Acknowledgements

This special issue of Natureza Humana magazine is a tribute to Zeljko Loparic over his 80 years of life, 50 of which spent in Brazil. It is a tribute to his personal and intellectual vitality, to his permanent inventiveness and initiative, to his dedication to grounded knowledge and research, to his ever-renewed confidence in the value of debating ideas and in the institutions which promote them. It is only natural that on this occasion, this special issue of the Magazine which he created in 1999 should be dedicated to him.

I would therefore like to begin by offering my very special thanks to all of the participants who responded to my invitation promptly and who, in an open, friendly and generous way, have contributed their articles from the different areas in which the debate with Loparic has happened or is happening.

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