# Editorial: A New Chapter for IJIMAI

Wɪᴛʜ great emotion and a profound sense of responsibility, I reach out to you, esteemed colleagues, readers, and contributors of the International Journal of Interactive Multimedia and Artificial Intelligence (IJIMAI), in this special issue that marks the end of a chapter for me as Editor-in-Chief. After eight volumes and more than fifty issues, I formally announce my departure from this role, passing the leadership to an accomplished and dedicated academic, Dr. Elena Verdú, who will assume the position of Editor-in-Chief.

The history of IJIMAI is a story of commitment, inclusion, and accessibility within the academic world. Since its founding, the journal has aimed to provide an open, free, and high-quality space for researchers and professionals in the fields of artificial intelligence and interactive technologies. The decision to offer open access to all was a clear commitment to democratizing knowledge and making scientific advances available to the entire community without financial barriers or access restrictions. Furthermore, IJIMAI has been developed, to date, on an open-source platform, underscoring our commitment to the values of transparency, accessibility, and global collaboration.

Throughout these volumes, IJIMAI has maintained a rigorous approach and an interdisciplinary vision, allowing us to address relevant topics from artificial intelligence and machine learning to interactive multimedia and complex systems. Each issue has been the product of a shared effort among authors, reviewers, and the editorial team, all working tirelessly to provide high-quality research and to promote scientific advancement in key areas.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the collaboration of many individuals over the years. To the authors, whose dedication and hard work are the fundamental pillars of this publication, I extend my sincerest gratitude for trusting IJIMAI as a platform to disseminate your findings. Each article has contributed to the growth and development of our field.

To our editorial team and reviewers, who have upheld the highest standards of quality and rigor, I extend my deepest thanks. Your review and selection work has been essential in maintaining IJIMAI's scientific integrity and securing the recognition the journal enjoys today.

I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to my co-founders, Jesús Soto and Oscar Sanjuán, for their partnership and shared vision, without which IJIMAI would not be what it is today. From the very beginning, Jesús and Oscar demonstrated an unwavering commitment to scientific excellence and open access values, and their contributions have been essential at every step of our journey.

Furthermore, I would like to acknowledge and thank the unconditional support from the Universidad Internacional de La Rioja (UNIR), whose trust in this project and continued backing have been crucial to the journal's development. UNIR has been an invaluable supporter, enabling us to establish ourselves as a leading publication committed to innovation and knowledge advancement in artificial intelligence and interactive technologies.

It is with great satisfaction that I also announce the addition of Dr. David Camacho, Professor at the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, as Advisory Editor for IJIMAI. Dr. Camacho's experience and academic networks will be an invaluable asset in further strengthening our visibility and international collaborations. I am confident that his contribution will play a crucial role in expanding the journal's reach and enriching our connections with researchers and scientific communities worldwide.

Finally, I am delighted to welcome Dr. Elena Verdú as the new Editor-in-Chief. Dr. Verdú brings a remarkable academic trajectory and an innovative vision that will undoubtedly lead IJIMAI to new heights. Under her leadership, I am confident that the journal will continue to establish itself as a beacon of academic excellence and accessibility in artificial intelligence and interactive multimedia.

Today, I bid farewell with gratitude and optimism, knowing that IJIMAI will continue to be an open and free platform, built on principles of transparency and a commitment to knowledge. I am certain that this new chapter, under Dr. Verdú's leadership and with Dr. Camacho's support, will be filled with accomplishments and advancements for our community.

Thank you all for your support and for joining us on this journey.

Sincerely,

Rubén González Crespo
Founder and Editor-in-Chief (Outgoing)
International Journal of Interactive Multimedia and Artificial Intelligence