

**Presentation**  
**Global Latin America in Times of COVID-19 and Hypermediations**

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This edition of the Journal of Latin American Communication Research (JLACR) discusses media issues and Latin American related topics during the year of the COVID-19 pandemic. The double volume puts together a group of essays that brings forward problems and concerns of a transnational Latin American community as it deals with the pandemic in Latin America, North America and Europe. The volume also includes a collection of essays analyzing the role of hypermediation in *Latino* music, ethnography, political participation and media engagement, and Latin America's media representation image.

The first group of three essays is a dossier which discusses topics pertaining a global Latin American community as it tackles the COVID 19- pandemic. Natalia Pérez, Santiago Peluffo, Patria Román-Velázquez and Cathy McIlwaine report of the Latin Elephant's, a London based charity, response to the impact of Covid-19 for Latin American business clusters in the city of London. Guadalupe Escalante Rengifo discusses the use of biopolitics regarding media narratives and agricultural Latino workers in Quebec, Canada, during the pandemic year of 2020. The third essay is Carlos Augusto Valera Mendoza's presentation for a communication crisis plan geared to those in the education field.

The second group of essays show the importance of moving from meditation towards hypermediation in order to understand much of today's cultural production, self-representation, political activism and image representations. Self-representation is the subject of Elizabeth Hagestedt and Karoline Guelke's methodological presentation of photovoice, a visual research method which involves participants taking their own photos of a specific topic to represent their views. Their work is based on experiences from two projects, studies of tourism in Peru and of media use by indigenous organizations in Ecuador. Luis E. Rivera Figueroa analyzes trap performer and singer Bad Bunny's camp aesthetics as a strategy that makes visible the artificial naturalness of hegemonic masculinity of Latin trap music. Rivera Figuera discusses the hyperbolic

virility characterizing masculinity performances of contemporary mainstream Afrodiasporic (urban) Latino artists. Vinício Fontana studies Brazil's Car Wash Operation news frames and how they affect people's willingness to participate in demonstrations and posting online comments in social media. Regina Cazzamatta examines Latin America's image representation in the German press. Manuel Avilés Santiago looks at boxer Héctor "Macho" Camacho's hypermediatization and media transfiguration.

We must recognize the valuable contribution provided by students at University of Puerto Rico School of Communication's Research Center, CiCom, in editing this volume, as well as the valuable work of Miguel A. Torres.

We appreciate your interest and texts' submissions. We trust you appreciate their scholarly contributions.