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The Professionalization of Cultural Managers in Spain

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ABSTRACT

The professionalization of cultural management in Spain emerged as a complex process in which the demand for professionals anticipated the existence of an academic discipline to support qualified knowledge, giving rise to strong epistemological debates. The main objective of this research paper is to study the development of the profession linked to the political, social, institutional and economic context, finding a recent research gap. The methodological triangulation of the various sources has revealed the importance of public and private systems in the definition of professional competencies, endowing them with a strong technical character that has been reflected in the theoretical development of cultural management. A lack of consensus between professionals, associations, entities and academies has been detected, showing the current fragmentation caused by the interest of certain sectors in maintaining the status quo that existed prior to the academic development of the profession. Scientific involvement in theoretical and educational development is necessary to guarantee adequate professional compliance in the practice of cultural management.

KEY WORDS

Cultural management, cultural policies, cultural education, cultural institutions, employability

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