

TEN YEARS OF GLOCALISM

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In 2018, as we celebrated the first five years of *Glocalism: Journal of Culture, Politics and Innovation*, we spoke of the journal as “an intellectual undertaking that involves numerous individuals spread around the world, both authors and readers”. In the meantime, this undertaking has continued to expand, and today *Glocalism* turns ten years old. As it continues to pursue its mission – to stimulate an increasing awareness and knowledge around the idea of the characterising dynamics of glocal reality – the journal has also been able to consolidate its cultural, intellectual and scientific presence. Over the span of the past ten years, *Glocalism* has published more than 300 articles in English, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, and Russian. It has involved more than 600 referees, coordinated by more than 30 peer-review coordinators. The journal continues to be available in open access and thus contributes to the growth of open-science practice. As we stated five years ago,

“nowadays, a journal on ‘glocalism’ seeking to be recognized in the cultural-academic context and, at the same time, aiming to correspond with the very concept of being ‘glocal’, must be available online”.

In recent years, *Glocalism* has also continued in its attempts to establish serious theoretical reflection on globalization in concrete ways. This has taken place, for example, in 2017, during the conference “Italics as a Global Commonwealth” held at the United Nations headquarters in New York, as well as in 2019, during the “Global Civilizations: from History to Sustainable Development Goals” conference, held at the University of Milan and attended by Tatiana Valovaya, Director General of the United Nations in Geneva. These two examples demonstrate “the will to create a bridge between the theoretical reflection on glocalism and the practical aspects that draw inspiration from it [...] with the intention of supporting the managerial class to meet the challenges of globalization with a new political culture and value system [...] in step with dynamics of the globalized world”, as we wrote after the first five years of the journal’s life.

Today, the work done by *Glocalism* appears to have gained value. According to many scholars, in fact, we are facing a turning point in the history of the world. What is happening to globalization? First, populism and the so-called “resurgence” of nationalism, then the pandemic, then the ecological and climate crisis, and now the war in Ukraine and in the Middle East all seem to question the very nature of globalization and its processes. For this reason, the idea of a “crisis of globalization” is spreading, along with analyses which consider the world order in the light of a comeback of the nation-state or regional spaces in general. Are we facing a process of “deglobalization”? Or, as some other scholars argue, does the global dimension of these phenomena

challenge this assumption at its core? Only historical developments will answer these and other similar questions.

The fact that any response must be addressed on a transnational plane, however, indicates how the global (both theoretically and empirically) is still far from being removed from our perspective. The very idea of “glocalism” helps us in escaping the narrowing perspective of a juxtaposition between global and local implicated by the debate on deglobalization mentioned above. Once again, we need to deal with the questions posed by the “hybridity” characterizing our glocal world. Therefore, there still is “an urgent need for adequate cultural tools to interpret the new scenarios proposed by glocalism”, as stated in the first editorial of *Glocalism*.

Five years ago, we highlighted the necessity of a more ordered and direct theoretical work process capable of both producing innovative intellectual tools, concepts, and social-political categories, and providing new names for new things. Ten years after the birth of *Glocalism*, various and precious attempts may be perceived as defining a “general theory of glocalization”: one of the goals the journal keeps at its forefront and the theme that is most present in its various issues. That being said, the goal has not yet been completely fulfilled. The reason for this lies in the fact that such a “general theory” cannot be defined once and for all but must be adapted according to the ongoing changes occurring in the world. By looking at and reflecting on these changes, we can define glocalization. The very path to the goal of achieving a general theory of glocalization is in itself a fundamental part of such a goal.

Nowadays, *Glocalism* continues to serve this purpose: enriching the frame of understanding glocalization’s process. This is well shown by the articles that we have collected in this book, which have been published in the journal over

the last five years. By doing so, our aim is twofold. First, to show the richness and depth which continues to characterise the activity of the journal. Second, to stimulate further the continuation on the path of a definition of a general theory of glocalization. Certainly, other work has to be done.

List of issues titles of the last ten years

2013, 1: Hybridity

2014, 1-2: Feeding the planet. Energy for life

2014, 3: Global cities

2015, 1: Global polity and policies

2015, 2: Glocal social capital

2015, 3: On Global Risks

2016, 1: Networks and New Media

2016, 2: Local and Global Democracy

2016, 3: Territories, Borders and The New Geography

2017, 1: The Glocal Political Power

2017, 2: Global Identities and Communities

2017, 3: Beyond Democracy: Innovation as Politics

2018, 1: Towards Global Citizenships Issue

2018, 2: Globalization and Federations

2018, 3: Sustainability

2019, 1: Civilizations and Globalizations

2019, 2: State, Nationalism and Globalization

2019, 3: Globalization and Gender Implications

2020, 1: Geopolitics and Glocalism

2020, 2: Globalization, Market and Economic Policies

2020, 3: Glocalization and Everyday Life

2021, 1: New Glocal Forms of Financial Participation and Revenue Mobilization

2021, 2: The Glocal World of Historical Archives

2021, 3: Cities and Migration in the New Post-Pandemic Normal

2022, 1: The Glocalization of Technocultures

2022, 2: Humanitarian Action and Glocalism

2022, 3: New Technologies, Migration and the Future of Work

2023, 1: Environmental Crisis, Migration and Social Policy

2023, 2: Longevity and Globalisation

2023, 3: Life Chances in a (Un)Sustainable World

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DOAJ – Directory of Open Access Journals

ERIH PLUS – European Reference Index for the Humanities and the Social Sciences

ROAD – Directory of Open Access Scholarly Resources ACNP – Catalogo Italiano dei Periodici

ACNP – Catalogo Italiano dei Periodici

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Area 14 – Scienze politiche e sociali

Editorial Note

The articles collected in this book were previously published in the issues mentioned between brackets:

- C. Moreno, *Living in a Proximity in a Living City* (2021, no. 3).
J. Mraz, *More Than Vestiges: Photographic Archives of Ancient Mexico* (2021, no. 2).
C. Crouch, *The Economic Geography of Xenophobic Populism* (2019, no. 2).
H. Köchler, *Nation and Civilization in the Global Age* (2020, no. 2).
A. Touraine, *History, Modernity and Global Identities* (2020, no. 2).
A. Appadurai, *The Haptic and the Phatic in the Era of Globalization* (2022, no. 1).
J. Hyman, *New Glocal Forms of Financial Participation* (2021, no. 1).
J. Butler, *What Threat? The Campaign against “Gender Ideology”* (2019, no. 3).
R. Robertson, *Glocalization: Self-Referential Remembrances* (2020, no. 3).