

## *Preface*

In the article that opens the present volume of *Interactions*, Jeffrey Wimmer and Makhzuna Bozorova investigate the coverage by the German press, during the pandemic, on human trafficking, with a view to understanding how the media frames and sets the agenda on this issue in that context. The authors make a quantitative analysis of the content of articles of major German newspapers, from different ideological perspectives, from the years 2019-2021, considering the frequency of coverage, the dominant framings, the sources, the solutions and the calls to action. The results of their research reveal a decrease in overall coverage during the COVID-19 pandemic and a reliance on official government sources, conditioning the news published. Press coverage ends up not reflecting the real dimension of the problem, provides a stereotyped image of the victim and confuses human trafficking with smuggling.

In the next article Milene Albuquerque, Luís Paiva, Francisco Filho and Diogo Machado explore the experiences of Venezuelan immigrant entrepreneurs in Boa Vista, Brazil, and the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on their businesses. Through a qualitative analysis of interviews with eight Venezuelan refugees operating in food sector companies, the study identifies key factors that influence their entrepreneurial trajectories, such as financial conditions, family ties, contact networks and the social context. The research reveals the existence of categories related to business design, challenges, development and future perspectives. It also provides information on the dynamics of ethnic entrepreneurship that reflect the realities of immigrants who build livelihoods in the food sector. Despite the various obstacles entrepreneurs faced, the Covid crisis was a time of growth in their businesses, as they knew how to use the available resources to achieve their goals.

Adriana Monteiro, Rafael Mesquita and Fátima Matos carry out a bibliometric analysis with the aim of analyzing the evolution of the main published works in the Web of Science database on transgender people. The analysis of seventy-two articles related to the theme shows that, despite the growing interest in approaches to gender

diversity and the identities that make up the LGBTQ+ acronym, the specificities and challenges faced by the transgender population in the workplace still need deeper investigation. Crucial issues such as leadership in organizational contexts, representativeness and successful experiences of inclusion of transgender people remain poorly explored. By pointing out these gaps, the study offers perspectives for the development of future research, which can promote policies and management practices committed to equity and to reducing the profound inequalities that affect the transgender population.

The role of social networking in the organizational socialization process in a municipal public institution is the topic addressed by Danielle Vieira, Tereza Lima, Andrea Rodrigues and Rafaela Araújo. Through interviews with twenty-one recently arrived auditors at the institution, the types of social networks formed, their resources and how they influence the work adjustment process are analyzed. The results indicate a significant influence of relationships between colleagues at work on learning, mastery of tasks, social integration and other dimensions of successful organizational socialization, which can compensate for the deficit in the institution's formal tactics. The analysis on the formation of informal relationship also allowed us to understand how they affect the organizational socialization process. The results show the need for further research to the development of an organizational socialization program.

Paulo Barroso analyzes the "image-sensations" of Francis Bacon (1909-1992), through the lenses of the philosopher Gilles Deleuze's transcendental empiricism. Francis Bacon's paintings demonstrate a unique visual rhetoric aimed at evoking intense sensations and emotions in viewers. Through distorted figurative forms, ambiguous spaces and visceral representations of violence and existential anxiety, Bacon sought to pierce directly into the viewer's perceptions and go beyond conventional modes of representation. Bacon's raw and excessive aesthetics is understood as a means of capturing the force and intensity of reality that normally remain imperceptible. His paintings reveal the violence of visual signs, by forcing thought and sensation. Ultimately, Paulo Barroso shows, Bacon's visual rhetoric of pathos makes one feel the conditions of reality itself, conveying the turbulence of subjective human existence.

The article by Silvia Silva, José Junior, Joaquim Pontes III, Ana Pinho and Susete Pitombeira analyzes a central theme for organizational success: the role of interpersonal competence in obtaining results. Through a qualitative case study with leaders and those led in the legal department of a large company, the authors explore percep-

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tions of interpersonal skills in the workplace. The analysis of the interviews made it possible to conclude that interpersonal skills involve communication, empathy, respect, teamwork, commitment and problem-solving skills. However, the research identified some gaps in internal communication, and strategies were suggested aimed at strengthening relationships and optimizing results, such as investing in the development of interpersonal skills and promoting greater levels of trust and delegation. Given the limitations pointed out in this study, it is suggested, for future research, to enlarge the sample and use additional data analysis methods.

The volume closes with Inês Rua's article on the intersection between black feminisms and social networks. There is an urgent need to understand how black feminist thought has been asserting itself in the context of a new generation of black feminist activists making use of digital potential to their struggles and claims. After the historical and social contextualization of black feminist movements, the author analyzes the textual discourses present in descriptions and images of fifty-seven publications from two Instagram profiles, to understand what are the main claims of black feminism in Portugal. The results point to the existence of five critical themes that elucidate the struggles waged by these activists in the media, with regard to discrimination and exclusion, namely: the need for an inclusive feminism; beauty, self-esteem and self-love; self-identification and lack of representation; hair and sexual objectification.

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