

# INTRODUCTION

## Journalism Research in Brazil

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Brasileira de Pesquisa  
dores em Jornalismo

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*Brazilian Journalism Research* is a publication by SBPJor and its purpose is to bring together and disseminate for the international research community, based on a careful peer review process, research works and book reviews on the most relevant pieces of journalism research conducted in universities and other research centers in Brazil, or conducted abroad on topics related to Brazilian journalism. In this sense, this first issue contains a *Dossier* on journalism research in Brazil.

The *dossier* is intended to provide an overview of multiple aspects of journalism studies based on the assumption that scientific research development hinges around its historiographical record and mapping so that the identification of theoretical trends and methodologies can enable the field of journalism studies in Brazil to both help improve journalism practice and theory in our Country and cooperate with the international scientific community.

The papers listed in this *Dossier* provide an insight into the complexity and diversity of journalism studies in Brazil. This insight can be the result of the theoretical and methodological interaction of the authors who appear in the compilation (Benetti Machado; Elias Machado; Meditsch & Segalla, and Motta). The studies conducted over the past five years within the scientific work of COMPÓS' Journalism Studies Research Group and the profile of Research Groups registered with CNPq's Research Groups Directory – both in Benetti Machado –, and the review of works presented at the first two conferences held by SBPJor in 2003 and 2004 – in Meditsch & Segalla – provide a cross-sectional interpretation of the evolution and theoretical and methodological trends of journalism studies in Brazil.

At the same time, the *Dossier* provides a recap of the origins of the Communication Postgraduate Programs in Brazil – with an emphasis on

journalism studies –, and the growth of specialized journalism periodicals over the past few years, in Meditsch & Segalla. We also provide a historical perspective focusing, however, on the development of journalism as a field of knowledge within the realm of Communication studies in Brazil. This study supplies fundamental inputs to help understand how journalism studies in Brazil reached their current status, in Elias Machado. Finally, a comparison of two trends in journalism research in Brazil is discussed in Motta.

*Brazilian Journalism Research's* editorial team thinks that the *Dossier*, along with all other papers that appear in the first issue of this periodical, successfully fulfill our role not only in terms of the dissemination of scientific production since this is a publication by a Scientific Society but, above all, as strengtheners of research networks, and as an arena where fields of journalism research in Brazil are created, established and honed to be submitted to international scientific discussion.

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