

GABRIELA GÓMEZ RODRÍGUEZ

<http://orcid.org/0000-0002-2078-1671>

RODRIGO GONZÁLEZ REYES

<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0142-9522>

In these last days of December 2022 the World Health Organization (WHO) has announced that it will soon declare the COVID-19 pandemic over. Although the announcement is hopeful and brings new encouragement to the world, we cannot erase from our feelings that for more than twenty months our recent history was chaotic and threatening; it is precisely in this context, when at the beginning of 2022 daily life began to normalize, that our journal faced a new challenge, which was to continue doing our job of disseminating part of the knowledge we generate in our field, but now with readers transformed in many ways by the impact of this catastrophe.

During the pandemic, but particularly throughout the various quarantines, people became new audiences, participating in different information consumption practices, facing an enormous amount of content and discovering ways of being audiences and spectators in formats never seen before. All these situations, cumulatively and convergently, came to represent an enormous challenge to those of us dedicated to editorial work, and *Comunicación y Sociedad*, as an academic journal, was not exempt from it; on the contrary, we found the scenario as a perfect moment to test proposals that we had been thinking about for some time and we saw the ideal horizon to improve and implement changes that we already believed necessary, while, on the reception side, we met again with our appreciated community of readers but now with different information and documentation needs. Needless to say, the moment was exciting but difficult; however, as

we approach the beginning of 2023, the balance can only leave us with great satisfaction: the numbers and the direct contact with our international community of readers let us know that the effort was not in vain and that the historical and social function of our journal was strengthened.

Thus, we would like to express our gratitude to all those who have collaborated throughout all these years to keep the journal alive and in this we would like to include not only you, our readers, but also all those who make our work possible in countless dimensions, and in this we would particularly like to mention all those experts who, with their dedicated work of evaluation and assessment, keep the work flow of this publication running in a healthy manner.

As is already visible, the editorial work of an academic journal is not limited to the reception of articles (which we always seek to be of the highest quality) and the participation of the community that sends its reflections or research results, but also, and above all, of the anonymous and peer review (double blind /peer review). In this sense, the academic production and publication of research findings is at all times an essentially collaborative endeavor. Without the support of this extensive support network it would not be possible to produce science or to disseminate it, so we not only want to thank all these people who bring us so much value with their voluntary and selfless work, but we also want to take this space to invite all of us who form this community to continue collaborating with *Comunicación y Sociedad* and other scientific journals in the tasks required to be able to publish. Peer review, as we know, is a thankless job because it is not usually recognized in the different evaluation systems to which we academics are subjected, but nevertheless, it is a task that has an indispensable quality. As we can already guess, reviewers also submit texts to other publications (whether books or journals) and without this collaborative circuit it is simply not possible to publish.

Moving on to other issues, and by way of closing, we would like to share with you that we firmly believe that the changes and transformations we have already mentioned require us to open the range of perspectives that help us to understand the implications of the uses and appropriations of technologies, of the new narratives that expand

through different formats and devices, of understanding and analyzing the forms of expression and claims of the diverse society in the face of so much inequality, racism and violence that we live in, and this cannot be done in the absence of research and publication; In this direction, a journal such as *Comunicación y Sociedad* wants to continue to be that window where all these diverse views, expressions, narratives, have a place.

Faithful to this vision, our commitment is to continue offering a journal of the highest quality while ratifying our recognition and respect to you who read and support us as part of this great collaborative community.