

DOSSIER

# INTRODUCTION TO THE DOSSIER REPORT

## Journalism Research in Brazil

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Maintaining the perspective of being a reference point for the international scientific community in the journalism research and related areas and for the public that reads works of researchers from Brazil and other countries, number 2 of the *Brazilian Journalism Research* presents the second part of the Dossier Report on journalism research in Brazil.

We should keep in mind that the Dossier's purpose is to present regularly articles that offer panoramic readings which, validated by strict methodological procedures, deal with varied aspects of studies of the press or of journalism research, always from a historical perspective, so that the very sequence of the Dossiers represents, as time goes by, a kind of living file of scientific journalism research conducted by Brazilian research institutions, as well as by those in other countries, focusing on the intention of the contextual reading.

For the current issue, the *BJR* editorial team has selected two articles: the first, by researcher Sônia Virgínia Moreira, from the University of the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and the second, by Elizabeth Saad Corrêa, from the University of São Paulo, Brazil. Both are diachronic cross-sections of journalism phenomena in Brazil, approached from specific *loci*: the postgraduate research field, by Sônia Moreira, and digital journalism, by Elizabeth Corrêa.

Moreira's diachronic cross-section begins in the year 1989, when the first dissertations on journalism were presented in the Postgraduate Program in Communication at the University of São Paulo (USP) and continues until the beginning of 2004. The author traces a quantitative and also qualitative profile of journalism research trends, taking as a principal source the dissertations and theses presented in the Program mentioned during the period under observation and, on the other hand, articles published by the *Revista Brasileira de Ciências da*

*Comunicação* between January 2000 and December 2004. The form of the empirical source, as well as the form of analysis, provides the study with a diachronic character.

In the same way, but making use of other methodological procedures and another research theme, Corrêa's study also constructs a diachronic cross-section, which deals with the progress of digital journalism in Brazil in recent years, especially from the year 2000 on. Corrêa's research arises from concerns over the often-commented digital media crisis and follows a route along which the very notion of crisis is questioned, while the author presents the group of factors that have influenced digital media developments in Brazil, situating this phenomenon in the context of the changes in journalism on the international scene.

Both studies, although they do not explicitly refer to the decision to adopt a cross-section in diachronic terms, they end up by doing so, even if as a result of the structuring of each one. And, in order not to present them only from a diachronic perspective, synchrony appears, provided precisely by the editorial option of publishing them simultaneously.

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