

## Presentation

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As from this year, *Ammentu* will become a six-monthly magazine, and following the second six-month period, it will be published in association with the Cagliari publisher AIPSA.

The fourth edition opens with one 'Dossier' and two 'Focus' features. The Dossier, *Salute pubblica e salute mentale nel Medio Campidano (Sardegna) tra XIX e XXI secolo [Public Health and mental health in Medio Campidano (Sardinia) between the 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries]*, by Alessandro Coni and Martino Contu, puts forward a total of eleven interventions: eight inter-disciplinary essays focussing on the mental-health situation in the geographical area within the jurisdiction of the Azienda Sanitaria Locale [Local Health Authority] (ASL) no. 6 of Sanluri, together with one article on the state of public health and mental health among inmates of the 'Is Arenas' prison, located in the municipal district of Arbus. The geographical jurisdiction of ASL no. 6 coincides with the territory of the former province of Medio Campidano which covers 28 municipal districts, with an overall population of just over 100,000 inhabitants. In recent years this area has seen severe depopulation and a serious socio-economic crisis, as is highlighted in the first two opening essays of the Dossier.

The next feature is the Focus, *Familias modernas en América Latina [Modern families in Latin America]*, by Carolina Muñoz-Guzmán, which investigates the purpose and the difficulties currently facing the family in the Latin-American sub-continent, with particular reference to some of the realities of life in Chile. From a more specific perspective, the article tackles the issues of health services and home visits for families, some aspects of the social structure and hierarchy of family units, the role of women in a traditionally patriarchal society, and then goes on to examine the sad phenomenon of the immigration of children and adolescents, who arrive in Chile from other South-American countries, and concludes with a historical *excursus* on the policies on childhood that have been pursued in Chile in recent decades.

Lastly, the second and last Focus item should be highlighted, entitled *Profili di antifascisti, repubblicani, socialisti e democristiani e di pentecostali sardi perseguitati dal regime del duce [Profiles of anti-fascists republicans, socialists, Christian Democrats, and Pentecostal Sardinians persecuted by Il Duce's régime]*, by Lorenzo Di Biase; a collection of essays describing the anti-fascist activities of a group of republicans and socialists from the Guspini mining centre, and of the Christian Democrat Giorgio Mastino del Rio, born in Ballao, who survived the Ardeantine Caves massacre perpetrated by the Nazis on 24 March 1944. This Focus concludes with an essay profiling five Pentecostal Sardinians persecuted by the fascist regime both in Sardinia and on the mainland because of their membership of a 'non-Catholic' cult considered to be a threat to social order and harmful to the physical and mental integrity of the race.