EDITORIAL

25 years of Psicothema

Twenty-five years ago, Psicothema was born with the clear purpose of diffusing good psychology, especially psychology made in Spain, but also from beyond our borders. Since 1989 until the present, the journal has evolved, maintaining the same vocation already expressed in our first editorial (“to publish works conducted with methodological rigor and that contribute to progress in any sphere of scientific Psychology”), and portrayed in our motto “Nothing that is psychological is foreign to us”. Psicothema has drawn from the contributions of academic and professional psychology and, at the same time, it has contributed to changing the forms and ways of presenting psychological knowledge of researchers from our country. Thus, the quality of the works has increased remarkably over the years. The number of original manuscripts received has also increased, from a few dozen a year to almost 500 currently received. This has obliged us to establish rigorous selection criteria of the articles. We hope we have not made too many mistakes; we have always tried our best, rigorously and objectively. The large number of originals we receive has forced the Associate Editors to preselect the manuscripts before the article is sent to the reviewers is increasingly demanding. These are the game rules, familiar to any experienced researcher.

An important milestone in our short history was the change from the classic paper format to the computerization of all the processes involved in editing the journal. We were one of the first Spanish journals to use an on-line computer platform to manage manuscripts. The agility of the publication process is increasingly considered a necessary condition, and there is no doubt that these tools have meant an advance that we could not dispense with nowadays. Open access to all the contents of the journal through our website has been essential to improve the diffusion of our authors. Just as an example, during the year 2012, Psicothema’s website received more than 1,500,000 visits.

Psicothema is currently indexed in the main national and international databases, including MEDLINE and the SSCI of Thompson’s JCR, where it has remained uninterruptedly since 1995. We are proud to state that in recent years, new Spanish psychology journals have been incorporated into this prestigious index. This is no doubt a reflection of the good work and of the arduous and rigorous action of the editorial boards. Perhaps, we know this better than anyone. Recently, we have received the welcome news of holding second place in the new Google Scholar Metrics ranking of journals published in Spanish of all the scientific disciplines, only behind the Revista Española de Cardiología.

This trajectory would not have been possible without the participation of each and every one of the authors, and of the hundreds of reviewers who collaborate disinterestedly in the assessment of the manuscripts. Many thanks to you all. We also want to express our thanks to all the people who have supported or support Psicothema in many ways, either as subscribers, or accepting to be a part of the Editorial Committee of the journal. The support of institutions like the Colegio Oficial de Psicólogos del Principado de Asturias [Official Psychologists’ Association of the Principedom of Asturias], the Department of Psychology of the University of Oviedo, the Vice-Rectorate of Research of the University of Oviedo, the Consejo General de Colegios de Psicólogos de España [General Council of the Spanish Psychologists’ Associations], and the Caja Rural of Asturias was also essential. The work of the administration and management was also priceless. The enormous work of Jorge Arias can never be sufficiently acknowledged. Obviously, we cannot neglect to mention the difficult task of the Associate Editors, with José Muñiz in charge from the start. We have always heard it said that no one is indispensable anywhere, but, in this case, it is hard to imagine Psicothema without the presence of Pepe. He is the Factotum of Psicothema and, for the benefit of all, he will continue to be so in the future, although as of this number, he will no longer appear as head of the Associate Editors.

As of this number, when the journal is 25 years old, we begin a new stage but without changing the fundamental philosophy that has always inspired the course of our publication: quality, objectivity, and rigor. Readers can observe formal and esthetic changes, seeking a more up-to-date image that also helps to improve the reader’s interaction with the contents of the journal. In this new phase, we have given priority to the English language; works in Spanish will only be published exceptionally, when their content justifies this choice. Obviously, through this decision, we aim to grant more visibility and diffusion to the psychology carried out by Spanish researchers and, at the same time to attract good works performed by authors beyond our idiomatic frontiers. We hope that authors and readers will benefit through this decision, though only time will tell. In any event, any idea or suggestion aimed at improving Psicothema will always be welcome.

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Psicothema