

Tribute to Danilo Streck

Danilo served our journal as an editor-in-chief for 12 long years, i. e. from 2010 to 2021. Werner's idea to invite him to our editorial board was to broaden the scope of the *International Journal of Action Research* beyond its former eurocentrism. Not exclusively, but in the majority, its authors had been Europeans and North-Americans. This changed when Danilo took over responsibility. He brought the whole Latin American world (tradition, thinking, social movements' experiences) with him. He not only incorporated the tradition of PAR as developed by Orlando Fals Borda, and Paulo Freire's pedagogy of the oppressed; living in the city of Porto Alegre he witnessed the concept and praxis of participatory budgeting, and what it means for a regional system of representative democracy to open opportunities for people's direct participation. This encounter and living work relations with Latin American values and experiences, represented by Danilo, was a great enrichment for our journal. See e.g. the contributions by Danilo himself, Alfonso Torres Carrillo, Emil Sobottka et al. in IJAR as of 2010.

In the editorial of the last IJAR issue Danilo was responsible for (vol. 17 (3), 2021), he formulated a very beautiful characterisation of Paulo Freire's concept and practice: "*Dialogue, he [Freire] tells us, has some preconditions that research shares with education, such as trust in people as companions in the process of understanding and changing the world, love to people and the world, and hope that allows working towards a different and better future for all.*" Another Latin American experience, which Danilo made us aware of, is the tradition of cooperation between social movements and Action Research, as represented by Fals Borda and others. See Alfonso Torres Carillo's paper "*Another social research is possible. From the cooperation between researchers and social movements*" (IJAR 16 (1), 2020: 23–39.

Also the tradition of the biannual IJAR symposiums was a field to which Danilo contributed important initiatives and activities. These conferences have taken place since 2010, alternately in Europe and in Latin America. Apart from the latest (virtual) symposium in 2020 in the Basque Country/Spain, especially the Latin American conferences in Porto Alegre/Brazil 2011 and in Bogotá/Columbia 2015 were highlights in shaping and strengthening IJAR's identity and public perception beyond the AR community. In all these events, Danilo played a prominent role far beyond his organisational activities. The next IJAR symposium will be in Istanbul. We hope that the well established European-Latin American connection will continue for many years, as an important characteristic of IJAR's international orientation. This tradition is important, especially concerning the relationship between AR and social movements: establishing and intensifying this was an essential intention of Björn Gustavsen, the founder of IJAR in the 1990s.

These are three important examples of IJAR widening the scope during the past 12 years, which we owe to Danilo Streck. In addition, he has succeeded in bringing authors from all five continents together within the covers of our journal. These efforts have been guided by his vigilant eye on the needs for further development of action research internationally, by doing action research around the globe. "*The journal's intention*", he wrote in his editorial to IJAR 16 (2), 2020: 85 "*has been to provide a platform for building bridges among consolidated traditions, and to open space for the generation of new initiatives in the field, also welcoming new authors. The collaborators in this issue come from Norway, Vietnam, Indonesia, Chile and Brazil. Let us welcome all of them!*"

Approaching the end of his editorship, Danilo organised the transition process very carefully to the next editor-in-chief. He chose as his successor Miren Larrea from Orkestra-Basque Institute of Competitiveness (Spain). Miren brought with her two female colleagues from Canada, who will join the editorial board. We are very grateful, that the new members of the editorial board, initiated by Danilo, will be female. As IJAR was right from its start in 1996, with only one brief exception in the early 2000s, exclusively edited by men, it was high time to decide on this female turn. Øyvind welcomed Miren as the new editor-in-chief by saying: *“I was always convinced that IJAR would get a female editor-in-chief before the US would have a female president”*. Øyvind is right, and we all have to thank Danilo for his choice.

See below the former editorial board:



editorial board meeting 7. 12. 2012 in Berlin, drinking Mate¹ tea

Left to right: Øyvind, Werner, Danilo, Richard

In addition to his intellectual engagement with our journal, we have to thank Danilo for his steady and always patient style of editing, especially his cooperation and leadership with the editorial board. Danilo never complained, but sometimes he mentioned, in his modest style, that editing can be a lonely job. The remaining male members of the editorial board promised to be more pro-active in supporting the new editor-in-chief than they have been before.

*Olav Eikeland
Richard Ennals
Werner Fricke*

*Miren Larrea
Øyvind Palshaugen
Emil Albert Sobottka*

¹ Danilo's family is of German origin. Brunke is according to him an ancient German word for bowl, not in use in Germany any more.