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Youth — and Generation Studies

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Lectori salutem!

It is with genuine pleasure that we welcome you to the third year of publication of *Youth and Generation Studies*. What began just two years ago as an ambitious scholarly initiative has already grown into a stable and increasingly recognised platform for rigorous, international research on youth and generations.

This issue brings together contributions that speak directly to some of the most pressing questions about how generations are formed, how they differ, and how they may be misunderstood. We open with a comprehensive narrative literature review on the intergenerational transmission of parenting styles. This article takes the reader into one of the most enduring and dynamic debates in developmental psychology and family sociology: to what extent do we inherit the way we parent?

The second study turns to the rapidly evolving world of media use and communication habits. It asks a provocative question: does a true “multitasking generation” exist? Beyond popular labels and everyday assumptions, the article engages with empirical survey data to explore whether parallel media consumption is a defining generational trait or rather a flexible response shaped by age and context. The findings encourage readers to reconsider familiar narratives about digital natives and to reflect more carefully on what actually distinguishes contemporary youth from previous generations.

We are also pleased to include two book reviews that broaden the intellectual horizons of this issue. The first engages with *After the Spike: The Risks of Global Depopulation and the Case for People* (2025) by Spears and Geruso, a compelling and evidence-driven contribution to one of the most consequential demographic debates of our time. Moving beyond earlier concerns

about overpopulation, the book confronts the emerging challenges of population decline with clarity and urgency.

The second review discusses the *Youth 2024 Rapid Report*. Based on the Hungarian large sample youth survey, this long-running research program—initiated in 2000—continues to offer an invaluable empirical foundation for understanding youth attitudes, values, and life courses. Its scale and continuity make it one of the most important reference points in contemporary Hungarian social research.

Taken together, the contributions in this issue do more than report findings: they invite readers into ongoing conversations about continuity and change, about what is inherited and what is newly emerging, and about how generations are shaped in a rapidly changing world. We hope you find these studies not only informative, but genuinely thought-provoking, and that they remain with you long after you have turned the final page.

Enjoy reading!

Levente Székely
Editor-in-Chief

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