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The primary purpose of the call "References of the South", which led to the issue we are introducing here, was to broaden the debate started in our twenty-second issue on the awareness of being researchers in Latin

America. Thus, we invited researchers from the geopolitical portion of the so-called Global South to propose reflections to contribute to an understanding of the South based on theorists and problematics of the South, considering its multiple aspects. If, on the one hand, cultural hegemony processes seem to overcome the specificities and needs of the South, on the other hand, this is our place of speech: we also hold counter-hegemonic knowledge, cultures, and social processes, which grant us the possibility of (re)formulate and (re)invent ways of being in the world and occupying it. The relationship with decolonial thinking is evident and sought after, which includes a critical examination of the very concept of the Global South and its consequences, in different fields, from the local to the global levels.

The contributions that we selected, generously assisted by dozens of eminent researchers from different areas of knowledge, deal with several countries in this geopolitical region, pointing out issues that, despite their specificities, have similarities due to the structure of our peripheral condition. Even though most of the authors are Brazilian, it is possible to note cross-cutting themes, discussed with interest and competence at different scales, through often innovative procedures. We thank all the authors who responded to our call and, in particular, the authors of the fifteen works that we proudly share with the academic community.

At the invitation of the Editorial Committee, Economic Scientist *Diógenes Moura Breda*, Doctor in Economic Development from the State University of Campinas, Brazil, granted the interview **Dependence and the South** to *Marcelo Tramontano*, in which he builds an exceptional reading of various aspects of the central theme of the issue.

In the Project section, *Céline Veríssimo*, *Gabriel Cunha*, and *Mariela Peña Aymara* discuss **modes of intervention in the urban landscape**, based on Epistemologies of the South and concepts such as biocultural memory and Buen Vivir, in the article <u>Landscapes of the South in the slums of Lima, Peru</u>.

The idea of **urban financialization and its crises** are addressed from Southern contexts in the papers **Brazilian-style financialization: CEPACs and the desire to be prime**, by *Paulo Nascimento Neto*, and **The cities of the Global South as global references of collapse**, by *Thiago Canettieri*.

The **References of the South** are treated under varied approaches. Through a literature review, <u>The importance of epistemological translations in the Global South</u>, by *Laura Efron*, brings the concept of Ecology of Knowledge to give voice to the knowledge marginalized by hegemonic narratives. Through a multiplicity of views, the text <u>Desynchronizing the West: new vectors of development from the South</u>, by *Marcelo Maia* and *Natacha Rena*, brings authors of the South to discuss geopolitics and South-South international relations, particularly with China.

Two papers aim to **relate the design process and product to an insurgent attitude**. Bringing the concept of technological disobedience, the work **The peripheral spontaneous design of Brazil and Cuba in Latin America**, by *Pamela Marques Corrêa* and *Marisa Cobbe Maass* portrays the peripheral and autonomous productions of design objects. The article **Ecosystemic Design: An Approach to Decolonize Subjectivities**, by *Coral Michelin*, *Caio Adorno Vassão* and *Priscila Arantes* brings to design methodologies an approach that aims to incorporate ancestral knowledge.

The themes of the city, the periphery and decoloniality are the focal point of three works: <u>Transfluency:</u> an urbanism perspective, by Carlos Henrique de Lima, on the racial dimension, urban practices, and social activism, <u>For the decolonization of urban occupations: "the new factory is the neighborhood"</u>, by Frederico Lago Burnett, which deals with urban occupations as an insurgent, collective, and decolonial practice, and <u>Weaving memories along the thread of the struggle: decoloniality in the history of the city</u>, by Giovana Cruz, Poliana Monteiro and Fernanda Oliveira, discussing on the urban struggles and invisible groups in the city.

Approaching **gender**, **race and intersectionality issues**, the papers **The voices of Afro-Brazilian women from Parelheiros: the Internet and intersectionality**, by *Ana Gabriela Lima*, *Angélica Benatti Alvim* and *Jaqueline de Araujo Rodolfo*, and **Informal trading**, **identity**, **and the law: the case of Luanda's zungueiras**, by *Vera Luz* and *Áurea André* discourse about the daily life of black, peripheral women in contexts of the Global South, their confrontations, and how the various axes of oppression affect them in terms of the right to the city.

The Carpet section houses two works that **discuss audiovisual pieces** with different themes. While **Afro-Latin Architectures**, by *Céline Veríssimo* and *Andréia Moassab*, seeks to discuss relations between vernacular architectures and constructive knowledge of the different peoples that make up the population of Latin America, the text **The flâneur faggot and the city of the future: queer utopia in "The Cult"**, by

Henrique Rodrigues Marques deals with the relationship between sexuality and the city, and how queer thinking can help, through audiovisual language, the debate on the political uses of public spaces.

We wish you all an excellent reading, and a new year with a lot of hope, more spaces for struggle, and great victories.