About Journalism - Sur le journalisme - Sobre jornalismo

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Call for papers

Correspondents: History , Identity, Contemporary Challenges

Starting date: June 15, 2014

Deadline for submission of article summaries: September 15, 2014

Deadline for submission of complete papers: January 15, 2015

Editors of this issue:

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This issue of *About Journalism* is devoted to news correspondents - to those relocated journalists who report news (political, social, cultural...) for the benefit of their media. In keeping with the international and trilingual mandate of *About Journalism*, the more specific aim is to analyze the phenomena of journalists' mobility, exchanges and translations (especially between French, English and Portuguese), while aiming to not confuse the contemporary status of "reporter" (usually hastily dispatched to the scene of an event) and "correspondent" (assigned to a city and /or a foreign country). This issue focuses on three questions:

- 1. The History of Correspondence. From its outset, journalism has been based to a certain extent on the notion of "correspondence." For example, early newspapers regularly published letters sent in by their reporter/correspondents. Journalistic discourse therefore naturally reflected the style of the letter - news columns and editorials shaped by forms derived from imagined epistolary conversations between journalists and their readers. The first news reports - at a time when the genre was not yet clearly established, most notably in Crimea and in Italy in the 1850s and 1860s - also took the form of correspondence sent by journalists to their newspapers. We are looking for ambitious contributions here, which trace the history of correspondence with particular attention paid to international mobility - to journalistic writing at a time when editorial genres were not yet well established. Contributions could also address the issue of what constitutes professional statuses, work conditions and remuneration. Comparative approaches are welcome, insofar as realities and practices vary significantly from one country
- 2. **Status, Business Practices, Sociability.** When newspapers shifted their focus to news (in the early 20th century in most European and American societies), correspondence found a

new status. Through correspondence (covering national territory as well as foreign countries) major newspapers were able to form reliable networks of local news gatherers, while other options were available at the international level: correspondents sometimes originated from the same country as their newspaper, sometimes they were recruited from local journalists in the country the newspaper wished to cover. The capacity to be at home in the place covered remains important - correspondents base part of their legitimacy on the fact that they are immersed in the culture and society being covered. We are soliciting contributions exploring the professional status of correspondents, their practices, the problems experienced in foreign countries, the recognition accorded to them in the host country, etc. Historical perspectives may also be considered here, and may include articles exploring newspapers published in a foreign language: the Courrier des États-Unis, for example, a French daily published in New York until 1938, or the International Herald Tribune, founded in Paris in 1887 (now entitled the *International New York Times*). These newspapers have consistently made extensive use of correspondents, whether it be in the first instance to keep the Francophone community of New York abreast of French news, or in the latter to build a enterprise whose primary mandate is to report international

3. Challenges to Correspondence in the Digital Age. We could also ask how the vocation of the correspondent is evolving in the digital world. Without a doubt, editors of major newspapers still attach importance to correspondence, to the possibility of regularly falling back on the pen of a journalist stationed abroad, but it is less certain that the status of this correspondence and its legitimacy remain unchanged in the digital world. The abundance of data and information available probably weakens the status of correspondents, despite being able to act as "guides" able to make sense of the glut of digital information circulating around them. Contributions should focus on analyzing the new practices, and in this regard show how correspondents meet the challenges of the new digital system, which circulates information across borders and in real-time: forums, social networks (Twitter is very popular with journalists), Websites, etc. How does the correspondent cope in such a context?

Please indicate your interest in this issue of *About Journalism – Sur le journalisme – Sobre jornalismo* by sending a two-page summary of your article proposal to the guest editors before <u>September 15, 2014</u>, at the following email addresses:

zeliadghirni@gmail.com Guillaume.Pinson@lit.ulaval.ca Denis.Ruellan@univ-rennes1.fr

Summaries and articles may be submitted in English, French, Spanish or Portuguese.

The deadline for submission of complete articles (between 30,000 and 50,000 characters, including references and footnotes) is **January 15, 2015.** Articles should be submitted electronically at: http://surlejournalisme.com/rev/index.php/slj/author/submit/1.

Article submissions should include clear statements of the theoretical foundation of the research as well as the sources of data and analytical methods used. All submissions will be subject to double-blind peer review.

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... is a space where historically shaped intellectual traditions and interests in journalism studies meet. The field of journalism studies has developed with different epistemologies, approaches and methods that inform national research traditions. The journal fosters the encounter of these divergent approaches via an international editorial board and active solicitation of submissions from international scholars. In a context of globalization and relative homogenization of media systems and journalistic practices, the journal also focuses on the similarities and differences between journalistic and scholarly cultures.

The journal is dedicated to research. A committee of four editors responsible for facilitating exchanges works with editorial boards that include scholars from Europe, Latin America, and North America. The members of the editorial boards are figures widely known for the quality of their research and the international and intercultural orientation of their approaches to journalism studies.

The journal is a springboard for the publication of innovative works in transdisciplinary perspectives; it publishes the research not only of established scholars but also of students. Published online and on paper, the journal's issues are organized around precise themes. Results of graduate theses, field and research notes, and scholarly reports may also be included in any given issue.

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