

Editorial

The Constitution of 1988 was promulgated after two decades of a brutal civil-military dictatorship, marking a resumption of a democratic project for Brazil and the proposal of a new institutional regime for the country. Nicknamed "the citizen Constitution," it had as its central features an unprecedented proposal for the Brazilian State to expand civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights. The nickname of "citizen" is not insignificant: among some of the innovations of this constitution it is worth mentioning the expansion of voting for illiterate people and young people from the age of 16; the restoration of habeas corpus and the creation of the collective security order; the extension of maternity leave (from three to four months) and the creation of a paternity leave (of five days); among other proposals that sought to build a legal framework founded on the guarantee of individual (negative and positive) liberties. In this sense, it is fair to emphasize that the regime proposed in 1988, perhaps inspired by the optimism of the democratic transition, was a comprehensive and ambitious project of democracy for a country marked by a history of authoritarian abuse and abuse.

Reflecting on this document in Brazil in 2018, thirty years after its publication, is a somewhat melancholic exercise. Although during the last thirty years the country has recorded some very important democratic advances, reflected in the progressive inclusion of ethnic, religious and sexual minorities, the current political moment of Brazil inspires caution in the celebrations. Since 2016, at least, the country has been undergoing a period of questioning, reviewing and attempting to cancel most of the innovations proposed in 1988 and consolidated between 1994 and 2014. In addition to a setback in social and economic issues a gradual abandonment of social programs that guaranteed the inclusion of minorities), we also experienced a questioning of the democratic order established in 1988, with a growing support for proposals and candidates who espouse clearly authoritarian doctrines. These tensions, more explicit in 2018 than at any other time in the last three decades, seem to place Brazil in front of a bifurcation: we have advanced in the difficult and tortuous way of consolidating an effective democratic regime in a broad and diverse country like Brazil. Brazil, do we move back to an authoritarian past, not yet so distant?

It is in this context, and with the aim of creating a space for reflection on the recent democratic history of Brazil, that the magazine *History: Debates and Trends* presents the dossier "Thirty years of the 1988 Constitution: history, challenges and perspectives", which aims to use the thirty years of the 1988 Constitution as a trigger for reflection on the frictions and strains that exist in contemporary Brazilian democracy.

In this way, the present issue opens with the five articles that compose the dossier, starting with Murilo Duarte Costa Corrêa's "Archive and politics: constitutional transition and heterotopias", in which the author proposes to reflect on common sense that tends to recognize the Constitution of 1988 as a document of transition from dictatorship to democracy in a reading based on Agamben, Foucault and Derrida. Following the article by Camilla de Magalhães Gomes, "Constitution and feminism between gender, race and law: the possibi-

lities of an anti-essentialist and decolonial constitutional hermeneutics", uses the categories gender and race to interpret the Constitution of 1988 in its thirty years of existence, revealing a possibility of feminist, anti-essentialist and decolonial interpretation of the legal document.

The third article that is part of the dossier is Sérgio Ricardo Fernandes de Aquino's "The legal dimension of sustainability in light of the thirty years of the federal Constitution", which deals with the importance and meaning of sustainability after three decades of validity of the Brazilian Constitution, analyzing the progress made, but also the challenges that remain.

The dossier is finalized with two articles. The first one, written by Acácio Augusto, "Thirty years tonight: search for security and authoritarian measures in the Federal Constitution of 1988", in which the author talks about how the so-called "Citizen Constitution" kept in his body the possibility of authoritarian measures that reflect in the present with violence of the State against the citizens.

The second is called "Private international law and local power: the necessary valuation of regional solutions to global conflicts", in which Janaína Rigo Santin and Leticia Leidens engage in a dialogue between private international law and the question of local power in a dialectical way, questioning how can this branch of law be applied in conflicts between citizens of different countries.

Beginning the free articles we have "Historicity of the private capitalist property and the enclosures", of Diogo de Calasans Melo Andrade, in which the author realizes a differentiation of the types of "private property" existing during the history and the importance of the enclosures like factor that took to the destruction of the link between work and property.

Guilherme Amorim de Carvalho presents a collection of theoretical-methodological reflections and research procedures in relation to the historical analysis of memorialist discourses, connecting them to a political dimension. The second free article, "Discursos memoriais, a proposal for historical research".

Next, the article by Ana Paula Korndörfer, "Jeca Tatu, an illustrious expert: the sanitariat movement and the fight against the elderly in the work of Monteiro Lobato (Brazil, 1910-1920)" portrays the struggle against the elderly in Brazil. from the work of Monteiro Lobato and his best known character, Jeca Tatu.

Closing the present issue we present the article by Giorgia Priorelli, "The struggle against 'anti-nation' as a historical mission: the delegitimization of the enemy in Italian fascism and Spanish fascism". The article brings in depth speeches and practices of Italian and Spanish fascists in the first half of the twentieth century, seeking the construction of fully fascist nations.

As can be seen, this issue counts on the contribution of researchers recognized nationally and internationally, which translates into high quality articles that address issues of extreme relevance. We are very grateful to the authors and wish everyone a good reading.

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