

Editorial General Topics

Investigate ongoing socio-communicational transformations

Investigar transformaciones socio-comunicacionales en curso

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Before presenting the seven contributions included in the General topics of Cuadernos.info 54, our recognition of the work carried out by the guest editors of its central theme, Dorismilda Flores Márquez and Rodrigo González Reyes. Their work began in October 2020, when they applied the theme of the current monograph "Methodological discussions in digital communication studies" to a crowded process of selection proposals by the journal.

The result of this volume would not have been possible without the generous collaboration of a network of blind reviewers that was further expanded with this monograph, considering also that we border the 60 applications, for a quota of a maximum of eight articles.

Our thanks also extend to the authors who responded to this call. It is comforting to see the interest it aroused in the Ibero-American community of researchers and we hope that it will contribute, with the same enthusiasm, to promote dialogue and reflection.

Referring to the UNESCO Open Science Recommendation approved in November 2021, Beigel (2022) states: "promoting a culture of open science is a complex task that requires integrated information systems that allow us to know, promote and evaluate the universe of research productions and activities" (p.165). Mapping the publications of indexed scientific journals of open access in communications and their characteristics contributes, in part, to this systematization and to achieve this goal. As Arroyave-Cabrera and González-Pardo (2022) argue, meta-analysis

is necessary "since it allows us to reevaluate the field and offer new horizons in the production of knowledge" (p.85). In addition, this type of study makes it possible to account for the multiple variables covered by the production of knowledge, to glimpse how scientific communities are configured (Lazcano-Peña & Reyes-Lillo, 2020).

In the same vein, the comparative bibliometric research of María Elena Rodríguez Benito, María Esther Pérez-Peláez and María Teresa Martín García that opens the General Topics section of Cuadernos.info 54 focuses on communication research from the Iberian Peninsula and Latin America published in journals indexed in JRS (Q1 and Q2) between 2009 and 2019. The data considers seven variables, in a context of growing professionalization of Ibero-American journals on communication research, but with conditions of knowledge production and an unequal manifestation of them. Particularities and differences emerge. For instance, between authors from both regions, highlighting the prominence of first and second female authors in Latin American journals selected in relation to Spanish ones.

As in other latitudes, the media cultures of young people in the Ibero-American region are the subject of research in relation to their consumption of series on streaming. Among its effects, the normalization of new consumption practices, such as series marathons, an expression called binge-watching in English (Matrix, 2014) is studied in the case of a group of Mexican university students by Elia Margarita Cornelio Marí, in particular from their perceptions about the gratifications and effects of this habit in their daily and academic lives. To do this, the author relies on recent literature reviews on the different types of effects of this viewing modality offered by companies such as Netflix, which, in Mexico, according to Gómez and Muñoz Larroa (2022), concentrated 80.8% of VoD subscribers at the end of 2018.

Despite the many possibilities offered by social networks of the internet to investigate activism and social change, little research has been done on both dimensions in the case of people with disabilities. Previous studies have associated communication as a factor of social change in favor of people with disabilities in different areas: its potential to promote a positive vision in citizenship towards these groups, personal involvement, recognition of rights, appreciation of their abilities and recognition of stereotypes (Tomsa et al., 2014). Hence, Michelle Lapierre Acevedo's intersectional qualitative research with a feminist perspective on the communication practices of three Chilean activists with disabilities on Instagram contributes to generating knowledge for societies and research communities that need to move towards more inclusive paradigms, because, as Biss (2019) argues, people with disabilities continue to live on the margins of social, political and media discourses.

Chiara Sáez Baeza, Fernando Fuente-Alba and Jorge Avilés research on the perceptions of professionals of local, regional and community television channels in Chile focused on information pluralism. They contribute to update an essential line of research for the Ibero-American region, in a post-transition context that challenges media systems in Latin America (Guerrero, 2015), as well as the role of information pluralism in the stability and health of democratic systems in the region (Rodríguez & Zechmeister, 2018). The classic phenomenon of media and infocommunication activities concentration related to the degrees of pluralism of information systems is added, because as Becerra and Mastrini (2017) argue, with exceptions this enhances the precariousness of employment and weakens the quality of information. In the article by Sáez and her collaborators, the "voices from the switch", so called by the authors, emerge at a micro and meso level of analysis, in addition to making visible regional and local realities little addressed until now, focused on how professionals directly experience the profound transformations of the media system and how they affect information pluralism.

In a field of journalistic practice conditioned by digitalization (Serrano Ocejá, 2022), Gema Santos-Hermosa, Carlos Lopezosa and Lluís Codina propose nine parameters to measure different dimensions of digital journalism in web media. Specifically, they focus on variables associated with interactivity, searchability and visibility, in a case analysis focused on the winners of the Online Journalism Award of the year 2020, applying this instrument to award-winning media from different latitudes. This contribution dialogues with other recent ones, such as the study by Blassnig and Esser (2022) on the need to investigate the logics of audiences in times of greater participation and their interaction of with the news. It also refers to the need to have this type of instrument in order to promote the quality of information, as well as the user experience, even more so considering, according to Zelizer (2019), that journalism is more than digital technology.

Although they are always present, in November 2022, the voices of young people resonated again in the media about the United Nations climate change conference COP27 in Egypt. According to the 2021 climate risk index prepared by UNICEF and Friday's for Future, nine out of ten children in Latin America are currently exposed to at least two environmental and climate crises.

This complex phenomenon is framed by adolescents as a problem of intergenerational injustice, which leads them to think about a collective identity (Lee et al., 2022). Along these lines, the article by Gabriel Prosser Bravo, Camilo Andrés Caro Zúñiga, Juan Carlos Arboleda-Ariza and Ema Consuelo Schröder Navarro investigates the social imaginaries of youth in the Chilean press on climate change in almost a decade.

The authors propose three categories from which the media have represented these activists in almost a decade: traditional imaginary, alternative and instituting. These findings are in line with others, such as that of Graham and de Bell (2020), which demonstrate that the media tends to give little attention and visibility to young people as future generations, that their voices are little heard and that modes of representation obscure the temporal and social inequalities integrated into climate change.

The international network of the Worlds of Journalism (<https://worldsofjournalism.org/>) investigative project aims to understand the changes in journalism in the different participating countries, as well as at a comparative and at a global level. Based on the primary and open database of the study conducted between 2012 and 2016 (the last one in force, since in 2024 the results of the third phase in progress for the years 2021-2023 will be announced), Jesús Arroyave and Miguel Garcés Prettel investigate the perception of professional autonomy of 2789 journalists from seven Latin American countries, through the analysis of an exploratory factor analysis around variables such as formative and normative considerations, professional certification, the social importance of journalism, interactive digital communication and economic pressures.

We would not like to close this editorial without referring to a recent change in the editorial team of Cuadernos.info. We refer to the entrepreneurship of new directions of Constanza Vásquez, editorial assistant of the journal since 2015 to September 2022 in another area of academic work, who played a central role. We highlight its relationship with authors and peer reviewers, the management of the website, her support to the editorial teams in the incorporation of the journal to different indexes and in the applications to projects of the National Agency for Research and Development (ANID), as well as the management of the Twitter account. We wish to her good luck in your new role and we welcome Paola Franzani, graduate in Hispanic Letters and Msc. in Linguistics to this position, who has attended the entire production process of this volume 54 and accompanied the authors. We also thank the UC 2021 Research Journal Indexing Support Fund, as well as colleagues on the UC Research Journals Portal team.

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