

EDITORIAL

Founded in 1995 at the Instituto de Geografia da UERJ (IGEOP) by the geographers Zeny Rosendahl (UERJ) and Roberto Lobato Corrêa (UFRJ), the *Espaço e Cultura* journal is an integral part of the Núcleo de Estudos e Pesquisas sobre Espaço e Cultura - NEPEC. Possessing importance and international academic relevance, it was the third magazine created in the world with the objective of disseminating the geographic tradition that privileges culture in its spatial dimension, obtaining recognition from the Universitat de Barcelona, the University of Texas and the Université de Paris IV.

In Brazil, the journal *Espaço e Cultura* follows the pioneering spirit in the intellectual field of human geography with emphasis on cultural studies and religion. In its editions, the journal presents unpublished articles, translations, reviews and research notes and current references.

In issue number 44, we arrived at the last issue of the thematic dossier on the different studies and research on the relationship between Media and Religion. This edition will feature works by national and international researchers with research recognized in the theme presented here. There will be a total of seven unpublished articles and a review by professor Fernanda Cravidão of the University of Coimbra (Portugal) on the book - *A Procession in Geography* (EdUERJ), a book from the Cultural Geography Collection launched by professor Zeny Rosendahl in late 2018. The geographer Rosendahl is internationally recognized for her geographical studies in the areas of culture and religion, as well as for the foundation of the Nucleus of Studies and Research on Space and Culture - NEPEC.

Opening the last thematic issue of the magazine, we have the article by geographer Jefferson Rodrigues de Oliveira (1) addressing the different relationships between religion, cyberspace and media in the context of hypermodernity. How do the new social relations occur in a society marked by the new information technologies and cyberspace? How do religions, and in the example of the article the Roman Catholic Apostolic Church creates / elaborates / produces new strategies for the maintenance of their physical and virtual territories?

The second article is by the anthropologist and scientist of religion - Emerson Silveira (2). In his work, the author will address how the new relations between the

Catholic Church and its religious practices on the Internet occur. How do these new relations between man and the sacred take place across cyberspace and the new frontiers of faith? According to the author, to what extent do these practices bring together old and new traditions? The third article (3) is by the communicologist and doctoral student at the University of François Rabelais / Université de Tours - Kelber Pereira Gonçalves. In his article the author will address the process of interaction that occurs in the digital era 2.0 through the Catholic Church, its communication process and cyber communities. The relationships between the Catholic Church, the Internet and new religious practices reconfigured in the digital environment will be the main objective of his work.

The fourth article is by the Slovak professor - Terézia Rončáková (4) of the Catholic University of Ružomberok in Slovakia. She'll present article on the relationship between the sacred and the profane, the new interactions, opportunities and threats between the Church and the media. How do the different social, political and economic spheres of the media, whether on the religious or the journalistic side? The fifth article (5) will be by the portuguese professor of the Polytechnic Institute of Portalegre / Portugal - Márcia Marat Grilo; the French-Italian professor Angela Anzelmo - Université de Limoges / France and; the French professor David Douyère of the Univerité de Tours / France. In the article, the authors will address the digital communication and the Vatican tradition, that is, how the Catholic Church itself has been using its own means of communication throughout history and in the different processes of evolution and media growth.

The sixth article (6), by portuguese professor Jorge Botelho Moniz, PhD in political science from NOVA University of Lisbon. In his article, the author will work with demography, education and communication as possible elements of secularization phenomena. Based on this logic, Jorge will perform a correlation between the existential security indices and religiosity in Europe. The seventh and last article (7) will be by portuguese professor Margarida Franca - PhD from the University of Coimbra / Portugal; professor João Luís Fernandes and professor Rui Martins, both from the University of Coimbra / Portugal. In this work, the authors will contribute to the geography of power, transnational actors and communication in the processes of religious radicalization. How do these relations and interactions occur through the media?

All the articles presented here are of extreme academic quality, serving as support for studies and different works both for geographers and other professionals

and researchers in the social sciences and humanities. The richness of literature, objects and research, contribution and much to the advancement of new studies in the areas of Religion, Media and Hypermodernity.

Through the different works that have formed the three thematic numbers, we observe that the new sociocultural conjunctures, enable religious man to have access to different media, paths and new religious contexts that favor different ways of approaching the sacred, thus generating a new front of analysis and research. Based on the new relationships between man, technology and the sacred, new experiences, new patterns and experiences are built. Religions appropriate the digital universe / the world of networks, seeking between political and economic disputes, the maintenance and management of their physical and virtual religious territories.

The candle became virtual, the mass became televised, the cult became show, the fluid territories and the experience with the sacred in a capitalist aesthetic, artistic and immersed in hypermodernity society, a new archetype of consumption and new religious practices. Religions tend more to transform themselves in the face of new realities than to go into decline.

Through these new fronts of research and analysis, we invite all readers of the journal Espaço e Cultura to appreciate these three thematic issues. Their main objective is to bring to the geographical studies of culture and religion, the diffusion of new studies and the deepening of concepts and research through the media, cyberspace and hypermodernity.

Jefferson Rodrigues de Oliveira