

EDITORIAL

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The major challenge in the post-modern era is to propose new paradigms in order to understand the dynamics of a world that has become glocalised. We need only pause to consider phenomena such as the progressive decline of national states, the emergence of new players, first and foremost the glocal cities, as well as the growing phenomenon of mobility and hybridisation between different cultures and people. There is therefore an urgent need for adequate cultural tools to interpret the new scenarios proposed by glocalism.

It is with very consideration in mind that Globus et Locus decided to create a *locus* to serve whoever wanted to develop systematic thought around these issues, in an environment of scientific standing that would gather and encourage cultural contributions and in-depth analyses on the phenomena of glocalisation. This formed the basis for the idea to create the journal *Glocalism: Journal of Culture, Politics and Innovation*.

This journal originated with a new and innovative intention: to create a bridge between the theoretical reflection on glocalism and the practical aspects that draw inspiration from it. Such an approach has always characterised the work done by Globus et Locus. Globus et Locus is a think tank that was established at the end of the nineties with the intention of supporting the managerial class to meet the challenges of glocalisation with a new political culture and value system that was in step with the dynamics of the globalised world.

We envisaged this journal to be a space that would correspond with the virtual and networked dimension of the web; a medium that was therefore completely on-line,

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multi-disciplinary, with free access, and published on a four-monthly basis by *Globus et Locus*.

A peer-reviewed journal, which has seen included among the members of the direction committee some of the most authoritative representatives of glocal thought: Arjun Appadurai, Zygmunt Bauman, Seyla Benhabib, Sabino Cassese, Manuel Castells, Fred Dallmayr, David Held, Robert J. Holton, Anthony McGrew, Alberto Martinielli, Alberto Quadrio Curzio, Roland Robertson, Saskia Sassen, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak.

Discussion among the members of the executive committee led to the proposal to dedicate the first issue to the subject of "Hybridity". As we stated in the call for papers: "the intensification of human relationships on a global scale feeds the speed, breadth and depth of this hybridisation process, which involves every realm of nature and human life". One of the main problems faced by glocalism is how to mediate between the global and the local. On a cultural and social level, this refers to the problem of reconciling individualisation and hybridisation, from the perspective of the multiple identities that we have all become immersed in.

Providing confirmation of just how important our proposed subject was, we received a great many proposals for articles to our call for papers from researchers throughout the world, covering a wide range of issues and disciplines. The eight papers that make up this issue of the journal were selected using a double blind peer review process. In our opinion they combine to provide a varied, multi-disciplinary and extremely interesting framework for the problems of hybridisation. The journal was enhanced further with the contributions from prof. Robertson and prof. Bauman.

The next issue of *Glocalism* will deal with the subject of "Feeding the planet. Energy for life". In addition to being the theme for the Milan Expo 2015, this clearly refers to global phenomena such as nutrition, energy and sustainability. With our journal, we would therefore like to take this opportunity to reflect on a glocal approach (from Milan going out to the world) on issues of universal significance, which are relevant to scholars and researchers throughout the world.

