

Editorial

Roman Gibel, Kenneth Horvath, Stephanie Steinmetz, and Núria Sánchez Mira

In the inaugural issue of the Swiss Journal of Sociology (SJS) for each year, we typically reflect on the preceding year, share updates regarding changes in the editorial team, and provide an overview of what to expect in the upcoming year along with details about forthcoming projects.

First, a comprehensive examination of the year 2023 is conducted, particularly focusing on publishing aspects. SJS received a total of 37 articles, of which 22 were

Table 1 Swiss Journal of Sociology: Articles published and manuscripts submitted in 2023

	Articles published		Manuscripts submitted	
	N	%	N	%
Total	22	100.0	37	100
Methods				
Empirical qualitative	8	36.4	17	45.9
Empirical quantitative	12	54.5	14	37.8
Empirical mixed	1	4.5	4	10.8
Theoretical	1	4.5	2	5.4
Total	22	100.0	37	100.0
Language				
German	1	4.5	4	10.8
English	18	81.8	28	75.7
French	3	13.6	5	13.5
Total	22	100.0	37	100.0
Region of origin (first author)				
German-speaking Switzerland	8	36.4	10	27.0
French-speaking Switzerland	5	22.7	9	24.3
Italian-speaking Switzerland	0	0.0	0	0.0
Germany	4	18.2	4	10.8
France	3	13.6	4	10.8
Other European countries	2	9.1	2	5.4
Non-European countries	0	0.0	8	21.6
Total	22	100.0	37	100.0
Sex (first author)				
Female	13	59.1	20	54.1
Male	9	40.9	17	45.9
Total	22	100.0	37	100.0

successfully published, resulting in a publication rate of approximately 60 percent. Notably, in the previous year, more than half of the accepted articles demonstrated a methodological quantitative orientation.

In contrast to the trend observed since 2021, SJS experienced a significant decline in qualitative research, a notable surge in quantitative research, and modest increases in mixed or theoretical papers. Overall, the published articles showcased a more diverse range of topics compared to the year 2022. Interestingly, in contrast to previous years, the rate for published quantitative papers surpassed that of qualitative papers.

The inclination towards publishing in English continues to grow, a trend that persists since 2017. While a year ago, 40 percent of the published articles were in English, the majority in the past year were English publications, exceeding 80 percent. This shift is interpreted as an indication that authors perceive the Swiss Journal of Sociology as having international reach, signifying our journal's appeal as a platform for scholars on the international stage.

At the same time, first authors predominantly are located in the German-speaking part of Switzerland, as observed in the preceding year. The second most frequent region first author origin was the French-speaking part of Switzerland. However, when considering all non-Swiss contributions, encompassing authors from Germany, France, and other European countries, they collectively claimed the top position. Once again, this is viewed as evidence that the SJS is firmly established within the community of European Sociology scholars. Approximately 60 percent of the first authors are female. It is crucial to note that these statistics provide insight only into the origins of the first authors. In fact, a minority of the published articles were authored by a single individual, with the majority being collaborative efforts involving multiple authors.

In terms of content, the spotlight in the previous year was on two special issues, delving into the sociology of life courses and digital academia. The first special issue, titled "Exploring Life Courses in Their Making: 20 years of TREE (Transitions from Education to Employment)," was edited by Sandra Hupka-Brunner, Ben Jann, and Thomas Meyer. The second special issue, "Digital Academia: Investigating Science and Higher Education in the Digital Age," was edited by Philippe Saner, Luca Tratschin, Christian Leder, and Katja Rost.

In addition, the SJS featured a focus issue on the theme "Anchoring International Organizations in Organizational Sociology," curated by Fanny Badache and Leah R. Kimber. Furthermore, the range of published articles exhibited diversity, covering topics such as social support, gender, and the origins of political efficacy (Annika Lindholm); the social structure's impact on perception and attitudes towards education in Switzerland (Barbara Zimmermann and Rolf Becker); the influence of the Covid-19 pandemic on perceived employment (in)security in Switzerland (Susanne Edler and Ivo Staub); the timing of moving in with a partner (Julia Zimmer-

mann and Gerald Prein); parental investment in children's education pathways (Chantal Kamm, Andrés Gomensoro, Marieke Heers, and Sandra Hupka-Brunner); or the role of schools as differential environments for students' development (Katja Scharenberg and Wolfram Rollett).

Moreover, the preceding year was the first year under the newly formed editorial board, comprising Kenneth Horvath (Zurich University of Teacher Education), Roman Gibel (University of Zurich), Stephanie Steinmetz (University of Lausanne), and Núria Sánchez-Mira (University of Neuchâtel). Facilitated by the exceptional support of the journal's manager, Marion Beetschen, the operational flow of the journal was effectively ensured. To enhance efficiency, the editorial board opted to implement a rotational system for the desk-editor role, ensuring that editors take turns overseeing incoming articles during designated periods.

Finally, 2023 meant taking the first steps towards a thorough transformation and modernization of the journal culminating in 2024. This exciting process comes with its challenges and adjustments. The editorial board has been particularly invested in the restructuring of the journal, its content management system, and publishing procedures. As a result, the SJS website will be hosted on the SOAP2 platform, a Swiss-based open access publishing platform. In collaboration with the SGS-board, the editorial board meticulously revised the submission guidelines and criteria. The website is set to introduce automated submission and reviewing processes, along with an online first section that will expedite the publishing process for authors. Additionally, the new platform will grant open access to all current and past issues of the SJS. 2024 will bring new developments, including a revamped version of the International Advisory Board and investigating new possibilities for indexing.

In 2024, a special issue and a focus issue will be launched. First, "Switzerland as a Site of Capital Accumulation" edited by Anne-Sophie Delval and Karen Lillie, and "Big Visual Data as a New Form of Knowledge" edited by Sebastian Hoggenmüller. We are looking forward to receiving further interesting proposals for special issues for the coming years.