientists, dialogue is the basis of their activity and at the same time the most essential part to manifest their enthusiasms.

Evermore, we are in need of *dialogue*, yet there is a tendency to overlook its importance and to try to jump on a quick conclusion. It is, therefore, time to stop and think of *dialogue* itself, not for the efficiency, but for the better solutions.