



Introduction to the monograph No. 5.

This issue of *Audens* represents an evident change in trend, as the number of articles in English has clearly increased, due to various reasons, but largely to the effort made by the Editorial Committee to internationalize the project. In this sense, in line with the aims of this undergraduate academic journal, it poses a new challenge for all participants, as it involves working with a language often not present in the daily lives of students in Barcelona.

The topic chosen for this monograph, democracy, is a topic that, despite its long history and the string of great thinkers who have studied it from one perspective or another, always emerges again in the debate, given its intricate relationship with various economic, social and cultural structures, and therefore its fragility. As has been argued in other introductions, we understand that the motivations of students (and the university in general) should be rooted in the problems of today's world. The fragility of democracy, as well as the factors that support it (such as social cohesion, public debate, decent material conditions or tolerance), is undoubtedly an issue of concern to many citizens, and is, therefore, a topic of great relevance.

Finally, it is necessary to clarify that, given this broad view (the view according to which democracy is not as a mere autonomous institutional setting, but rather a complex phenomenon rooted in economic, social and cultural factors), there are certain articles that may seem distant from the core of the issue, but which nevertheless have a clear relationship insofar as they affect these underlying factors.

As always, we conclude this introduction by giving our sincere thanks to all those who make this project possible, including authors, reviewers, readers, and UB's staff (mainly from RCUB, without whom *Audens* would not be possible).