

Editorial

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

2024 has been full of exciting new changes for the Swiss Journal of Sociology (SJS). In this inaugural issue, we would like to take the chance to inform our readership of all the novelties implemented over the last year, as well as to provide an overview on forthcoming issues and projects for 2025.

In last year's editorial, we already anticipated that 2024 would entail a thorough transformation of the journal to bring it into line with modern publishing standards, under the guidance of the editorial team, consisting of Kenneth Horvath (Zurich University of Teacher Education), Roman Gibel (University of Zurich), Stephanie Steinmetz (University of Lausanne), and Núria Sánchez-Mira (University of Neuchâtel), and with the essential support of the journal's manager, Marion Beetschen, who continues to ensure the day-to-day running of the journal. This exciting but intense process has culminated in 2024 in the re-launch of the journal on the Swiss-based publishing platform SOAP2, which offers all the functionalities of state-of-the-art academic publishing: including platinum open access, online first publication of articles, link with ORCID record, among other. The new website (www.socio-journal.ch), with a modernized appearance, presents a straightforward and intuitive online submission process and clear and simplified guidelines for authors. As the SJS is published three times a year in regular issues, the possibility of publishing online first articles is a particularly valuable development. Authors no longer have to wait until the articles are published regularly but can already refer to the articles published online (with DOI). This ensures faster publication times.

Since 2025, for all new manuscripts submitted, the whole process from the receipt of the manuscript to the publication – including review, copyediting, and production – is handled through the new platform.

Over the year, the transition from an e-mail-based submission system to SOAP2 was conducted gradually and entailed a number of technical and operational challenges and adjustments. This transition would not have been possible without the support of all parties involved, including the technical team at SOAP2 and Thomas Henkel especially, the SGS-board, and the journal's publisher, Seismo. We take here the opportunity to thank, in particular, authors, reviewers, and special issue guest editors for their patience and collaboration during the process. The editorial team continues to update and improve the review and publication process, and 2025 will also see new developments, including the involvement of special issue guest editors in the management of the platform, the archiving of older issues, the complete renewal of the SJS's International Advisory Board, and the recruitment of new editors for



the core editorial team. A call for applications will be published in the spring, and we look forward to receiving your expressions of interest in joining our dynamic team of editors. In terms of content, 2024 included one special issue, 50(2), titled “Switzerland as a Site of Capital Accumulation: The Case of International Education”, edited by Karen Lillie and Anne-Sophie Delval, which focused on the reasons and processes by which foreign families and individuals, as well as local institutions capitalize on the Swiss private school market. The two *varia* issues, 50(1) and 50(3), offered a variety of topics and approaches, including theoretical discussions around temporality (Thoemmes), economic sociological perspectives on circuits of commerce of local currencies (Stamm), or how States make the market (Streckeisen et al.). Qualitative studies have addressed the production of narratives among applicants of financial aid (Paccaud & Tabin), the youthfulness among climate activists (Schaupp et al.), the making of school policy in Switzerland (Fouquet-Chaupdrade et al.), factors influencing transnational mobilities in old age (Tomás), and have attempted to answer whether legal sanctions can reduce cyberviolence (Stahel & Weingartner). Finally, we have published quantitative research on the impact of Covid-19 pandemic-related school closures on socioeconomic inequalities in schooling (Grätz et al.), credibility assessments in sexual orientation and gender identity in asylum cases (Schnell), and mixed methods approaches analysing heterosexist discrimination in dual vocational training (Dejussel et al.).

In 2025, we expect to publish three special issues. First, “New Work – New Problems? Gender Perspectives on the Transformation of Work” edited by Isabelle Zinn, Lucia M. Lanfranconi, Stephanie Steinmetz, Gesine Fuchs, Christina Bornatici, and Martina Peitz. Second, “Big Visual Data as a New Form of Knowledge. Theoretical Approaches, Methodological Procedures and Empirical Analyses”, edited by Sebastian W. Hoggenmüller. And third, “The Transformation of Banking from a Sociological Perspective”, edited by Philip Balsiger and Léna Pellandini-Simanyi. In turn, forthcoming *varia* articles will be published online first upon acceptance, before being published in a regular issue at the earliest possible point in time.

We look forward to receiving your articles and further interesting proposals for special issues in 2026!

The Editorial Board

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