Call for Papers: “Culture, market and society. Between marketization of culture and culturalization of market”, special issue of International Review of Social Research, Volume 5, Issue 1, February 2015

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The International Review of Social Research (www.irsr.eu) seeks for articles for a special issue on culture, society and market to be published in February 2015.

In the last decades of the 20th century the academic research has become aware of and interested in the changes brought by the industrialization and democratization of culture. Whatever the concepts used to define these changes - “information society”, “new economy”, “creative economy”, “knowledge-based economy”, or “network society”, they reflect the interest in the relation between culture, society and economy. Mass society corresponds to a high scale of production, distribution and consumption of cultural artifacts and services. In this context, the art for the sake of art becomes questionable and this has transformed the cultural field and the artists as well. A new definition of culture, more extensive and inclusive, was needed to express different values and practices.

Authors like Pierre Bourdieu or Richard Florida opened the debate, by bringing into the attention of academic world social and cultural practices ignored before and they launched a new approach in their research field. Concepts such as habitus, taste, cultural consumption, creativity, creative class and cities, became useful instruments in the research of cultural and creative sectors.

New academic disciplines named differently depending on the cultural and academic environment (cultural studies, sociology of culture, sociology of arts, cultural sociology and cultural economy) deal with the research of the relation between culture, society and economy.

This special issue of the International Review of Social Research addresses the scholars from these disciplines in particular, with no discrimination between different schools and approaches. We intend to open the debate for interdisciplinary exchanges of ideas and to facilitate crossroads between different disciplines such as sociology, economy, cultural management and marketing, history, statistics, cultural studies, law studies etc.

The journal will also welcome work from the full range of methodological positions possible today: both quantitative and qualitative, and micro- and macro-level research. Specific methods such as interviews, surveys, questionnaires, ethnographies, documentary sources, textual analyses, participant and non-participant observation will be welcome.

We are interested in an extended spectrum of research themes, mostly including what can be called ‘cultural practices’: attending museums, concerts, performing arts, visual arts, reading books, watching TV, leisure activities such as watching football or having picnics, creativity, creative sectors, class and cities, museum studies, audience studies.

Some possible topics of the articles can be related to categories of aesthetic perception and taste, modes of valuation, private collecting, the economic, social and juridical status of creators, digitization, intellectual property rights, youth culture, underground culture, artists’ careers, role of age, gender, training and social origins in the relation with creation and consumption, collective representations of artists and arts, the roles of gate-keepers such as publishers, gallery-owners, curators, critics, agents, and so on.

The editors kindly request authors to send papers (4,000 – 8,000 words in length) together with an abstract of no more than 200 words, to the following address: anda.becut@culturadata.ro until December 1st, 2014. Prior to submission, please check author guidelines at http://irsr.eu/instructions.html.