Editorial
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The review Travail et Emploi has opened its pages to the English-speaking public since 2013 with a biennial English translation of articles selected from among those published during the two preceding years. Published as a Special Edition, this selection follows the same distribution norms as those for the four issues published annually: available in a “paper edition,” it can also be accessed online on several portals: the website of the review; Revues.org; Cairn.info; and it should soon appear on Jstor.

This international dimension is an important part of the editorial policy of Travail et Emploi, which regularly publishes articles by non-French authors as well as those dealing with countries other than France. The publication of this second special issue in English reaffirms this orientation. The review, well established in the French academic community, thus gives English-speaking readers an overview of some of the liveliest themes discussed in France while giving authors, especially younger writers, the opportunity of presenting their work to a wider audience.

This selection of articles from Travail et Emploi illustrates the diversity of disciplines and the multiplicity of methods used. The six selected articles are the work of economists, sociologists, law specialists and historians, who rely on statistical analyses, archival research, ethnographic notes and interview studies. They also reflect the originality of the topics covered in the review: from the demands of immigrant workers in emblematic industrial disputes that took place at the beginning of the 1980s in the car industry to the social construction of the healthy worker effect among modern-day ferrriers; from the use of a randomised experiment to evaluate innovative placing schemes for the unemployed to legal, scientific and socio-political criticisms of these methods when applied to social sciences; from the interrelationship of collective bargaining at industry and company levels in wage determination to men and women employed as greeters revealing the role of the body and sexuality in gender effects at work.

To work on such a diversity of texts, each one with its disciplinary orientations, we needed the best translators and we have been lucky enough to find them. We warmly thank Andrew Clark, Nathaniel London, Juliette Rogers, Nicholas Sowels and Gabrielle Varro for the great job they have done.
Beyond the diversity of the issues raised and the importance of the results brought to light, this Special Edition reflects the review’s scientific evaluation which is in line with international norms: always collegial, it is based on an anonymous review of articles by referees outside of the editorial board, and its editorial guidance takes the form of calls for contributions regularly open to the scientific community. At the same time we reaffirm our vision of a multidisciplinary approach which does not sacrifice disciplinary specificities. Besides the original leading position of quantitative methods, Travail et Emploi remains open to history and to ethnographic sociology, disciplines which utilize a monographic approach, often absent in other social sciences.

This English edition –which has been financially and materially supported by the Ministry for Labour and Employment– aims at increasing the journal’s ability to attract the most original scientific productions in its field, clarifying their contributions in a demanding dialogue with the most recent theoretical and empirical advances at the French as well as at the international level. These are the objectives of Travail et Emploi which aims at continuing to occupy a central position in leading the scientific debate on its issues of interest. We hope that readers and authors, both in France and abroad, in French and in English, will rejoice with us in this new publication.

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