Editorial

As part of his epistemology and in his criticism of Heraclitus’ theory of constant flux and the Sophists’ worldview, the philosopher Plato argues, in a way that is as solid as it is graphic, that change has two dimensions. On the one hand, renewal and movement towards the creation of a new and hitherto unheard-of category; and, on the other, partial permanency, which maintains links with the essence, with the innermost parts of what comprises the being, thus configuring it as an identifying and distinctive factor. According to Plato, this is how the idea of movement makes sense, in contrast with that of replacement, which has various consequences for practical life.

Some lines by the Colombian writer and photographer Andrés Hurtado also illustrate this well. In his book Cartas del camino (Letters from the path, 2013), he describes the potential elevated horizons that open up to us during our watchful journey along new pathways over the passage of time:

Somewhere it waits for you.
Set off now, my little nomad!
Abandon the usual pastures.
Give up your plots of land and, thus,
naked as all new-borns,
one day you will know
the watering places of the eagles.

The conjunction between this Platonic idea and these hopeful lines is appropriate for defining the moment the Revista Española de Pedagogía (REP) finds itself in, more than eighty years since its creation: namely, in a gradual transition, with a constant view to improving and staying up to date while, at the same time, aspiring to maintain high standards of quality and an equilibrium between its identity as an academic journal with a long tradition in the area of pedagogy.

With this dual aim, in recent months, we have launched a number of initiatives, which will be joined by others under the framework of the principles of internationalisation, openness, and improving the quality of management. So, we have expanded and updated our editorial team, adding researchers from different universities and geographical locations, making it possible to continue to consolidate the international scope of the research we publish. At the same time, this restructuring has required a review of our internal processes with the aim of improving and guaranteeing the editorial quality of our journal and its relationship with potential authors, reviewers, and the different members of its committees.

We have also launched a significant digitalisation process that is implemented at various levels. Thus, from January 2024, the journal is published digitally in open access, with whole issues and articles being available online, from the first work (published in the REP in 1943 by the Catalan psychologist and pedagogue Fernando M.
Palmés, and titled “Technique of memory in the learning process”) up to the present day. This means the end of subscriptions and the sale of printed copies, placing us in line with the majority of academic journals in the countries surrounding us.

Lastly, our web page will undergo a significant update with the aim of modernising the REP’s. A more in-depth innovation will be additionally put in place. This will fundamentally affect our authors and reviewers, as it comprises the use of a platform for managing submissions in their entirety, from reception to review and notification.

In the rough scientific waters that academic journals navigate nowadays, we trust that these measures will help maintain our readers’ interest in the REP. Also to increase the journal’s appeal for new researchers from around the world, owing to its accessibility, visibility, breadth of distribution, transparency and the ease of use of the management resources. All this without losing sight of our academic responsibility when faced with the high demands of quality educational research in the works we publish.

Elias Said-Hung and Juan Luis Fuentes

Directors