



Eurozine

Activity report

2022

Introduction

Eurozine is a network of European cultural journals, linking up more than 90 partner journals and associated magazines and institutions from nearly all European countries. Eurozine is also an online magazine which publishes outstanding articles from its partner journals with additional translations into one of the major European languages.

Europe needs a diverse and vibrant public sphere to face the manifold challenges that endanger openness and democratic development of its societies. The landscape of independent cultural journals, in itself highly diverse, plays a key role in this process as cultural journals introduce the best of European intellectual production to public readership and debate.

By providing a Europe-wide overview of current themes and discussions, Eurozine offers a rich source of information for an international readership and facilitates communication and exchange between the journals themselves. By presenting the best articles from its partners, as well as original texts on the most pressing issues of our times, Eurozine opens up a new space for transnational debate.

History

Eurozine emerged from an informal network dating back to 1983. Since that time, editors of European cultural journals have met each year in different European cities to exchange ideas and experiences. In the meantime, well over 100 periodicals from almost every European country have become involved in these meetings.

In 1995, the meeting took place in Vienna. The success of this meeting, in which numerous eastern European magazines participated for the first time, and the rapid development of the Internet encouraged the editors to reinforce the existing loose network with a virtual but more systematic one. Eurozine was established in 1998.

Eurozine is a showcase for the many possibilities that cooperation between print and electronic media creates. In presenting its partners online, Eurozine gives these printed journals the chance to widen their sphere of influence without compromising their independence. At the same time, Eurozine's base in printed journals with a longstanding intellectual tradition distinguishes it from most other web-based projects.

The journals *Mittelweg 36* (Hamburg), *Kritika & Kontext* (Bratislava), *Ord&Bild* (Göteborg), *Revista Crítica de Ciências Sociais* (Coimbra), *Transit – Europäische Revue* (Vienna), and *Wespennest* (Vienna) are Eurozine's founding members.

Today, Eurozine hosts the European Meeting of Cultural Journals each year together with one or more of its partners in different cities in Europe. The meetings have become a flagship event attracting more than a hundred participants – editors, authors, researchers, media experts, cultural managers and interested audiences – with three days of programme including lectures, panels, workshops and a network session.

Publishing in 2022

Designed as an independent cultural platform, Eurozine uses the internet and social media to promote the leading European cultural journals; to intensify communication and exchange between them; and to offer, as a journal of its own, a public space of a new type for open and critical debate on a transnational level.

Translation is the key to creating a European public space that respects diversity. By translating texts into one of the widely-spoken European languages, Eurozine creates the possibility for texts to be understood and valued outside of their original context.

Eurozine published a total of 149 articles and translations in 2022 – this includes 135 individual articles and 14 translations. Of the articles, 51 originated from the network, while 84 were original commissions by Eurozine..

In addition, Eurozine published 16 Eurozine reviews or review items, 11 editorials and 13 network news items.

Shocks and aftershocks: preparing for the worse

The world had not recovered from the blows of the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic shocks that followed, when Russia escalated its assault on Ukraine, starting a land war whose scale exceeds many armed conflicts since WWII. Eurozine has always had strong professional ties in Ukraine, and we have maintained our focus on the country's public discourse continuously since 2014.

We relied on these ties as we accelerated our publishing to provide relevant and grounded framing for the ongoing war. Our editorial ambition has been to maintain our coverage on civil society, culture and public debate in the attacked society, to avoid reducing them to the headlines of military news. Our long-time recurring author, Katryna Botanova was even nominated for a [European Press Prize](#) for her article, *Defined by silence*, discussing the Ukrainian art that could have been - and what happened instead. See our Ukraine coverage [here](#).

An important overarching topic in the magazine's publishing has been a postcolonial approach, revisiting old assumptions with a sharper eye for imperialism, Eurocentrism, gender bias and racism. See especially our coverage of [gender issues](#) and [feminist](#) topics.

Focal points

List of Focal Points that were continued or launched in 2022:

Unprovoked, unjustified: Russia's war on Ukraine

Eurozine looks into the political, social and cultural factors that define the war on Ukraine,

from Russia's neo-imperialist aspirations and the concept of culpability to artists at the forefront of Ukrainian resistance.

- Total of 41 articles published in 2022, by authors including Victoria Amelina, Katryna Botanova (nominated for a European Press Prize for her Eurozine article *Defined by silence*), Tatiana Zhurzhenko, Mykola Riabchuk, Igor Pomerantsev, as well as John Keane and Francis Fukuyama.
- See this page for a full list:

<https://www.eurozine.com/focal-points/unprovoked-unjustified/>

Bottom drawer: let's respect our foremothers

To honour Eurozine founder Gaby Zipfel's life and legacy, the new focal point 'Bottom drawer' takes stock of the notions our foremothers presented us with: women's ideas and achievements that define our understanding of power, gender and violence, bodies, connection and agency. The focal point was launched in June 2021, collecting articles already published in Eurozine along with new contributions.

- Total of 14 articles published until December 2022, by authors including Eve Gianoncelli, Cornelia Klinger, Claire Potter, Martin Reiterer
- 5 articles published in 2022
- See this page for a full list:

<https://www.eurozine.com/focal-points/bottom-drawer-lets-respect-our-foremothers/>

Endemic: when emergency is the norm

With new variants mutating around the globe, COVID-19 is no longer a novelty. The pathogen is seemingly here to stay, inducing social, political and economic turmoil. This is not a crisis to emerge from quickly. It is a prelude to further emergencies linked to climate change and environmental destruction. How will societies deal with its tangible effects? And which issues might be perilously left by the wayside?

In this new focal point, supported by the [European Cultural Foundation's Culture of Solidarity](#) programme, Eurozine and partners take stock of this public health crisis and its accompanying crises of values and meaning.

- Total of 27 texts published between June 2021 and December 2022, by authors including Janet Roitman, Péter Krekó, Felix Ackermann and Sotiris Mitralaxis.
- 17 articles published in 2022
- See this page for a full list:

<https://www.eurozine.com/focal-points/endemic/>

Raising hands: rethinking education

The 20th century model of education promised a path for talent to rise through the ranks and for everyone else to find their place in society on the labour markets. But decades of research have confirmed what many found through their own experiences:

that this promise was never fulfilled. The COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated already existing problems and it may be just the opening act of much deeper crises.

It is clear that there isn't an old educational normal to return to; the old ways were clearly flawed. But how to go forward? In this focal point, initiated by our partner journal *La Revue nouvelle*, we look into matters of access and inequality, concerns about labour markets and the rapidly changing knowledge production, to map the factors that could inform a better design for our schools.

- Total of 11 texts published between June 2020 and December 2022, by authors including Cornelia Klinge, François Fecteau, Kaya Genç, Barbara Stollberg-Rilinger.
- 1 articles published within the reporting period.
- See this page for a full list:

<https://www.eurozine.com/focal-points/raising-hands/>

Eurasia in global dialogue

This focal point presents the findings of the project 'Eurasia in Global Dialogue' being carried out at the Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna (IWM). It is an extension of the earlier focal point, 'Russia in Global Dialogue' that ran in Eurozine and at the IWM from 2012–2018.

- Total of 114 texts plus translations published between June 2011 and December 2022, by authors including Maria Lipman, Timothy Snyder, Oleg Sentsov, Nikolay Mitrokhin, Lilia Shevtsova, Dimitar Bechev
- 5 articles published within the reporting period
- See this page for a full list:

<https://www.eurozine.com/focal-points/eurasia-in-global-dialogue/>

Ukraine in European Dialogue

This focal point, stemming from the project 'Ukraine in European Dialogue' of the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM) in Vienna, discusses the challenges facing the young Ukrainian democracy, its place in Europe, and the lessons it might offer for the future of the European project.

- Total of 72 articles published between February 2016 and December 2022, by authors including Nataliya Gumenyuk, Mariana Verbovska, Mykola Riabchuk, Marci Shore, Kateryna Botanova
- 9 articles published within the reporting period
- See this page for a full list:

<https://www.eurozine.com/focal-points/ukraine-in-european-dialogue/>

Overdue: The ecology of humans

Our dossier *Overdue: the ecology of humans* is ongoing, with special focus on disadvantaged and marginalized peoples' experience during the trying circumstances it addresses. Our main aim is to provide representation where it's most needed, address the questions of fairness and access, and map new approaches to tackling these upheavals. This focal point discusses climate change and the cultural and political factors behind the ecological crisis, as well as potential ways out of it.

- Total of 40 articles published between June 2019 and December 2022 by authors including Achille Mbembe, Peter Salmon, Kate Brown, Clare Taylor, Kaya Genç, Damien de Blic, Gergely Simon
- 6 articles published within reporting period
- See this page for a full list:

<https://www.eurozine.com/focal-points/overdue/>

Topical

In order to amplify our network editor's voices, we published the statements of our Ukrainian and Russian partners early on into the military escalation of Russia's aggression against Ukraine. Our topical *Word from all over Europe* contains a review of what editors and authors of the Eurozine network have to say about war, culture and the right to have their voices heard.

Podcast

In 2020 Eurozine launched its podcast series promoting the journals of the network and their content. During the reporting period, *Gagarin, the Eurozine podcast* featured discussions on forced migration with Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group's Ranabir Samaddar and the nature of anti-science with Péter Krekó. Sevastopol native and Director of the Centre for Democratic Integrity, Anton Shekhovtsov talked about the Russian imperialist mythology, while on the occasion of Europe Day André Wilkens reflected on the challenges of the European project. Altogether 4 podcast episodes were published this year.

The most read articles on Eurozine in 2022

- *When self care is guilty pleasure* by Olena Myhashko, *Gwara Media*: <https://www.eurozine.com/when-self-care-is-guilty-pleasure/>
- *How fetal politics stole Americans' reproductive rights* by Jennifer Holland&Claire Potter, *Public Seminar*: <https://www.eurozine.com/how-fetal-politics-stole-americans-reproductive-rights/>
- *Why the West needs Central Europe to stay in its Eastern European place* by Ivan Kalmar: <https://www.eurozine.com/imitators-spurned/>
- *Germans must remember the truth about Ukraine – for their own sake* by Timothy Snyder contributed by our collaborator *IWM*: <https://www.eurozine.com/germans-must-remember-the-truth-about-ukraine-for-their-own-sake/>

- *Strategies of unimaginable crime* by Natalija Jakubova contributed by our collaborator IWM:
<https://www.eurozine.com/strategies-of-unimaginable-crime/>
- *Ukraine and its discontents* by Samuel Abrahám, *New Eastern Europe*:
<https://www.eurozine.com/ukraine-and-its-discontents/>
- *A life in exile* by Lola Olufemi:
<https://www.eurozine.com/a-life-in-exile/>
- *Fighting fatigue* by Olena Myhashko, *Gwara Media*:
<https://www.eurozine.com/fighting-fatigue/>
- *In defence of the objective world* by Péter Krekó&Alan Sokal:
<https://www.eurozine.com/in-defence-of-the-objective-world/>

Additional network activities and events

Youth project

Eurozine developed a new educational project in collaboration with the Research Center for the history of transformations (RECET, University of Vienna) which received funding from the City of Vienna. This brings new life to the organization as an opportunity to engage in a more open dialogue with our core audience; Eurozine's readership is consistently very young (the majority under 34, with consistently more than 30% of readers under 25), which goes against the popular belief that young people don't choose quality content. However, the editors in Eurozine's network are also traditionally embedded in institutions of education, so this is a natural fit.

In the new project *Vom Wissen der Jungen*, Eurozine and the researchers at RECET are reaching out to U25 Viennese youth, involving them in defining the format of the events they attend. They are also active participants of a creative process where they produce their own media products to address scientific topics at public events. The project started in September 2022 with outreach to youth groups and interested pedagogues, and the first couple forums have already been held between April and June 2023.

Residencies

With the support from the European Cultural Foundation, Eurozine was able to offer its Ukrainian partners one-time small scale financial support. In Spring 2022, active Ukrainian partner journal, *Spilne, Krytyka*, and the brand-new network member *Gwara Media* was supported with €1000K each. In 2023, we offered a one-time support of €1500 to *Gwara Media*, whose work has been the worst affected (being based in Kharkhiv). *Gwara's* colleagues are also working on documenting war crimes, among other projects.

With our Swedish partner journal *Glänta* we also started to arrange for residency opportunities for our colleagues facing pressure. With the support of the regional

government, editors of the Belarusian CityDog Media were the first to be hosted in Gothenburg in June 2022, with more residencies to follow in 2023.

Visibility

The audience of the Eurozine online magazine is steadily increasing, as comparative data of traffic shows below.

The general audience of Eurozine's collaborative publishing and public events is diverse and has been growing since 2020: 43.71% increase in users, 50.58% increase in page views, with a 45% decrease in bounce rate. We have achieved significant growth in readership in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, specifically Ukraine, Turkey, Hungary, North Macedonia, Russia and Romania.

More than half of the readership is under 35 years of age, the largest cohort being between the ages of 18–25. As a targeted outreach to them, new types of content have been developed: Topicals and Tangents are syllabus-style recommendations on a particular topic or along a particular logic. We are also collaborating with universities.

The same steady increase holds true for social media and public reach. In December 2022, over 25.000 users were following Eurozine's Facebook page (2022: 19.000), 10.8 were following the twitter account (2019: 9.600). Social media gains have slowed down somewhat since we shifted focus from these often fickle platforms to more direct means of engagement.

Our priority is gaining new subscriptions push notifications which are the highest growing category since its introduction in 2020. These tools help alleviate dependency on platforms like Facebook which often directly penalise our publishing by flagging our articles as 'political content' and disabling promotion and worsening their visibility - even though our content is often on political topics, but clearly not of a campaigning nature.

Newsletters

The bi-weekly **Eurozine Newsletter** presents articles and translations published in Eurozine alongside news from the network which promote the activities of partner journals. In 2022, a total of 16 newsletters were sent out.

The **Eurozine Review** consists of original, concise reviews presenting current issues of network partner journals, thus providing a Europe-wide overview of current topics and texts. Reviews of individual issues are being published separately on the website and social media, alongside custom made visuals of the

journals' hard copies.

At the end of 2022, the Eurozine Newsletter and the Eurozine Review were reaching an audience of over 16,000 subscribers.

Additionally, the internal Eurozine Partner Newsletter informs the network about Eurozine's activities such as meetings, calls for collaboration in Focal Points, and internal developments in the organisation.

Network

During 2022, Eurozine has continued its cautious but consistent expansion by welcoming three new partner journals and two collaborators.

New partner journals

Dwutygodnik is an online magazine based in Warsaw focusing on matters concerning critical art, progressive activism, pro-immigration policies and Polish-Jewish relations, to name but a few.

Gwara Media is a Ukrainian media outlet focussing on social changes, human rights in Ukraine and the future of their country.

Scena9 is a Romanian online journal (which publishes an annual print issue) that focuses on in-depth interviews, reports, investigations and opinion pieces written by historians, scientists, artists and writers.

New collaborations

The Green European Journal has been a valued supporter of Eurozine's for several years and has officially joined the network as a collaborator in 2022. The hybrid magazine is one of Europe's leading political ecology journals, focussing on themes like democracy, feminism and climate&energy, and elevating the transnational debate.

ELTE Média, the Department of Media and Communication at ELTE University in Budapest, is Hungary's leading institution in the field of Media Studies. In the past years, the department has partnered up with Eurozine for various projects, most notably at the 31st European Meeting of Cultural Journals (2020 and 2021). Culminating a long standing and crucial relationship, *ELTE Média* has joined the network officially in February 2022.

Partner journals

2000, A2, Akadeemia, Arche, Atlas, Baggrund, Belgrade Journal of Media and Communications, Beton International, Blätter für deutsche und internationale Politik,



Cogito, Critique&Humanism, Culture&Démocratie, Czas Kultury, De Nederlandse Boekendigs (The Dutch Review of Books), Derive, Dialogi, Dilema Veche, Dziejaslou, Dwutygodnik, Esprit, Fronesis, Genero, Glänta, Gwara Media, Host, Il Mulino, Index on Censorship, Intellectum, Irish Pages, K24, Kritika&Kontext, Krytyka, Krytyka Polityczna, Kultura Liberalna, Kulturos Barai, La Revue Nouvelle, LaPunkt, Le Monde Diplomatique OSLO, L'Espill, Letras Libres, Leviathan, L'Homme, Merkur, Mittelweg 36, Multitudes, Mute, Neprikosnovennij Zapas (NZ), New Eastern Europe, New Humanist, New Literary Observer (NLO), Nova Istra, Nuroi Voima, Ny Tid (FI), Ny Tid (NO), Ord & Bild, Osteuropa, Partisan, Passage, Poeteka, Polar, Prostory, Positionen, Razpotja, Res Publica Nova, Reset, Revista Crítica, Revolver Revue, Revue Projet, Rigas Laiks, Roots, RozRazil, Samtiden, Sarajevo Notebook, Scena9, Sens Public, Sodobnost, Soundings, Spilne, Springerin, Symbol, Syn og Segn, Transit, Vagant, Varlik, Vikerkaar, Wespennest

Associates

Arbeitskreis Kulturwissenschaftliche Zeitschriftenforschung, Booksa, Dublin Review of Books, Einstein Forum, Fondazione Di Vagno, Free Speech Debate, Historein, ICORN, Internazionale, Kulturpunkt.hr, NAQD, openDemocracy, Public Seminar, Tekstallmenningen, VoxEurop

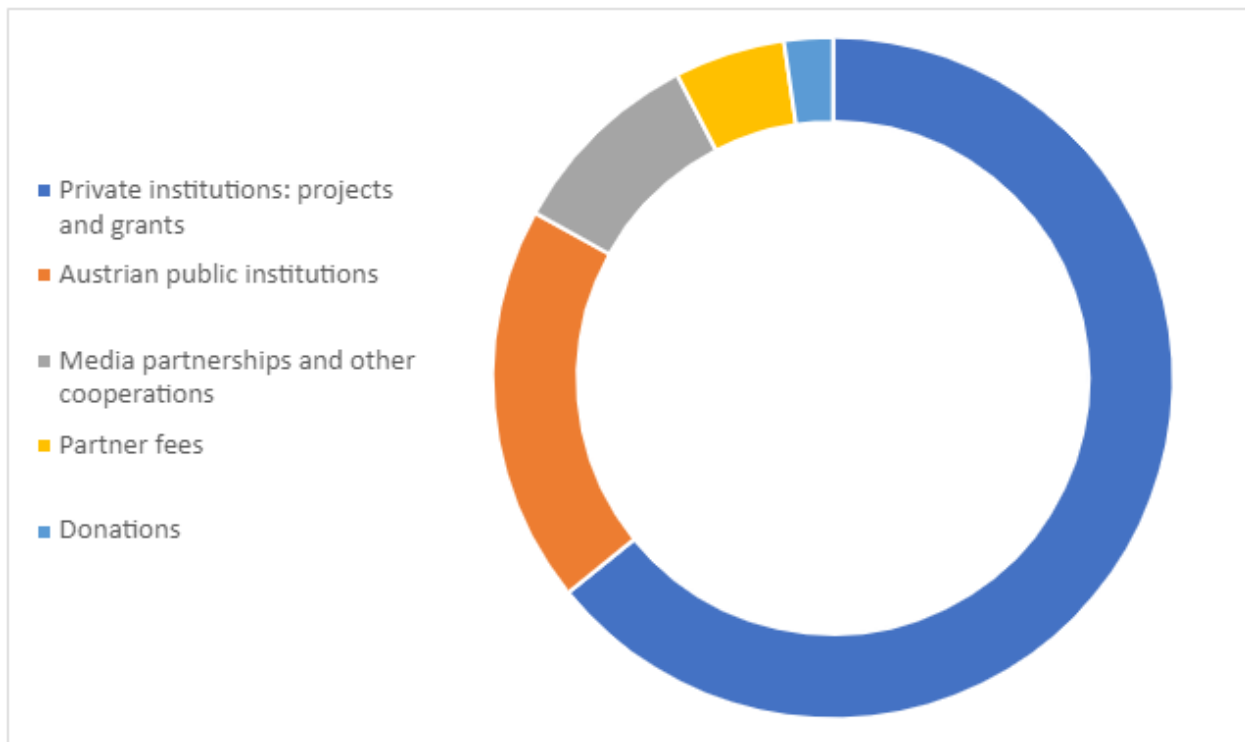


Find the full interactive map [here](#).

Finances

Eurozine had a diverse funding mix in 2022. The largest share comes from various project grants by private foundations such as the European Cultural Foundation. Media cooperations and publishing projects continue to be an important part of Eurozine’s business model as well. As Eurozine is not-for-profit, all income is used to finance the organisation’s activities in accordance with its statutes.

Eurozine’s total annual budget in 2022 was ca. 265.000 EUR.



Organisation

Eurozine is a not-for-profit institution, with an editorial office based in Vienna. The Editorial Board, composed of the editors of four European cultural journals, and the Advisory Board play an important role in guiding and advising the Eurozine editors.

Staff

At the end of 2022, Eurozine’s staff consisted of 7 employees, headed by Hermann Riessner and Réka Kinga Papp:

Réka Kinga Papp, editor-in-chief of Eurozine. Réka Kinga Papp joined Eurozine in November 2018, succeeding James Thomson. Réka is a Hungarian journalist and media researcher specialized in sociography, the representation of marginalized social matters and social science infotainment. Before joining Eurozine she had worked with numerous NGOs reporting on their clientele and fields of expertise; wrote political commentary for the weekly HVG and has been running a radio show on human sciences.

Hermann Riessner joined Eurozine as managing director in May 2022. Hermann has more than 20 years of experience in museum management, film production and distribution, as well as organising and financing theatre projects and a chamber music festival. He holds a degree in economics from the University of Vienna and a master's degree in culture and media management from the Johannes Kepler University in Linz.

Merve Akyel joined Eurozine as art and social media editor in 2019. Merve has a background in art direction and social media management and holds a BA with Honours in Visual Communication Design and an MFA in Fine Arts from the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. Currently a PhD Candidate in Philosophy of Art at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna.

Simona Jazbinšek, project manager at Eurozine since January 2018, after working at the University of Ljubljana in project management and research. Previously worked as an external expert and researcher for WHO, Slovenian public health institutions and research institutes. Holds degrees in ethnology and cultural anthropology (MA) and in economics (MA).

Simon Garnett, editor. Employee at Eurozine 2005–2012 and from 2016. He holds degrees in English Literature (University of Cambridge, BA Hons.) and Visual Theories (University of East London, MA). In 2012-2016 he was a member of the Research Group 'Privacy: Forms, Functions, Transformations' at the University of Passau, funded by the German Research Council. He also works as a translator from German to English, and as a freelance copy editor for various publishers and organizations.

Anna Klein, communications and event manager, joined Eurozine in 2021. She has an MA in German literature from the University of Vienna. Worked as an assistant director and dramaturg at Theater der Jugend in Vienna, planning and organizing events – including a symposium on post-migrant theatre – and curating several translations of English plays into German. Point of contact for network members.

Sarah Waring, editor. Sarah previously worked with clients such as the European Commission on its social enterprise mapping project and ForAlps on the academic book *Alpine Refugees: Immigration at the core of Europe*. Author of *Farming for the Landless* and its Italian translation. She joined the team in March 2020.

Editorial Board

Eurozine's Editorial Board comprises four editors of the network, representing it by geography, gender, generation and genre, and serves as an additional interface between the Eurozine office and the network partners.

Members of the Editorial Board in 2022:

- Miriam Rasch, Willem de Kooning Academy, Rotterdam
- Ann Ighe, *Ord&Bild*, Gothenburg, joined in 2022
- Luka Lisjak Gabrijelčič, *Razpotja*, Nova Gorica, joined in 2022
- Adam Reichardt, *New Eastern Europe*, Kraków, joined in 2022
- Audun Lindholm, *Vagant*, Berlin and Norway, term ended in 2022
- Seyda Öztürk, *Cogito*, Istanbul, term ended in 2022
- Agnieszka Rosner, *Adam Mickiewicz Museum of Literature*, Warsaw, term



ended in 2022

Eurozine's Board of Trustees in 2022:

- Miljenka Buljević, Kulturtreger and Booksa, Zagreb, joined board in 2019
- Göran Dahlberg, editor at Glänta and publisher, Gothenburg, joined the board in 2018
- Veronika Leiner (chair), Cultural manager and educator, managing director at Eurozine 2009 to 2016, Vienna
- Daniel Leisegang, *Blätter für deutsche und internationale Politik*, Berlin, joined board in 2019

Contact

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