

Curriculum Vitae

Personal information:

Full name: Octavio Kulesz

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Reference contacts:

- Rebecca Shoesmith (UK), British Council / Director of Creative Economy, Rebecca.Shoesmith@britishcouncil.org
- Marifé Boix (Germany), Frankfurt Book Fair, vice-President, boix@book-fair.com

Professional experience in the field of publishing and digital media:

- Founder and Publishing Director of [Editorial Teseo](#), one of the first digital publishing houses in Latin America. 2007-present.
- Co-ordinator of the [Digital Lab](#) of the International Alliance of Independent Publishers. 2012-present. The Lab helps small publishers from Africa, Latin America, India and Asia to use digital technologies in their workflow.
- Co-founder of the [Digital Minds Network](#), a group of researchers and consultants specialized in electronic publishing and media in emerging markets. 2010-2014.
- Co-founder and Publishing Director of [Libros del Zorzal](#), 2000-2007. Libros del Zorzal is an award winning publishing house which is highly renowned across the Spanish speaking world.
- Publishing co-ordinator in the programme “Grados de Aceleración”, Ministry of Education, Government of the City of Buenos Aires, 2004-2005.

Experience as a researcher, professor and consultant in the field of cultural industries in the digital environment:

- [UNESCO international expert](#) on the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: 2015-present.
- Author of the chapter “Cultural Policies in the Age of Platforms”, in [Re/shaping cultural policies 2018](#) (Global Monitor Report of the main trends and challenges facing culture, after 12 years of the adoption of the 2005 UNESCO Convention). The report will be translated in several languages, and so far has received extensive international media coverage. The chapter on digital technologies is intended to change the perspective on how cultural policies should be implemented in this field.
- Author of the report [Culture in the Digital Environment: Latin America and Spain](#) (UNESCO, 2017).
- Co-author, together with Canadian expert Véronique Guèvremont, of the [first draft of the Operational Guidelines](#) (UNESCO, 2016) for the implementation of the 2005 Convention in the digital age. This text serves as a guide for the 140 countries that are part of the Convention and provides clear principles for adopting policies related to cultural diversity in the digital environment.
- Author of the chapter “Challenges of the digital age”, in [Re/shaping cultural policies 2015](#) (UNESCO).
- Author of the report [Digital Publishing in Developing Countries](#), commissioned by the International Alliance of Independent Publishers and the Prince Claus Fund (Netherlands) in 2011. The research was published in French, English, Spanish and Chinese, and received exhaustive coverage in the press. This report departed from the assumption that the adoption of digital technologies is not homogeneous across the different regions of the globe, and radically changed the way digital publishing (and in general, digital media) is studied, particularly in developing countries.
- Author of several articles related to electronic publishing and media in emerging economies. See for example:

- "[L'avenir du livre est dans le téléphone](#)", interview on *Livres Hebdo*, France, May 2011. This interview made it clear that, in spite of all the hype around the iPad and the Kindle that characterized the years 2010 and 2011, mobile phones were (and are) the true platform for digital reading, as developments in Africa and India were showing at that time.
- "[Brasil, e-books, educação e tecnologia](#)", *PublishNews*, Brazil, September 2012.
- "[Lo nuevo en edición digital](#)", *Clarín*, Argentina, April 2012.
- "[Digital Publishing in Developing Countries: the Emergence of New Models?](#)", *Publishing Research Quarterly*, Springer, 2011.
- Speaker at dozens of international events related to publishing and digital media, such as the London Book Fair (2006, 2007, 2008), Caracas Book Fair (2006, 2007), New Delhi Book Fair (2008), Bogotá Book Fair (2010), Buenos Aires Book Fair (2010, 2011, 2012), Creative Leadership London (2010), Globalocal India (2011), Algiers Book Fair (2012), Abu Dhabi Book Fair (2012, 2014), Frankfurt Book Fair (2009, 2011, 2013), Seoul Book Fair (2008 and 2010), Geneva Book Fair (2011), Centre de l'Édition Électronique Ouverte in Marseille (2011), CONTEC-Brasil (2012), World Summit on Arts and Culture / Malta (2016) and many others.
- Professor at Universidad Tres de Febrero (UNTREF). Course: "Cultural Industries III. The book sector". 2008-2014.
- Consultant / Key expert - PASEM (European Union + Mercosur). 2014-2015.

Awards and distinctions:

- Considered in 2013 as one of the most influential experts within the Latin American publishing scene, by the El-Libro Foundation (Buenos Aires book fair).
- International Visitor Leadership Programme (Department of State, US): "Education in the Digital Age", November 2014 (3-week visit to different US institutions, such as US Department of Education).
- First President of the International Young Publishing Entrepreneur of the Year Network (British Council), comprising 70 young publishers from across the world (2007-2008).
- Finalist, together with other 8 candidates from all around the world, in the "International Young Publisher of the Year Award", organized by the British Council, March 2006. See <http://creativeconomy.britishcouncil.org/people/octavio-kulesz/>
- Latin American Fellow at the 1st Italian Fellowship Programme for Publishers, May 2007.
- Scholarship for Latin American publishers, provided by Fundación Carolina, Spain, February-March 2007.
- Winner of the IncuBA Award (incubation for local startups), given by the City of Buenos Aires – Creative Industries Secretariat. 2008-2010.

Academic background and research achievements in the field of Philosophy:

- Licentiate in Philosophy: University of Buenos Aires (2005). General average: 9,48 over 10. Honors degree. Final thesis (September 8th, 2005): *La crítica platónica al antropometrismo de Protágoras* ("Plato's criticism to Protagoras' anthropometrism"). Mark: 10 over 10, with distinction of the jury, "*sobresaliente*" ("excellent").
- Professor of Ancient Philosophy at the same university. 2005-2007.
- Scholarship for advanced students in Philosophy, provided by the Universidad de Buenos Aires, June 2001-June 2002.
- Scholarship for advanced students in Philosophy, provided by the Alcabitius Foundation, August 2004-August 2005.
- Member of different research projects on Ancient Philosophy, 2000-2007.
- Attendee and lecturer in dozens of congresses of Philosophy, since 2000.
- Author of the book *Antilogía Final, crítica platónica al antropometrismo de Protágoras*, Buenos Aires, NB Editor, 2006, ISBN 987-05-0924-X.
- Author of numerous book reviews and academic translations (French and English), since 2001, for the courses of Ancient Philosophy.

Modern languages:

- French: oral, reading and written (Baccalauréat Français, 1994).
- English: oral, reading and written (Proficiency in English, “A” mark, 2009).
- Italian: reading and oral comprehension.
- Portuguese: reading and oral comprehension.
- German: reading comprehension (3 university levels, 2001).

Classic languages:

- Ancient Greek: all the university levels (5 years) passed with a 10-mark over 10 (2000).
- Latin: 3 levels passed with a 10-mark over 10 (2000).