



Presentation

Issue 29 (Sprint 2026): Cultural and intercultural dynamics in African contexts

Jean-Marie Lafortune

Editor, Journal Sociocultural community development and practices
Professor, Department of social and public communication, University of Quebec in Montreal, Canada
lafortune.jean-marie@uqam.ca

Chiheb Nasri's article proposes an "Analysis of cultural hierarchies in decentralization policies in Tunisia" through a critical approach to governance mechanisms and their social effects. It targets recent programs that promote citizen participation, transparency and the reduction of territorial inequalities, but which contribute to reconfiguring new cultural and geographical hierarchies.

Since its inception 30 years ago, investigative journalism has brought both benefits and challenges to the country. Muyanga Ziba summarizes this in his text "What about the independence of investigative journalism centers in Malawi". Benefiting from editorial independence, the Center for Investigative Journalism and the Investigative Journalism Platform lack the financial independence that would allow them to carry out long-term investigations.

Achref Ennasri questions, in his article "The role of the sociocultural mediator in managing the identity crisis among young people," the traditional model opposing cultural assimilation to academic success. Given the growing heterogeneity of sociocultural contexts that challenge the understanding of cultural reproduction by schools and youth institutions, it highlights the contribution of mediation to link identities, cultures and communication.

The survey conducted by Konan Jules Koffi, Bi Tizié Emmanuel Gala and Désiré Setondji on the "Social meanings of free time and passive leisure of seniors" with former members of the Federation of Associations of Retired Civil Servants and State Employees of Côte d'Ivoire aims to understand these choices despite the requirements regarding the mobility of elderly people. The key would lie in the mental image they give themselves of free time.

Education systems welcome populations that are increasingly heterogeneous in terms of languages, cultural references, social trajectories and relations to knowledge. In their text "Interculturality and the humanism of diversity: didactic foundations for sustainable education", Abdelkader Ouhtit and his colleagues argue that interculturality is less a field of teaching than a global framework capable of transforming pedagogical practices.

Open topics

The text signed by Jean-Marie Lafortune, Julie Rose, Edith Potvin-Rosselet et Agnieszka Czubinski "What edutainment model for serious games in museums?" depicts from which purposes and

methods these games have been mobilized over the past ten years. It lays the foundations for a model applicable in the context of informal or non-formal learning, which any institution must consider before designing and implementing them.

The next issue of the Journal (autumn 2026) will focus on the question: Is the expression of diversity of perspectives still possible in academia to develop knowledge? The deadline to submit an article or report for this issue is August 31st, 2026 (see instructions: <https://edition.uqam.ca/atps>). Please note that we always accept texts to appear in the Open Topic section.

Enjoy the reading!

Jean-Marie Lafortune
Editor