

Preface

The essay that begins volume 44 of *Interações*, by Matteo Stocchetti, uses Baudrillard's perspectives on the end of capitalism as a theoretical support to explore the impact of texts generated by Artificial Intelligence (AI) in capitalist societies, through three conditions, based on the ideas of *saturation*, *meaningless meaning* and *technological indeterminism*. The author suggests that the development of AI-generated texts may reach a saturation point, as the excess of information and meaning leads to the implosion of capitalism; it can also produce “meaninglessnes meaning”, which challenges the status of text and meaning-making as an innate human response to the fear of death; finally, it may even trigger a transition to technological indeterminism, significantly altering the social functions of technological development and introducing aspects of uncertainty and ambivalence.

José Ricardo Carvalheiro explores the trajectory of the narrative *crónica* through a longitudinal analysis in leading Portuguese newspapers, namely, *Diário de Lisboa* and *Público*, using a wide range of texts published there between 1959 and 2019 as a sample. The main objective of his research is to obtain empirical results on the presence of chronicles in the Portuguese press in recent decades. The results of his study point to a significant increase in *crónicas* published during the years under study, albeit accompanied by the loss of journalistic authorship, in favor of resorting to external collaborators. Carvalheiro emphasizes that, despite a frequent hybridization between report and commentary, there is currently a hegemony of opinion in the field of *crónicas*, while the percentage of texts dominated by a narrative register and by reports based on direct observation of the everyday life.

In the following article, Helena Sofia Santos and Paula Campos Ribeiro conduct a systematic review of the literature on empirical research concerning the relationship between internal communication and organizational culture. The authors analyse a sample of five empirical studies that include people with different positions and levels of education, with the information collected through case studies, questionnaires and interviews. The results of their study indicate that organizational culture has a strong

impact on internal communication. According to the authors, emotional culture and ethical culture bring significant advantages to internal communication in organizations, since they allow the establishment of an environment of trust, responsibility and credibility among all employees, creating the conditions for the company's leader to be able to communicate effectively with his/her employees.

The main objective of the text by Gisiela Klein is to analyze the state of the art of academic studies that address the informational disorder produced in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. The author analyzes 59 academic articles collected from the Scopus, Web of Science and Communication & Mass Media databases, concluding that the information disorder produced in the context of the pandemic had a negative impact on communication. Fake, inaccurate or out-of-context news undermined the intended effects of public policies, especially with regard to vaccination. The information disorder also had an effect on the increase of hate speech, as well as on the worsening of psychological illnesses and on the increase of stress and anxiety levels. The analysis of the literature also revealed an academic consensus on the insufficiency of the term *fake news* to describe the current information scenario, being preferable to replace it with the concept of *information disorder*.

Catarina Magalhães examines the coverage that two leading newspapers in Portugal – *Expresso* and *Público* – did on the death of Ukrainian citizen Ihor Homenyuk in the facilities of the Foreigners and Borders Service (SEF). Combining quantitative and qualitative analyses, the author compares the coverage made by the two newspapers in two different periods, coinciding with the disclosure of the case and the filing of the accusation. Her study shows that the main focus of the news was, in the first place, the Ukrainian citizen and, only secondarily, the aggressors, with an attempt to humanize the attacked person, identifying him with the image of the hard-working and dedicated to the family emigrant seeking better living conditions. On the other hand, the way in which the case was described in some news articles, contributed to a negative image of the SEF, intensified, according to the author, by the political action of the government officials.

The following article, by Catarina Patrício and Carlos Smaniotto Costa, seeks to redefine the concept of Smart Cities. The authors question whether Smart Cities can transcend the application of technology to become truly participatory environments. Exploring the crucial role of civic and political participation in this transformation, the article offers an innovative perspective on Smart Cities, focusing on the connections between citizens, places and heritage. Converging with the existing literature

Preface

on the subject, Catarina Patrício and Carlos Smaniotto Costa highlight the importance of networks, people, instruments, architectures and programs for the creation of Smart Cities. Finally, they conclude that the role of digital curators is important, as they promote participatory environments in the formation of Smart Cities.

Blockchain games or games with non-fungible tokens (NFT games) are the theme of the article by Felipe Moura Oliveira and Joseane de Carvalho Leão. Unlike traditional games whose objective is purely for fun, NFT games have an economic objective, as they generate a source of income for their players. However, the growing competition that has come to characterize the sector, threatens its sustainability, as its operation is increasingly similar to financial pyramids. Combining elements from previous studies, such as fundamental economic concepts, legal issues and the problem of financial pyramids, with an inductive, applied and qualitative approach, through the analysis of semi-structured interviews, bibliographical and documentary research, Felipe Moura Oliveira and Joseane de Carvalho Leão propose ways to improve the sustainability of NFT games in the context of the digital economy and blockchain technology.

The volume ends with a research by Omero Junior, Elielson Damascena, Francisco Melo and Pamela Dias on the leisure consumption practices of families with autistic children. Through semi-structured and self-report interviews, the authors identified elements that characterize the consumption practices of these families. As they claim, those practices are configured through a connection between materials that are adapted or with pedagogical objectives, knowledge taught by professionals or learned in a self-taught way, and specific meanings, such as the existing duality between pleasure and stress. The article concludes with the presentation of proposals to improve the well-being and quality of life of the families of people with autism, that include, namely, the training of professionals, greater attention from the public authorities, more flexible working conditions and the creation of a physical environment oriented towards citizens with autism.

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