



## Call for Papers

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### Militant, Activist and Combat Journalism

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One of the most widespread and cristalized ideias inside newsrooms is that journalists should not intervene in events they are reporting. Claims that reporters should inhibit their ideologies, emotions and idiosyncrasies when narrating such events and how facts must speak for themselves have contributed to this notion. It is central to these assumptions the ideia that everyday life events can be directly imparted to society, with no mediation, interpretation or deviation or that journalists are able to conveniently and completely neutralize their subjectivity and personal judgments.

Historically, this non-interference has helped in the development of important concepts to journalism, such as exemption and impartiality. Newsroom mentality and common sense led to an unusual collective imaginary: journalists are set in a non-place in face of events and subjects that parade through history and social life. More recently, the foundations of this journalistic cathedral have been questioned by professionals inside newsrooms, by audiences and by scientists in the field.

**Brazilian Journalism Research** call for papers encourages this controversial and contributive debate to journalism and its general comprehension. Since the theme was object of discussion during the **International Meeting on Journalism & Combat** (Bordeaux, França), research presented during the event can be submitted to this edition.

It is of interest contributions on how individual and collective actions led by professionals and journalistic organizations move from the once intended non-place to very delimited positions in public life. It is the case of great journalistic investigations, such as the Pandora Papers (2021), led by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalist, uniting about 600 journalists and 150 vehicles to examine almost 120 million documents, contradicting a competitive and adversarial logic of journalistic enterprises. In Brazil, Mídia Ninja has adopted a media activism posture in collaboration with non-journalistic communities for high impact coverages (Martinez and Persichetti, 2015; Landesman, Davis 2018). Advocacy journalism endorses causes such as environmentalism, the uncompromising defense of human rights, the fight against social, racial and gender inequalities and other identity issues.

Militancy and activism resurface in the form of an engaged and upright journalism, often performative in face of communities which it represents. In face of social tension, taking a stand stops being a deontological transgression and it is perceived as a badge of courage, consciousness and professional integrity. In some cases, the defense of social causes surpasses the individual approach and becomes part of the editorial line of journalistic organizations, trying to replace the old foundations of journalism. Journalistic agenda is a weapon of combat (Moraes, 2022), transparency and accountability help to reinforce the democratic arsenal (Bertrand, 1999), photojournalism exposes the suffering of the invisible (Sontag, 2003), reporters are summoned to position themselves (Russell, 2016) and nonconformity becomes an engine to question once domesticated practices, such as war coverage (Maurin, 2009; Brogniez, 2011; Bizimana, 2014).

To contribute to the discussion about the theme, this call for papers invites researchers to answer questions such as:

- Taking a stand creates a new forum of internal debates in the journalistic field?
- Are journalism and activism compatible in all contexts?
- When are militant approaches possible in journalism?
- If journalists abandon the traditional rules of impartiality and neutrality, what guarantees that its actions are legitimate?
- Will audiences understand and accept the values that support these decisions?
- Are reporters and editors ready to be activists? Are they willing to do so?
- Does activism raise ethical and deontological changes in journalistic profession?
- How do organizational structures respond to these movements?
- How do other stakeholders react to these new stands?

This issue accepts original papers that offer theoretical and conceptual debate, practical and critical approaches, case studies, mapping of initiatives, descriptions and projections of future scenarios, and other contributions.

Papers must be 40,000 to 55,000 characters (including references and spaces). BJR accepts manuscripts in Portuguese, Spanish, French and English. Authors submitting in Portuguese, Spanish or French must provide an English translation a month after receiving acceptance for publication.

The manuscripts must be submitted via the journal's electronic platform at : <http://bjr.sbpjor.org.br>

Contact for more information: [bjreditor@gmail.com](mailto:bjreditor@gmail.com).

Instructions for authors: <https://bjr.sbpjor.org.br/bjr/about/submissions>

**Important dates to this issue:**

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