



EL FUTURO DEL PASADO. REVISTA ELECTRÓNICA DE HISTORIA
FORTHCOMING SPECIAL ISSUE (N.º 16, 2025)

MUSEUMS: OBJETS, COMMUNITIES & NEW NARRATIVES

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: 30/06/2024

SPECIAL ISSUE (16, 2025) | MUSEUMS: OBJETS, COMMUNITIES & NEW NARRATIVES

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The new museum definition, approved in 2022 by the International Council of Museums (ICOM), portrays institutions of educational nature, which carry out preservation, research, dissemination and interpretation tasks of various types of heritage, while promoting a growing shift towards communities.

However, and despite the agenda implied in this definition, the institutional dimension of the museum, the nature of the collections in its custody, their role in the safeguarding of tangible and intangible knowledge and the core discourses that they produce are being contested worldwide by individuals and collectives. These actions take issue with matters of form and substance: museums are expected to turn towards inclusivity, multivocality, sustainability and intersectionality.

Thus, iconic venues of colonial or national collecting have gone through a series of interventions promoted by civil society. Museums are the stage of protest actions for the environment and social justice. They are also responsible for processing restitution and repatriation requests from communities and states from the global south which seek to amplify voices that have been historically excluded from these exhibition spaces.

The forthcoming issue of the multidisciplinary journal *El Futuro del Pasado* aims to assess the tensions that museums are currently facing from the perspectives of history, archaeology, anthropology, sociology, and museology. We extend an invitation to communities, museum and heritage professionals, and researchers in the humanities and social sciences to participate with critical and innovative proposals that investigate the role of museums as spaces for the construction of social and historical narratives, and the ongoing revisions of the past driven by communities, collective stakeholders and museums.

The proposed topics include (but are not limited to):

- From cabinet of curiosities to a space of contestation: historical analysis on the evolution of museums.
- Shifts, perspectives and challenges derived from the new museum definition.
- Museums and history: interventions in social memory, new approaches to national or grand narratives, explorations of the tension between past and

present, experiences on the practice of decoloniality, critical perspectives on museum history.

- Gender and museums: proposals with a gender perspective.
- Museums and new pedagogies: educational proposals and museum-community dialogues, with historical perspective.
- Museums as spaces for the protection of living memory and popular art.
- New ways of exhibiting: curatorial approaches, co-creation, participatory experiences.
- Analysis of exhibition spaces and their diverse approaches to the past.
- Case studies of all the previously detailed sub-topics.

The **deadline** for submission of proposals is **June 30th, 2024**.

Articles must follow to the journal's publication guidelines. Submission will be made through the journal's platform, which can be accessed through the website <https://revistas.usal.es/uno/index.php/1989-9289/>



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