

# Editorial / Editorial

This edition focuses on the 7<sup>th</sup> World Tensions Conference, which took place in June of 2021, and dealt with a theme that is dear to the researchers of the Observatory of Nationalities: the internationality of the nation. At that time, we built a fruitful relationship with the University of York, which, for the third consecutive year, organised the Ventana III event, with the proposal of reflecting on “Global reactions and responses, thinking global acting local”. This field of study would prove to be auspicious, as the epistemological conception that guides our research network is the indissociability between international, national, regional, and local.

Our perspective was to divulge new methodological orientations in the study of nation, as a result of the research “Literatures, nationalities, and colonialisms: social cartography of the imagined communities in Brazil, Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau”, which was carried out by a multidisciplinary team from UECE and UNILAB. The international university located in Redenção, in the state of Ceará, provides the advent of students from lusophone African countries. This process has contributed to the reaffirming of the migrant population’s national identities, as well as reaffirming the identity of what it is to be from Ceará, from the Brazilian Northeast, from Brazil, or from Latin America in today’s time.

We begin by presenting five articles that make up the Ventana dossier, chosen amongst the works submitted to the event’s scientific committee.

Originally a transatlantic slave outpost, Cape Verde was elevated to the status of overseas province of Portugal in 1952. The current Republic of Cape Verde has integrated the unified fight for liberation spearheaded by the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde (PAIGC). From this historic approach, Wesley Sampaio and Mônica Martins reflect on the cultural peculiarities of a nation that calls itself creole. The article offers elements for anticolonial understanding and imagination, predating the formation of the national State, and the creolisation, as

an identifying process developed through different Cape Verdean literary manifestations.

With a doctorate from Nottingham University, Chilean citizen Patricia Lagos examines a current phenomenon known as “weda kurruf”, or “vento malo”: suicide amongst indigenous Pewuenches youth. From many related factors, mental health issues brought about by imposed educational programmes are highlighted. Her study shows that, besides trauma wrought by colonisation, Chile’s neoliberal policies have perpetrated violence and discrimination against indigenous populations through the appropriation of their lands and the negation of their culture.

Hunger continues to affect millions of people, despite the right to food being a part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Brazil is an emblematic case and an object of interest of Stefanie Mendes, assistant researcher in the European Research Council Starting Grant, from the International Institute of Social Studies. Based on a theoretical approach that prioritises the cultural and symbolical significance of feeding, the author analyses the origins, the new political alternative in a neoliberal structure, and the legacies of the country’s Zero Hunger Programme.

A professor of Law, Patricie Zanon investigates the control of corruption, taking into account the existence, on the one hand, of instruments and international patterns for States to unify their actions, and on the other hand, of characteristics unique to specific regions, such as Latin America. By covering this type of criminality, she adopts a “glocal” perspective that combines a global vision with local particularities. The article identifies some challenges and recommendations in order to reduce and/or prevent corruption, which is perceived as one of the main worries of the Latin-American population.

We conclude the dossier with a work on the pandemic and intelligence agencies, from author Luis Suárez, an experienced defence and national security professional. This UNAM doctoral student shares his concerns and preliminary results from his comparative study of the governmental administration of 38 countries from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). He argues that, in a democratic context, anything that might affect the life and well-being of a population, specifically in terms of health, constitutes an obstacle to the security of the national State.

The next four articles expand on the debate started with the OCDE towards other multilateral organisations. The authors address the practices of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), which is responsible for the fight against hunger and poverty; the convergence between the UN's and China's social policies towards the eradication of poverty in the country; the jurisprudence of the International Court of Human Rights in regards to judgements involving migrant minors; of the African Union's (AU) initiative for the development and international insertion of the continent, in cooperation with the African Development Bank and the UN Economic Commission for Africa.

Lorena Hernández, Mauro Campos, and Caroline Rangel dwell on the administration experiences of a collective agenda in terms of international public policy aimed at combating hunger. For this purpose, they map the actions of the FAO in Latin America and the Caribbean, especially its activities in Brazil, and identify the tools used to reach concrete goals, such as the Food Security and Nutrition policy. They highlight that the FAO-Brazil partnership have suffered embarrassing setbacks under the current government, and that the country has returned to the "hunger map".

In China, 850 million people have escaped abject poverty, which corresponds, in the last 50 years, to 70% of the world's population. To understand how the UN's directives are incorporated in Chinese projects aimed at eradicating poverty is the focus of the article by Isis Maia, Luciana Papi, and Diego Pautasso. These peers from UFRGS link the growing Chinese engagement with multilateral governance mechanisms, in particular the convergence with the 2030 Agenda, the Millennium Development Goals, and the Sustainable Development Goals, reaffirming its role in the changes in international power.

Poverty and hunger, in addition to war, constitute driving elements behind the expansion of international migratory processes. Today, the massive migration to Europe, while instigating negative reactions, mobilises what is called "humanitarian aid". But how have European countries been dealing with this phenomenon? This concern has spawned the work of Aline de Andrade and Tarin Mont'Alverne, who investigated cases of migrant minors that have been judged by the

European Court of Human Rights. They maintain that judicial rulings that look favourably to the detention of these children and teens are harmful to their human rights and constitute xenophobia.

A large portion of refugees originate from Maghreb and; or Subsaharan Africa, regions that are rife with conflict, brought about the exploitation of their natural riches and their population. In this sense, the proclamation of the 2063 Agenda possesses an important symbolic character: this year celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Organisation of African Unity, the precursor to the African Union. International relations professors Guilherme Ziebell and Anselmo Otavio present a critical evaluation of the 2063 Agenda, highlighting its genesis, main characteristics and aspirations, as well as their results from 2015 onwards. Its creation is part of a process that encompasses both Pan-Africanism and the African Renaissance, which seeks for greater international insertion of the continent.

After fights for independence, violent conflicts persist, with a certain prevalence in Subsaharan African countries, as is the case with Guinea-Bissau, whose history is rife with authoritarian governments, coups d'état, and political assassinations. Living side-by-side with students and professors from Guinea-Bissau at UNILAB, Thiago Rocha Vasconcelos Wanderson Lucas Souza Silva, Nelsio Gomes Correia e Natchidjubutche Gomes question the legitimacy of the usage of concepts like "Fragile State" and "Narco-State" as analytical tools in order to understand phenomena of insecurity and crisis. The article emphasises that this kind of classification reinforces the dependency and the stigmatisation of the African continent, seen as a source of "problems" for the international community.

We close this edition with a panorama of cultural policies in Brazil aimed at the books, reading, literature, libraries, and writing sector, as well as impressions on its applicability and effectivity in the field of humanities. Carolina Ficheira, professor at the Higher School of Advertising and Marketing (ESPM), reveals her preoccupation with the impacts of this public policy in the social development in the lives of Brazilians, seeing as the State has failed to successfully stimulate fundamental aspects, such as: artistic production, consumption, innovation, and experimentation.

We wish you a pleasant reading!

The editors.