

Summary

A collective tribute to Joxe Azurmendi

Joxe Azurmendi –poet, writer, essayist and one of the most prolific thinkers over the past few decades– passed away in Donostia on 1st July 2025, and this issue is totally dedicated to him. Azurmendi formed part of the so-called 56 Generation which, in the 1960s, both cultivated and socialised the modern Basque language. In this regard, he made an essential contribution in adapting Euskara to philosophy. Above all, he highlighted the philosophical essay genre and contributed to numerous philosophical debates in recent decades. In his works, he reflects on social thought, humanity, literature, nationhood, Basque thought, cooperativism, the meaning of life and philosophy. He was a Professor of Modern Philosophy at the University of the Basque Country, as well as being an honorary member of Euskaltzaindia (the Academy of the Basque Language).

Azurmendi was closely linked to JAKIN, where he started collaborating in 1959 at the age of 18 when he took charge of the journal alongside Joseba Intxausti and Kepa Enbeita, and since then had formed part of the group that ran it for over five decades. He published over a hundred books and articles in total between 1960 and 2024. Furthermore, he set up and oversaw the *Jakin Irakurgaiak* collection in the 90s, in which over 50 books were published about philosophy, among translations and original writings. His entire work has now been digitalised on the Jakin website.

Nearly a hundred people from Basque culture took part in this JAKIN issue 269-270, in a collective tribute to Azurmendi's life, work and thought. A large number of poems, writings, and graphic articles are shared that focus on areas ranging from memories and personal experiences to debates, teachings and ideas that together make up a plural overview about Azurmendi. The authors include both the philosopher's colleagues and

collaborators, as well as young thinkers who have recently approached his work. The issue is rounded off by a piece entitled *Herri eresia*, which gathers together anonymous messages of condolence received by Jakin in the days following his passing.