

INTRODUCTION

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Directors

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This issue of **Brazilian Journalism Research - BJR** opens space for a discussion on the possibilities of comparing journalistic practice in Brazil and Africa. With it, we seek to diversify our internationalization policy, through the construction of South-South axis of reflection in relation to Journalism research. This proposal gives continuity to other initiatives of the magazine, such as the launching of the journalistic thematic dossier in BRICS (v. 12, n.1, 2016). It is also in line with the scientific policy of the Brazilian Association of Journalism Researchers (SBPjor), responsible for the **Brazilian Journalism Research** edition, and in November of this year held the 1st Brazil-India Journalism Research Colloquium, in São Paulo.

The topic of this thematic issue 'Journalism in Brazil and Africa: Cross-influences, Developments, and Perspectives' also seeks to fill a gap in Brazil, where there is still a small number of works that take the countries of the African continent, with all their diversity, as study object. In order to account for this task, we invited four international editors specialized in media study and journalism in Africa: Marie-Soleil Frère (Université Libre de Bruxelles,

Belgium), Antonio Hohlfeldt (Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil), Viola Milton (University of South Africa) and Susana Salgado (Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal).

In addition to the four articles that make up the thematic dossier, this edition of **Brazilian Journalism Research** brings six free theme articles. The first, by André Bonsanto Dias, from Universidade Federal Fluminense, proposes a theoretical-methodological reflection that seeks to understand (and problematize) how journalism legitimizes itself as a subject in communication, which would have the competence to elaborate a discourse capable of revealing the truths of events occurring in the world. Dias' proposal, entitled 'Course of Recognition: A Theoretical and Methodological Approach to Understanding Journalism as a Subject in Communication', is particularly pertinent in a context in which the issue of veracity of information - in addition to its ethical or normative issue - seems to have become a point of tension in the debates about the role of journalism in public and political spaces.

From the theoretical-methodological discussion, we follow with an article that is inserted in a historiography project of journalism. In '*Portugal Democrático: An Exiles' Newspaper*', the professor of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro Isabel Travancas uses textual analysis and interviews to unveil the history of publications edited by Portuguese in exile. The object is *Portugal Democrático*, the most important newspaper in this context, a space of expression of the Portuguese and Brazilian intelligentsia, and of an international movement that militated against the Salazarist Dictatorship in Portugal (1933-1974).

Two papers discuss the modalities and strategies of representation of social phenomena by the media. The first, 'Brazil in Spain: Agenda-setting in the Newspaper *El País* during President Lula da Silva's Second Government Term', by Derval Golzio (Universidade Federal da Paraíba) analyzes the content of 194 articles on Brazil (characters, places and events), published between 2007 and 2010 in one of the main Spanish newspapers, *El País*.

'Police Case or Public Health Issue? Printed Journalism Frames on Crack Use in São Paulo', by Giulia Sbaraini Fontes and Paulo Ferracioli, both from the Universidade Federal do Paraná, applies the concept of framework to analyze the coverage

of crack by *Folha de S. Paulo* and *O Estado de S. Paulo*. The interesting thing is that, although they deal with conjunctural issues, of the current media, the two articles allow us to problematize once again the role of journalism as an instance of social reality construction.

The section of free articles concludes with a preliminary analysis of the topics dealt by the report-books written by undergraduate students from the city of São Paulo. Marcos Antônio Zibordi, a researcher at the University of São Paulo and author of the text 'Do Undergraduate Journalism Students Tend to Write Report-Books on Human Rights?', leads us to reflect on the role of the course conclusion projects, particularly those related to the practice of reporting, in the formation of professionals concerned with an alterity perspective in journalism.

To close this edition, we decided to publish, for the first time in Brazil, the essay 'Toward a Definition of International Literary Journalism', by John Bak, professor at the Université de Lorraine, France, and international reference in studies on literary journalism. The essay, already published as a chapter in the book *Literary Journalism across the Globe: journalistic traditions and transnational influences*, as well as being a fundamental - potentially seminal - text for scholars in the area, it instigates us to continue discussing this object in the special **Brazilian Journalism Research** December edition that will deal with the theme 'Literary Journalism as a Discipline'.

Starting next issue, **Brazilian Journalism Research** a changes its structure and will be, over the next three years, under the management of an Editorial Committee, composed of the current executive editor, Fábio Pereira (Universidade de Brasília, Brazil) and professors Cláudia Lago (Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil) and Laura Storch (Universidade Federal de Santa Maria, Brazil), nominated respectively by the Scientific Council and by the Board of Directors of SBPJor and the associate publishers Lia Seixas (Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil), Tania Rosa Moreno (Loyola University Maryland, US) and Gisele Sayeg ((Instituto de Educação para a Democracia, Brazil). This change complies with the recently approved **BJR** Statute and reinforces our commitment to maintain the editorial policy of the **Brazilian Journalism Research**, expanding the efforts

undertaken in terms of indexing, internationalization and qualification of the published content.

Good reading and a great 2018!