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## American News on Haiti: The Enduring Imperial Mindset

### Authors

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### Abstract

The paper presents a case study of the coverage of a peripheral country by the American news media to illustrate the significant continuity, along with the changes, in US journalism's portrayal of the Global South as deriving primarily from the profession's embeddedness in structures of power and privilege, and cultural prejudices, including racism (Williams 2011). The paper presents a comprehensive review of the academic literature on the American news coverage of Haiti, synthesizing the existing research and drawing broad conclusions about what is known about the American news coverage on Haiti from the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> and into the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. The paper subsequently presents a Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) of how the *New York Times* reported and commented on the 2021 assassination of president Jovenel Moïse, with a special eye as to how new(s) facts were embedded in established frameworks of meaning, including neoliberal and racist notions. The paper concludes that the American coverage of Haiti mirrors the unequal power dynamics between two of the first modern republics the world has ever seen. The coverage in the *New York Times* of the Haitian president's assassination in 2021 was found to be in line with earlier research as to the prevalence of a hegemonic discourse that normalizes Haiti as an inevitably poor and dysfunctional country. For instance, the *Times* summarized the unfolding situation in a summary box titled "The assassination of Haiti's president" that accompanied articles on the topic, as follows: "Years of instability: The assassination of Mr. Moïse comes after years of instability in the country, which has long suffered lawlessness, violence and natural disasters". The sentence frames the assassination as the expected result of Haiti's long-standing instability and dysfunctionality. In a failed state such as Haiti, occurrences like presidential murders are just bound to happen, the *Times* suggested. The coverage in the *Times* was also found to contain substantial counter-hegemonic elements. On occasion, the US's nefarious role in Haitian history was starkly noted. For instance, one article described the US as "a former colonial overlord that has repeatedly intervened in [Haiti's] affairs" (Kitroeff, Kurmanaev, Porter, and Turkewitz 2021). Another article noted that "Haiti's richest and most well-connected kingmakers" were "eager for the approval of the United States, which has exercised outsized control over the fate of the Caribbean nation in the past" (Kitroeff and Porter 2021). Interestingly, the coverage on the president's assassination and the uncertain and chaotic aftermath completely ignored racism, whereas the early 20<sup>th</sup> century coverage was found to be starkly and overtly racist (Blassingame 1969; Bergman

2011). In short, compared to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the *Times* coverage has improved, but in line with the previous research it continues to affirm Western superiority and the legitimacy of the West's domination of Haiti.

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## Submission ID

46

# Attention Transfer: An Advertising Strategy that Affects Media Credibility

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## Abstract

As investment in digital advertising increases—54.4% in Europe since 2017—the public's confidence in this format decreases in favour of offline media (Edelman, 2021). Nevertheless, the growth of *ecommerce*, the importance of positioning, and the need for a higher return on investment mean that messages *are placed where they are seen*. In this way, in order to diminish the audience's scepticism towards advertising (Obermiller et al., 2005), advertisers insert their messages in the digital version of traditional media and generalist channels, employing a hybrid strategy which attempts to maximise their persuasive impact and consumers' confidence. The aim of this proposal is to analyse the investment in digital advertising of food and dietary supplements in Spain, to determine to what degree advertisers profit from their strategy of attention transfer to these media, and its effects on media credibility.

The supplements industry is experiencing a relentless growth worldwide. As illicit marketing practices in the sector, so does scientific concern regarding product safety (Binns et al., 2018; Crawford et al., 2020; Dwyer et al., 2018). Thus, given the undeniable role of the media as a primary source of health information (Im & Huh, 2017), research has warned of the risks involved in how it supports private sector strategies to promote products which could be detrimental to health (Mitra et al., 2019; Untilov & Ganassali, 2020), such as attention transfer (Cornia et al., 2018; Dens et al., 2018; Ha et al. 2018; Stipp, 2018), which affects the processing and assessment of messages due to the source's credibility.

The methodology is quantitative and analyses the digital advertising of enterprises marketing Vitamin complexes, Food supplements, and Weight management supplements in Spain, between 2017 and 2021. The corpus of analysis corresponds to the entire universe of advertisements (4,078) during this period. The crossing of all analysed variables was submitted to prescriptive significance tests ( $\chi^2$ ) and the reliability of the coding process was verified by Cohen's kappa.

The results show that 1 in 5 internet advertisements (20.8%) of supplements appear on generalist news media websites: 3.6% in TV, 16.3% in press, and 0.9% in radio. On the other hand, in specialised media, their appearance in TV increases to 5.5%, in press to 27.5%, and in radio it stands at 1.0%. The remaining 43.3% are placed on websites and social networks. By type of advertised supplement, it is worth highlighting the investment in Food Supplements (59.3%) and Vitamin Complexes (36.6%) in generalist TV channels, while the former prevail in press and radio (74.9% and 79.3%, respectively). The significant weight of direct or sponsored advertising in these spaces evidences how the media, dependent on advertising revenue, become implicated in the dissemination of products with non-declared substances and alleged health properties, in many cases false, inaccurate, or lacking scientific evidence, which may pose serious dangers to public health.

## **Submission ID**

55

# **The Development of Interactive Journalism: Global Patterns and China's Practice —Analysis based on Winning Works from News Award 2015 to 2021**

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## Abstract

The narrative styles of “conflict journalism” and “scandal revelation” have over-focused on “wicked problems” given the spread of VUCA (volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity). Consequently, it contributed to less public discussions on solutions but more anxiety and powerlessness (Shi & Liu, 2021). As digital journalism in the post-pandemic era is urgently looking for new ways of communication, it is noticed that the emotional needs of users are guiding the mechanism of news production to take emotional factors into consideration (Chang & Tian, 2021), and both “digitalization and "emotionalization" are dominating the production, circulation, and reception of digital news (Orgeret, 2020). On this account, we explored audience engagement when emotion was used as a strategic resource in interactive journalism.

Interactive journalism is a visual presentation of storytelling, attaching importance to audience orientation and interactivity. Data journalism is an important part of interactive journalism (Usher, 2016). The database of this study included three global awards, namely, *Data Journalism Awards*, *Online Journalism Awards*, and *China Data Journalism Competition*. Meanwhile, relevant winning entries from *The Pulitzer Prizes*, *Walkley Awards*, and *Kantar Information is Beautiful Awards* were also incorporated into the database. This study collected 226 interactive news samples in total, covering the timeframe 2015-2021. These samples were evaluated and summarized from eight coding dimensions, such as time and space, content selection, forms of presentation, and emotional tendencies (the eleven sub-types of emotional tendencies used were further extracted based on the emotion classification proposed by Arnold in 1960). Two graduate students studying journalism and communication are entrusted with the coding after passing intercoder reliability test.

This study carried out a comparative analysis at two levels. In terms of time, data samples were chosen based on time division three-time periods : 2015-2017, 2018-2019, and 2020-2021. Based macro statistics and micro cases showed that the page design of interactive journalism experienced a simplified trend. The proportion of static visual presentation increased from 50% in 2015-2017 to 62% in 2020-2021, surpassing the “skills showoff” reports driven by "technological determinism". In other words, the forms of presentation emphasized more on the effectiveness of information transmission. Together with the "emotional turn", the focus of global interactive journalism has shifted from politics, social life, and crime to cutting-edge technology, culture, and health communication. Also, the emotional attitudes tended to be more positive. The emotion of "hope" rose from 8.7% in 2015-2017 to 20.7% in 2020-2021. News media reshaped the social roles in the era of public communication and guided the public to participate in social governance through emotional mobilization. In terms of space, this study compared award-winning reports in China and abroad, and discovered that the data presentation in Chinese interactive journalism lacks the connections with the daily life of individual users. Both effectiveness and use-value of big data call for improvement.

By taking the development trend of global interactive journalism in recent six years as examples, this study explored the values and directions of news production in the Internet age in a reflective way.

Key Words: Interactive Journalism; Forms of Interaction; Emotional Turn; User Experience Visualization

## **Submission ID**

156

# **Is there any news in Climate Change communication?: Israeli Newspapers coverage from Paris (2015) to Glasgow (2021) summits**

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## **Abstract**

Paris's (2015) climate change summit was the first summit that ended with a global agreement and hope for a better future. The withdrawal of the US from the agreement by President Trump killed the hope. Glasgow's (2021) summit was expected to renew the hope. Normatively, the media is likely to contribute to the government's climate change policies on mitigation and adaptation.

Our research question is: Did media coverage of the summits change following the changes in the government and the robustness of the science on the dangers of climate change?

The theoretical framework is based on the theories: Normative -Professional journalism (McQuail,2003), Agenda-setting (Weaver, McCombs & Shaw ,2004; Entman, 1993) and science communication (Secko, Amend & Friday ,2013).

The data was collected by quantitative content analysis of the coverage of the summits in two mainstream newspapers: Ha'aretz (qualitative newspaper) and Yedioth Ahronoth (popular newspaper).

The main findings show that the newspapers took the Glasgow summit much more seriously than the Paris summit. Both newspapers sent special correspondents to Glasgow. The comparison shows that the total number of items for Glasgow was more than four-time than Paris, and the same was the number of headlines. Yedioth published more items on Glasgow than on Paris. The framing of the coverage differed between the newspapers. Yedioth published more items that used the Climate Crisis and Climate Disaster frame much more times than Ha'aretz. However, Yedioth Ahronoth took a more

"forgiving" approach, refraining from expressing accusations against any specific side. This was reflected, among other things, in attempts to find possible solutions, and to understand what can be improved and corrected in the situation, for example an attempt to analyze the climate report and the lessons learned from it. Haaretz took a more critical and suspicious approach. In other words, he spoke aggressively towards bodies at the conference, and towards the actions of the government in Israel on the subject.

Both newspapers devoted more space and importance, which might be explained by the scientific consensus and the general global political consensus and following the government's change of attitudes in Israel and the US.

## **Submission ID**

195

# **Negotiating Reporting Strategies In Covid-19 Vaccine Coverage By Central Vs. Local Party Press In China: The Case Of News Aggregation**

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## **Abstract**

This study investigates the process through which local news aggregators repackage information of a national publicity campaign. We treat central vs. local press aggregators as two distinct discursive power bases with separate agenda and imperatives, even when the core of their work is to reproduce second-hand information (see: Coddington, 2019). In so doing, we challenge the theory of re-centralization of control over digital media (Jaros and Pan, 2018; Wang and Sparks, 2019), whose emphasis on central government's power of homogenization leaves out numerous acts of surreptitious circumvention and subtle resistance from local press, a phenomenon made increasingly prominent with platformization of news.

Our preliminary analysis of aggregation production and content from five news Apps affiliated to both central and local party press has revealed clear and recurring patterns in support of our argument. The process is nothing short of a continuous central-local political tug of war in China (Zhao, 2008). In contrast to the rigidly designed and controlled print party media, digital news platforms aim at different target audiences and market niches. As such, the same state policy or mandate can and often does end up with different, albeit nuanced, symbolic representations ranging from inaction to self-serving interpretations. News aggregators, in China, are not caught in struggle for authority and professionalism (see: Anderson, 2013), but limited autonomy away from central control.

The context of this study is the information campaign promoting vaccination against Covid-19 which continues to plague the Chinese government with the urgency to contain the epidemic in both words and deeds (Delaney, 2021). Disastrous as the pandemic is, this public health crisis has presented a rare opportunity for journalism scholars to observe a situation-specific form of negotiations between the central and local press. Although the central government holds the ultimate authority over news content, local elites and vested interest groups are the ones that actually pull the strings on the process of news production (Zhao, 2008; Tong, 2009). This, in effect, creates a buffer zone where diverse discursive maneuverings are brought into play at the local level.

The central-local geographical distance explanation (Stockmann, 2013) is insufficient to explain variances in news aggregations. For one thing, digitalization and platformization of journalism have blurred geographical boundaries. The movement of the press into the cyber world is in no way equivalent to fuller or easier centralized control. On the contrary, digitalization of news has opened up more space for various forms of noncompliance. For example, in the process of news aggregation which syndicates government propaganda as second-hand news feed, the five party news Apps display varied tactics to reinvent, adapt, delete or otherwise twist the content. By toeing the line of legitimacy, they have materialized an appeal to platform users' demography, taste, and technological savviness (Repnikova & Fang, 2019).

To gather data, we have already started depth interviews of editorial and managerial personnel from the five party news Apps at both central and local levels. Fifteen digital journalists are identified through convenience sampling to discuss their daily work routine in reporting vaccination stories. In addition, textual analysis of relevant news from the five Apps between January 1st and July 30th, 2021 is underway to corroborate the interview findings.

## **Submission ID**

263

# **MPS Overview - Cross-Border Journalism Research in the 21st Century: Digitalization, Globalization and New Theory-Building**

## **Authors**

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## **Abstract**

Cross-border journalism (CBJ) research has proven to be an evolving subfield within journalism research during the last decade. It encompasses all kind of journalism(s) that does not remain within the boundaries of a certain culture or nation-state. Our panel assembles scholars from Germany, Finland, Norway, Mexico, Pakistan, the Philippines,

Slovakia and the US to provide up-to-date insights on historical as well as recent developments in this subfield. The five presentations shed light on different aspects of cross-border journalism, such as conceptualizations, questions of education, and local occurrences. They are of theoretical and descriptive nature and do not present original empirical studies.

The panel focuses on cross-border journalism (CBJ) as an evolving subfield within journalism studies. In this context, it fits the conference theme “Communication Research in the Era of Neo-Globalization” as it brings communication scholarship on globalization and networks to the fore. Globalization and increasingly interrelated societies have made journalists’ work more likely to become cross-border. Topics such as international corruption or the climate crisis and challenges such as the current pandemic cannot be addressed within national boundaries only, but need cross-border investigations.

International news agencies and professional roles of “foreign correspondents” first appeared in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, contributing to the institutionalization of “foreign news coverage.” Because CBJ stems from the “increasing connectedness, boundarylessness and mobility in the world” (Berglez 2008, 855), the Internet has advanced and expanded the border-transcending production, dissemination, and reception of news. Transnational organizations such as the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) or BBC World News demonstrate different kinds of CBJ.

According to Castells (2005, 5), the “network society diffuses in the entire world, but does not include all people. In fact, in this early 21<sup>st</sup> century, it excludes most of humankind, although all of humankind is affected by its logic, and by the power relationships that interact in the global networks of social organization.” Likewise, we argue that CBJ does not reach out to everyone. Instead, directly or indirectly, news producers and news consumers are equally affected by the opportunities, obstacles, and outcomes of transnational journalism.

Against this background, the proposed panel will critically analyze CBJ challenged by technological advances, the wide-ranging transformation of traditional media, innovative forms of news production, economic globalization, and political instability. We emphasize the panel’s relevance in terms of promoting a discourse about journalism studies that go beyond the nation-state.

The panel features a strong international composition, assembling scholars from Finland, Germany, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Slovakia, and the United States. It includes a mix of junior and senior researchers, both female and male. The first presentation describes recent theoretical concepts of CBJ and questions their applicability for different forms of CBJ. The second presentation elaborates on how far CBJ research should be de-Westernized. The following three presentations serve as case studies of CBJ in North America, Eastern Europe and Russia, and South Asia (with a focus on India and Pakistan). The proposed panel therefore addresses all relevant aspects of CBJ research and hopes to stimulate discussion of future issues.

**Chair:** Martin Löffelholz, Technische Universität Ilmenau, Germany

**Discussant:** Jyotika Ramaprasad, University of Miami, USA

**Paper 1: Conceptualizing Cross-Border Journalism**

*Liane Rothenberger, Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Germany*

*Lea Hellmueller, University of Houston, USA*

*Maria Konow-Lund, Oslo Metropolitan University, Norway*

**Paper 2: De-Westernization in Cross-Border Journalism**

*Pauline Gidget Estella, University of the Philippines, Philippines*

**Paper 3: Cross-border journalism in North America**

*Lars Willnat, Syracuse University, USA*

*David Weaver, Indiana University, USA*

*Maria Elena Hernandez Ramirez, University of Guadalajara, Mexico*

*Laura Cañuelas-Torres, Syracuse University, USA*

**Paper 4: Cross-Border Journalism in Eastern Europe and Russia**

*Svetlana Pasti, Tampere University, Finland*

*Andrej Skolkay, University of Bratislava, Slovakia*

**Paper 5: Cross-Border Journalism in South Asia**

*Waqas Ejaz, National University of Sciences and Technology, Pakistan*

*Muhammad Ittefaq, The University of Kansas, USA*

*Waqas Jan, G5 Internet Observatory (G5io), Pakistan*

**Submission ID**

287

**Journalists' awareness of ethical challenges in algorithm-driven newsrooms: Identifying (new) principals of ethical journalism**

**Authors**

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## Abstract

The implementation of artificial intelligence technologies is an important technical precursor for innovation in newsrooms, entailing new opportunities as well as new challenges. A variety of algorithm-based applications are already increasingly taking over journalistic tasks and consequently leading to the emergence of hybrid forms of journalistic work in which human journalists interact with machines (Diakopoulos 2019). This development not only leads to a change in journalistic work structures and role models, but also raises ethical challenges that relate primarily to normative journalistic quality criteria (Meier 2019), which are discussed in particular at the organisational and societal level. However, it is of utmost importance to also consider the perspective of journalists as individual actors in editorial organisations (Weischenberg 1995; Shoemaker and Reese 1996) and to create awareness of how to deal with this emerging technology in order to take a reflexive approach to the evolution of standards for the ethical use of artificial intelligence technologies in journalism.

Based on the theoretical foundations of journalistic ethics, information ethics, and machine ethics, the purpose of this study is to explore (1) whether journalists are aware of making ethical considerations in algorithmic newsrooms, and if so, which ones, and (2) the challenges involved. To answer these research questions, semi-structured interviews were conducted with 12 journalists from selected media organisations in Turkey in 2021 and analysed through qualitative content analysis (Mayring 2008).

The results indicate that journalists are aware of ethical challenges in algorithmic newsrooms in terms of transparency and quality of training data, accuracy of data processing, responsibility for the accuracy of journalistic content, news bias, dissemination of fake news and discrimination risks, but have little or no ability to handle new technologies. In addition, the results reveal the need for a practice-oriented approach to ethical challenges, encompassing the responsibilities of journalists, media organisations as a whole, and the producers of algorithms.

Constitutive on these results, normative requirements for journalistic practices are discussed conceptually to identify the potential implications of addressing (new) ethical principles in algorithm-based journalism.

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## Submission ID

364

# Spread the Desirable Message: Why People Share Fact-checking Messages for Viral Misinformation

## Authors

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## Abstract

### Background

While fact-checking has received much attention as an important tool to fight misinformation, how to ensure fact-checking messages spread as far and wide as misinformation remains underexplored. To fill this gap, this study examines when people decide to share fact-checking messages on social media and what psychological mechanisms underlie such decision. Specifically, this study investigates if social media metrics (i.e., the number of likes and shares) accompanying misinformation posts affect people's intentions to share fact-checking messages that debunk the original misinformation post, and if so, why. In examining such questions, this study employs First-person effect (FPE) – tendency to estimate greater influence of socially desirable messages on themselves than others - as a theoretical framework.

### Hypotheses

**H1:** After reading fact-checking messages, people will report (a) lower perceived credibility of the original post and (b) decreased beliefs in misinformation.

**H2:** Those who viewed fact-checking messages for a misinformation post with high social media metrics will report greater first-person perception (FPP) than those who viewed fact-checking messages for a misinformation post with low social media metrics.

**H3:** The effect of social media metrics on FPP (*H3*) will be mediated by perceived social desirability of fact-checking messages.

**H4:** Increased FPP will lead to greater intentions to share the fact-checking messages.

## **Findings**

Two between-subject (a misinformation post with low social media metrics vs. high social media metrics) experiments ( $N = 173$  for Study 1,  $N = 192$  for Study 2) revealed that fact-checking messages debunking a viral misinformation post (i.e., liked, shared, and commented on many times) were perceived to be more socially desirable as compared to fact-checking messages discrediting a non-viral misinformation post. Individuals presumed greater influence of the socially desirable fact-checking messages on themselves than others (i.e., greater FPP). Enhanced FPP, in turn, led to stronger intentions to share the fact-checking messages on social media. At the same time, fact-checking messages decreased perceived credibility of the original misinformation post as well as reduced beliefs in misinformation.

## **Implications**

Taking a step from merely testing the effectiveness of fact-checking messages, this study examined an understudied but crucial question; how to spread fact-checking messages as far and wide as misinformation that easily goes viral. Our data showed that individuals are more likely to share fact-checking messages that discredit a viral misinformation post than a non-viral misinformation post. This finding is particularly encouraging because it highlights the self-purification function of social media; social media users may curb a self-fulfilling cycle of viral misinformation by spreading fact-checking messages as far and wide as the original misinformation post. This meaningful role of average social media users offers hope for our continuing efforts to stem the prevalence of misinformation. At the same time, understanding which fact-checking messages are more likely to be shared by social media users would greatly help fact-checkers employ a “select and concentrate” strategy that can maximize the effectiveness of fact-checking.

## **Submission ID**

380

## **Russia and Ukraine: Is the contested relationship a concern for the Central Asian states?**

### **Authors**

Dr. Beate Josephi - University of Sydney

Mr. Berdak Bayimbetov - Suleyman Demirel University

### **Abstract**

This paper looks at the contested relationship between Russia and Ukraine, and its effect on the Central Asian states of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Like Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan were part of the Soviet Union and after its dissolution, declared their independence in the second half of 1991.

Like Ukraine, their ties to Russia are manifold, but vary between the states of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. The existing links are predominantly economic, but also stem from resettlement programs in Soviet times of ethnically mostly European people – Russian, Ukrainians and Germans – to the Central Asian republics. Russian is still the lingua franca throughout Central Asia, although Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan after independence stipulated that their own languages be the state language, to be used in schools and universities.

The case study for this paper is the occupation of Crimea by Russia in February 2014, and how the Central Asian states of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan reacted to this annexation and whether it caused fear in political circles for the sovereignty of their own state. Particular attention is given to the influence of Russian accounts of the events in its media, that is the Russian television news channel *Rossia 24* and the elite weekly paper *Argumenty i Fauty*. This presentation assesses the reverberations of the Russian action and the Russian media reports in interviews with government representatives at the time of the Crimea annexation, and with political analysts and journalists from each country.

What emerges on examination of these interviews, are the variations between the Central Asian states. These differences can be based on geographical facts, such as that Tajikistan does not share a border with Russia, or demographic factors, such as Kazakhstan still holding the largest population of settlers from Soviet times of the four Central Asian states. The interviews have also to be contextualised by each of the Central Asian countries' political situation in early 2014, which differs from that in early 2022, and tensions at the time of the interviews between Russia and Ukraine and also within their country, as for example Kazakhstan.

## **Submission ID**

546

## **Enhancing Print Media in an Evolving Digital Culture in Ghana**

### **Authors**

Prof. AFRICANUS DIEDONG - SD DOMBO UNIVERSITY OF BUSINESS AND INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT STUDI

### **Abstract**

The neo-globalisation era has presented the news media in Africa with opportunities and challenges. In Ghana, there are some shifts in how print news media operate in an emerging digitized context. How journalists in newsrooms tackle new changes introduced can be problematic. Yet there is dearth of research about digitalising newsrooms and its implications for the growth and development of a vibrant press in Ghana. Amidst the seeming uptake of news readers search for digital news within a print media landscape confronted with problems, which range from weak financial base to poor infrastructure and

weak training programmes for human resource development and the high cost of airtime and data and digital infrastructure, the print media seemed overwhelmed by these problems. The reality is that there are no shortcuts to addressing the problems. Paradoxically, changes in technology and tasks observable in news industry world-over are occurring at a fast-pace. Print media in Ghana are in the throes of innovating albeit at a slow pace and in a re-oriented fashion to connect with a globalised media landscape, which seems to be in a constant changing mode. Re-orientation in the manner of producing and delivery of news content in an emerging digital ecosystem means that theoretically actors operate in a network, which privileges a mutually responsive communication process over a top-down elitist approach. Therefore, the need to forge integrated digital platforms in newsrooms is vital for driving new business models, which can connect meaningfully with current global news media practices. The methods of the study are week-long observations in selected newsrooms and a series of in-depth interviews with editors from two state-owned newspapers and two private newspapers, media experts and the Information and Communication Technology Managers of the sampled newspapers. The paper argues that for the press in Ghana to remain relevant and contribute towards providing information and news to media savvy readers it needs to adapt to transformations in newsroom practices happening globally. Newspaper organisations' initiatives at introducing new technology in newsrooms are occurring at a time the government of Ghana seems to be championing a drive for a digital economy. How these attempts effectively feed into global discourses of networked newsrooms and its implications on the fortunes of the press in Ghana is what the paper would examine.

**Keywords:** Journalists, Digitalising Newsrooms, Print Media, New Technologies, Ghana

## **Submission ID**

566

# **Collaborating, Connecting, Interloping: Key Forms of Pop Up Newsrooms**

## **Authors**

Dr. Melissa Wall - California State University Northridge

## **Abstract**

Journalism has long been associated with the key place of its production: the newsroom. Yet across the first decades of the 21st century, news buildings in some countries began to empty as plummeting revenues brought on by outmoded business models often meant that centrally located newspaper facilities were too expensive to maintain and too large for their diminished corps of reporters (Usher, 2019). (In other cases, news outlets opened palatial palaces for news making.) These various moves have brought increased scrutiny to actual physical newsrooms themselves and how these spaces play a role in the production of news. One response in changing the spaces of news work has been to

create short-term physical/or virtual spaces to host temporary news production sites or pop-up newsrooms. While the sociological phenomenon of the “changing where of work” has become more widespread (Larson, 2020, p. 300), the existing research on pop-up newsrooms is limited. This paper aims to help fill that gap, posing the research questions: What are the modes of “organizational sensemaking” by different types of pop-up newsrooms? How do these shape their practices and values?

How temporary organizations originate plays a role in how they function and how their members carry out their work and view themselves. Those that are affiliated with an existing organization are often recipients of greater forms of support in contrast with temporary organizations that are created independently and tend to lack the scaffolding of an existing bureaucracy. Both affiliated and unaffiliated temporary organizations may by virtue of their impermanence exercise greater flexibility and innovation as well as be more likely to challenge existing hierarchies and boundaries (Bechky, 2006).

Drawing on organizational and management literature about temporary work, 4 dimensions were created to assess a range of pop-up newsrooms around the world. These dimensions were a) the news making context that fueled their creation; b) who/what sort of organization makes up their teams; c) their key aim; d) how trust is generated. From this analysis, three key forms of pop-up newsrooms were identified:

**Collaborating.** Formed in response to shrinking professional news resources, pop up news projects such as the US-based Electionland and Australia’s UniPollWatch may combine professional (and sometimes non-professional or student) journalists to report on complex topics across geographic locations. Trust here is generated between journalists from different outlets sharing resources and responsibilities and forgoing competition with each other.

**Connecting.** Critics have long noted that mainstream news favors elite, homogenous audiences. This form seeks to connect with underrepresented groups, often in non-traditional locations such as when Hungary’s *Decât o Revistă* opened a temporary news site outside the capital or *The Sprawl* operated out of a Canadian library. To connect, professional news organizations work with the community they are trying to reach to identify alternative, often misunderstood perspectives. Trust is generated by listening to the community.

**Interloping.** Other iterations of pop up newsrooms are those run by outsiders or what Eldridge (2018) calls “interlopers,” hacking their way into the news stream. Independently created with no affiliation to an existing news outlet or university journalism program, these periphery outlets are liminal spaces, producing news that is “unpredictable and transitional” (Wall 2019, p. 5). Here, social media platforms become virtual newsrooms, facilitating live, independently produced content about key social and political conflicts such as seen on the Twitch channel’s use by Hong Kong protesters as well as its role in covering the Jan. 6 US insurrection. Such interlopers are often activists that document and

support social movements. Audience trust is generated through immediacy and subjectivity and transparency.

## **Conclusion**

The collaborating and connecting models offer the means to reform traditional journalism and perhaps answer long-standing criticisms of arrogance and an overly strong connection with political and social elites. The interloper model may be freer in its reporting but may be more precarious in terms of financing, human resources and even physical security.

## **Submission ID**

607

# **Reshaping Actor-Network Relationships: A Study of Innovative Journalism Practices in Chinese News Organizations**

## **Authors**

Mr. Angze Li - Nanjing Normal University

Mr. Yifan Zhong - Jinan University

## **Abstract**

The traditional journalism industry is experiencing a great deal of "uncertainty" due to both technological changes and economic recession, which is often described as a "crisis" moment (Zelizer, 2015). In response to these developments, the academic community has increasingly focused on using the term "innovation" as the primary method of news actors entering the newsroom seeking results (Singer, 2018). New technologies, actors, and novel practices are seen as solutions to specific issues facing journalism today by domestic and international news organizations (Anderson et al., 2014; Newman, 2018). However, journalistic innovation can also be problematic: first, "crisis" is often conceptualized reductively in the process of innovation (Anderson et al., 2014; Newman, 2018), which makes understanding its characteristics subjective. Similarly, the process of journalistic innovation is more likely to be confined to a single level of crisis solver (Bossio & Nelson, 2021). Secondly, when the term "innovation" is not accompanied by changes in institutional structures and engagement with journalistic actors, it becomes a burden for journalism as well.

It is, therefore, much more complex to determine how the process of journalistic innovation is understood, implemented, and practiced (Bossio & Nelson, 2021). As a result of established research interests and theoretical paths, comparative analysis of innovative action and actor analysis under the material turn has become a blind spot (Schmitz & Domingo, 2010; Wang, 2020). Consequently, in this context, it would be too narrow to discuss journalistic innovation in a "deterministic" way that focuses too much on business or technology change - as innovation practices in news organizations involve not only

journalists, but social, technological, and energetic processes that are the result of multiple heterogeneous objects (Steve Mathewman, 2020). According to Actor-Network Theory (ANT), researchers need to understand the role technology plays in news organizations' innovation processes and the relationships between human and non-human actors (Hemmingway, 2008).

In previous studies, many dimensions of the concept, philosophy, and practice of news innovation have been discussed, as well as the ways that content and technology are collaboratively used in innovation within news organizations. Nevertheless, further research is required on comparative studies about news innovation in Chinese news organizations and aspects such as human and non-human news actors, news organizations, and their associations and traces left behind as a result of news innovation (Couldry, 2008). Considering that empirical research on newsroom dynamics can shed light on the relationship between human and human, institution and institution dimensions, this study will be grounded in actor-network theory. Combining fieldwork and in-depth interview research methods to select representative news organizations in China for comparative analyses to understand the relationship between different Chinese news forms, our objective was to better understand the processes of reconfiguring network relations among actors such as news organizations, practitioners, media technologies, and users, as well as their news innovation practices in different Chinese news agencies.

Hence, this study will examine how this innovation process has reshaped the network relations among actors in the Chinese news field through an empirical examination of news innovation practices of different Chinese news organizations, and what new theoretical insights this change will bring to the digital journalism field. The answer to this central question will help clarify journalism innovation research in the Chinese context and expand the imagination of actor-network theory in digital journalism research.

## **Submission ID**

707

# **Partner or Rival? A Cross-National Content Analysis of Newspaper Coverage of EU-China Trade Relations in the UK and the Netherlands (2001-2021)**

## **Authors**

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Dr. Knut De Swert - Amsterdam School of Communication Research (ASCoR), University of Amsterdam

Dr. Mark Boukes - Amsterdam School of Communication Research (ASCoR), University of Amsterdam

Prof. Rens Vliegenthart - Amsterdam School of Communication Research (ASCoR), University of Amsterdam

## **Abstract**

In an era defined by multilateralism, China has become a major trade and investment partner for the European Union countries (European Parliament, 2020). Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, China was the only trade partner of the EU with both exports (+2.2%) and imports (+5.6%) increasing in 2020 (Eurostat, 2021). However, the debate over China's economic influence has been increasingly prominent on the political and the media agenda since a trade and infrastructure project "Belt and Road Initiative" was launched by the Chinese Government (Christiansen & Maher, 2017; Zhang, 2020). More recently, EU officials and politicians expressed increasing concerns over China's economic expansionism and human rights violations (European Parliament, 2021).

Media play a vital role in shaping public perceptions of EU-China trade relations; after all, increasing media attention can lead to higher issue salience among the public (Vliegenthart et al., 2021). Although many empirical studies suggested that prominent attention in Chinese media has been given to EU-related news on trade and economic relationships (e.g., Chaban & Elgström, 2014; Lai & Zhang, 2013; Song & Bian, 2016), how the EU-China trade relations have been reported by European media remains largely unknown. A few recent studies investigated news coverage of the BRI in EU countries (e.g., Andrews, 2020; Matura, 2018). Nevertheless, there is a clear dearth of empirical research on European media perceptions of EU-China trade relations from a cross-national longitudinal perspective.

This study builds on existing economic news research (e.g., Vliegenthart et al., 2021) and employs a manual quantitative content analysis to investigate trends over time in media attention, tone, frames, and actors in the newspaper coverage of EU-China trade relations from 2001 to 2021, and to explore differences between newspaper types (i.e., financial vs. quality vs. popular) and countries (i.e., the UK vs. the Netherlands) in their portrayal of EU-China trade relations. All news articles are retrieved from NexisUni and Dow Jones Factiva Databases. Nine UK newspapers and six Dutch newspapers will be investigated. Both descriptive and inferential statistical analyses will be performed to analyze the data.

In terms of theoretical relevance, this study (a) addresses a clear research gap and provides a comprehensive picture of the mediated depiction of EU-China trade relations over the past two decades; (b) contributes to existing economic news research by extending the theory of negativity bias (Soroka et al., 2018), frame variation (Damstra & Vliegenthart, 2018) as well as news values (Boukes & Vliegenthart, 2020) in the context of international trade relations; (c) provides empirical evidence on the impact of media organization's characteristics and country contexts on news coverage of EU-China trade relations in light of the Hierarchy-of-Influences Model (Reese & Shoemaker, 2016).

Regarding societal implications, policy makers might gain insights into the prominence of their voices in different newspaper types and, accordingly, may strategically use the media as a tool to communicate economic and trade policies towards China. Besides, economic journalists are provided a deeper understanding of how the news has employed diverse frames and actors to shape EU-China trade relations.

## **Submission ID**

779

# **The Practical Path of Journalists' Political Literacy in Political News Reporting**

## **Authors**

Dr. Honglei Lu - University of Southern California

## **Abstract**

Political literacy is a crucial competency for a journalist who covers political news. How the journalist's political literacy affects the news production process, and how it affects the final effect of the report are the main concerns of this study.

The researcher applies the grounded theory as the primary research method, and takes the news covered by the famous Chinese journalist Fan Jingyi (1931-2010) as analysis materials, during 1986-1993 when he was the editor-in-chief and president of the "Economic Daily", one of the most influential economic newspapers in China. Through coding and theoretical sampling, the Grounded Theory of Political Literacy for journalists in the context of contemporary China is formed.

The main findings of this study are as follows. 1) The connotation of Fan's political literacy basically includes three levels: consciousness, knowledge, and professionalism. The accumulation of political literacy is accomplished through the internalization of practice, education, media access and socialization, and externalization including subjective cognition and objective behavior. As shown in Figure 1.

*Figure 1. The connotation of political literacy*

2) Before entering the process of news production, Fan would analyze and interpret the disordered information he collected, and then integrate the political information into news reports with the support of his political literacy, in order to make it easy for the audience to understand the selected and organized information that he tried to convey. As shown in Figure 2.

*Figure 2. How political literacy affects the news production*

3) As the chief leader of the newspaper, Fan's main strategy includes four parts: political judgment, structure design, practice and feedback transformation. His professionalism is applied in receiving information, processing and responding. In these three steps, his

political consciousness comes into play. His knowledge reserve is mainly reflected in his interpretation of the political environment, his design and writing, etc. As shown in Figure 3.

*Figure 3. The application of political literacy in each link of news production*

At the macro level, this theory can explain what political literacy is for a journalist, and how to cultivate and improve it. At the meso level, this theory illustrates how political literacy influences the news production process, which shows that political literacy is becoming more and more crucial for journalists. At the micro level, the case of Fan Jingyi specifically explains the formation process of political news and how the journalist's political literacy affects each link of news production.

The critical implication of this theory is that it clarifies the significant impact of political literacy on news reporting, emphasizes the priority of cultivating journalists' political literacy, and focuses on the possibility of news reporting to exert and expand its political efficacy.

## **Submission ID**

797

# **Profession or professionalism? Chinese undergraduates' perception and career identity of journalism: evidence from an IAT experiment and interviews**

## **Authors**

Ms. Jingyi Guo - Beijing Normal University

Prof. Ya Yang - Beijing Normal University

## **Abstract**

Journalists who used the pen as a mightier sword to reveal the truth through which ordinary people could achieve their ambition to inform the public, uphold the facts, provide a healthy ethic environment, and fight for the right (Borden & Tew, 2007; Coleman & Wilkins, 2002; May, 1986; Plaisance, 2002). However, along with the flourishing development of network technology and the new media industry, traditional professional journalists are gradually replaced by new media editors and the so-called "citizen journalists". Those changes gradually marginalized professional journalists, resulted a mixed quality of journalism on the new media platform and the public's trust in media has fallen (Brenan, 2021).

In order to study career identity and professional cognitive crisis among reserve force of journalists we designed a Single Category Implicit Association Test (SC-IAT) experiment to explore the young generation's implicit attitudes toward this profession.

In study 1, a SC-IAT was used to measure the participants' positive or negative implicit attitudes towards journalism (Greenwald, McGhee, and Schwartz, 1998; Karpinski and Steinman, 2006). A total of 68 participants (12 males, one was excepted because of data missing, average age  $22.64 \pm 3.65$ ) with three levels of experience (who have had journalism internship experience, JIE; major in journalism and communication, MCJ; not major in journalism and communication or have had journalism internship experience, NN) were recruited for the experiment. The results found not only the NN but also JIE and MCJ showed a neutral attitude to journalism.

This was an odd result against neither common sense nor our hypothesis that Journalism study or internship experiences enhance a more positive attitude toward the journalist profession. We know attitude is a comprehensive expression and evaluative reaction in three dimensions: emotion, behavioral intention, and cognition (Myers, 2006), while professional cognitive crisis indicates conflicts and differences between ideal and real that one suffered in the field of professional cognition (Ursell, 2004; Roses-Campos and Humanes-Humanes, 2019).

Thus, we formed an online semi-structured interview as study 2, which based on the perspective of professional cognition and the participants' major and internship experience. Up to now, 15 participants were randomly and anonymously selected from three categories (5 participants each) in study 1. The results showed JIE participants regarded journalism as an ordinary profession while MCJ subjects were more likely to treat the occupation in an ideal way. Moreover, NN participants judged journalists' performances through the universal professional ethics of all occupations. Besides, most of participants in three categories indicated that they would not devote themselves to journalism. Furthermore, NN subjects believe that they could generally distinguish new media editors from journalists based on their functions and workpieces.

According to studies above, we found a preliminary description of the Chinese young generation's cognition of journalism. As many news agencies face conflicts between journalism and commercialization, most online platforms prefer the latter, narrowing the channels for potential practitioners to realize their journalism Ideality. Permanent online environment especially deprofessionalization and pan-entertainment situation affecting journalism cognition of people without professional background.

## **Submission ID**

839

# Technology affordance, organizational attributes, and issue variation: A network perspective on intermedia influence in a changing media landscape in China

## Authors

Ms. Hong Li - Fudan University

Dr. Baohua Zhou - Fudan University

## Abstract

The rapidly changing technological environment has pushed the media landscape to constantly evolve, and challenged the structure of intermedia influence (Reese, 2021). Extant research on intermedia influence mainly follows the theoretical tradition of intermedia agenda-setting (McCombs, 2005), which needs further theoretical reconsiderations. First, extant studies tend to treat emerging media as an undifferentiated entity by comparing the influence between traditional and new media, while neglecting the fact that there is quite a diversity within the landscape of digital media. When focusing on the comparison between old and new technologies, many studies ignore the influence of organizational attributes and their interactions with technology affordance. Second, in terms of research design and method, existing studies take the issue as the unit of analysis and usually adopt the Granger causality test to measure the relation between time series of different media at the issue level. While one significant strength brought by digital media is the ability to precisely track the publishing timestamp of specific news stories, thus providing a new opportunity to measure media influence at the news story level (Harder et al., 2017). Third, extant research is limited to two-by-two comparisons of media types, which cannot locate the structural position of each media outlet in the whole media system (Stern et al., 2020).

So this study uses a network approach to examine the intermedia influence with a large-scale dataset of diffusion trees across various media outlets based on the level of news story in Shanghai, China. It firstly builds the cross-platform/channel network of digital media outlets, including news websites, social media accounts (e.g., Weibo and WeChat accounts), and news APPs, based on the diffusion flow according to repost function or time sequence. It then computes the media influence based on the relationships among media outlets within the network structure. It further highlights three factors, namely technology affordance, organizational attributes (Party media vs. non-Party media, and national vs. local), and issue variation (political vs. non-political, and national vs. local) to explain the intermedia influence, which will also be tested with a dynamic network analysis. Thus, we propose the following research questions: **1) RQ1:** What is the network structure of intermedia influence in the news ecosystem of Shanghai? How does it evolve? Which media outlets act as central nodes, and peripheral nodes? **2) RQ2:** Which factors affect the structural position of a particular outlet in the network? To answer RQ2, the

following hypotheses are developed: **1) H1:** Given the advantages of time and mobility affordance, media outlets on APPs and Weibo have greater intermedia influence than those on WeChat, which then have more influence than those on news websites. **2) H2:** Based on the organizational resource and authority priority, there is variation among issues in the pattern of intermedia influence. Specifically, for national issues, national media outlets have greater intermedia influence than local ones (**H2.1**); while, it is the reverse for local issues (**H2.2**). For political issues, Party media outlets have more intermedia influence than non-Party ones (**H2.3**).

We collected the full dataset from 683 media outlets (475 local media outlets from sixteen media organizations in Shanghai and 208 media outlets from nine national media organizations), with all 997,627 original news reports in 2021. Using computational methods, we establish a dynamic and multilevel social network based on timestamps of news feeds, text similarity of news content and repost relationship claimed by news sources, and employ the exponential random graph model (ERGM) to analyze the data.

Results reveal the propagation network is loosely connected. Media outlets on APPs and Weibo mostly show more influence than outlets on WeChat or news websites as H1 has predicted. Organizational attributes and issue variation together significantly predict the salience of intermedia influence, especially local and Party media outlets respectively hold more influence on local and political issues, supporting H2.1-H2.3. This study thus contributes to the understanding of inter-media influence in a changing media landscape, with a new network perspective. It shows how big data and computational methods could help advance journalism research in a hybrid media system.

**Keywords:** intermedia influence; network analysis; media convergence; ERGM

## **Submission ID**

870

## **Blogging Disasters: Coverage of Apiate explosion tragedy in the Western Region of Ghana**

### **Authors**

Ms. Elizabeth Owusu Asiamah - University of Education, Winneba

### **Abstract**

The role of the media as the fourth realm of the state can not be trivialized. The media informs, educates and further serve as watchdog to happenings in our society. Journalists and editors in the mainstream media have been given the power to disseminate what they consider news-worthy information to the public through the process of gatekeeping. This power, is however gradually being clawed by second-order journalists in the form of bloggers and citizen journalists who have emerged since the advent of the internet. These pseudo-journalists are people who were originally known as news audience who were

merely passive receivers of information broadcast by the mainstream media. However, the internet has turned them into active audiences who are now 'producers' of news. This new breed of journalists engage in gatewatching where they observe stories that are covered by the mainstream media and other news outlets and further link, comment and share these stories on their personal websites. While blogging has been studied by scholars, very little is known about their reporting of issues such as disasters especially in the Ghanaian context. This current study therefore investigates the coverage of disasters by news bloggers as second order journalists using the case of the January 20, 2022 Apiate explosion in western region of Ghana. Through a qualitative case study, data is collected using content analysis of posts made on the websites of two purposively selected blogs - *ghpage.com* and *ghbase.com*- from the 20th of January to the 31st of January, 2022 to examine the attention given to the story on the explosion and the frames used in covering it. The study also explores the sources from which the stories on the explosion were gathered on the selected blogs. The study is guided by the agenda setting theory, framing theory and the concept of gatewatching in online news production. Data is further analysed thematically and presented with tables to give understanding to the phenomenon under study. The findings of the study revealed that *Ghbase.com* made 20 stories out of 76 stories within the 11 days while *Ghpage.com* made 11 posts out of the total 95 posts shared within the period of study. Drawing from Entman's (1993) classic classification of frames, the study found that the Apiate explosion was frame around the definition of problem, the diagnosis of the causes of the explosion, the making of moral judgement and the suggestion of remedies. Finally, through the process of gatewatching, the selected blogs sourced their stories from the mainstream media, social networking sites, tip-offs and press releases. This study does not only add on to the scant literature on blogging in Ghana but also helps policy makers to identify the important role that blogs as alternative media play in the new media ecology, in order to direct policy making and regulations.

## **Submission ID**

909

## **Combatting information disorder through academic research: an analysis of Portuguese theses and dissertations about mis-, dis- and mal-information**

### **Authors**

Dr. Ricardo Morais - University of Beira Interior/LabCom & IADE/European University

### **Abstract**

In recent years, the concept of disinformation, and particularly that of fake news, has been at the origin of many scientific articles in different countries and contexts, proving that this is today an unavoidable theme in our society (Said-Hung, Merino-Arribas & Martínez-Torres, 2021; Alfonso, Galera & Tejedor Calvo, 2019; Alonso-García, Gómez García, Sanz

Prieto, Moreno Guerrero & Rodríguez Jiménez, 2019; Parra-Valero & Oliveira, 2018). To account for the research that has been carried out, many authors have frequently resorted to bibliometric studies and meta-investigations, as these allow “describing quantitatively how researchers carry out their research practices, how scientific knowledge is disseminated and how theories are used in communicational research today” (Saperas & Carrasco-Campos 2019, p. 227). Although this interest in academic publishing as an area of study and research has been growing in recent years (Coutinho, 2015), we believe that researchers have almost always focused their attention on articles published in scientific journals and international databases, leaving aside a type of equally relevant scientific production, such as that resulting from master and doctoral theses.

Therefore, this work aims to identify the master and doctoral studies that have been carried out in recent years on the disorder of information. We believe that this approach is particularly relevant, as the fight against mis-, dis-, and mal-information is based on a solid base of knowledge about the phenomena, in a logic of information literacy (Abu-Fadil, 2018). Believing that an academy is a privileged place for developing knowledge and skills that allow then-students, future professionals, to fight the information disorder that affects society, we consider it essential to understand how students in their investigations have addressed this theme. We then try to grasp the objectives, methodologies, data collection tools used, and the main results obtained in these investigations. Among other aspects, this work will allow us to understand which scientific domains have crossed in the study of information disorder and if the differences between mis-, dis-, and mal-information have been considered in investigations (Berger, 2018). This distinction is fundamental to combat a phenomenon that is not effectively new but has gained new contours and intensified with the Internet and social media (Wardle & Derakhshan, 2018, pp. 43-44).

To achieve the objective we propose in this work, we review master and doctoral theses carried out in Portugal from 2016 until the end of 2021. We start the collection in 2016, considering that, according to Wardle and Derakhshan (2018), “Google Trends map shows that people began searching for the term extensively in the second half of 2016” (p. 43). These searches are related to the Brexit referendum and United States campaign, which led to the Donald Trump election (Said-Hung, Merino-Arribas & Martínez-Torres, 2021). In terms of methodology, since it is impossible to consult the files of each of the institutions individually, we proceed to an identification of the works from the Scientific Repository of Open Access of Portugal (RCAAP). This portal “collects, aggregates and indexes scientific content in open access, existing in the institutional repositories of national higher education entities, and other R&D organizations”. With this analysis, it will be possible to identify the thematic diversity that characterizes studies in the area of information disorder, highlight study trends, and clues about paths to be followed in the future in terms of teaching and research.

## **Submission ID**

910

# **Cooperation in Digital Journalism: Construction of Online Newspapers in Nepal (1995-2003)**

## **Authors**

Mr. Harsha Man Maharjan - Martin Chautari

## **Abstract**

Often scholars (Boczkowski, 2004; Nguyen, 2008) have discussed the perspectives guided by crisis/disruption to understand the innovations in the newspaper industry during the transition from printing on the paper to publishing on the screen in the 1980s and 1990s. These perspectives often come from the empirical data of the west where by the 1980s, the discourse of crisis inside the newspaper industry prevailed and where there were debates that old media would be replaced by "new media". These perspectives which are dominant in digital journalism literature and often presented as a universal fact have been challenged. Researchers (Steensen & Westlund, 2020) suggested going beyond the narrative of crisis/disruption and following the narratives of multiplicity. Therefore, this article uses the perspective of cooperation instead of crisis/disruption to understand the case of Nepal where there was no debate of crisis/disruption inside the newspaper industry while constructing online newspapers. It describes the local contexts, intentions of actors such as an internet service provider (ISP), and three newspaper organizations. This paper examines the practices of cooperation in digital journalism from 1995 to 2003 in Nepal by conducting in-depth interviews with media owners of three main newspaper companies (Kantipur Publications, Gorkhapatra Corporation, and Kamana Prakashan), the ISP (Mercantile Communication), and analyzing the websites and official documents. The paper shows that both the ISP and the newspaper companies did not have the prior experiences of non-print content distribution due to which they had to depend on each other. The research found that both parties benefited while participating in the construction of the new artifact: both the ISP and the news media companies wanted to promote their brand names, create new users, and get monetary benefits. The paper argues that the construction can be understood from the perspective of cooperation as this perspective highlights mutual benefits and interdependencies of newspaper industry and IT sector without competition. Hence this paper discusses the perspective of cooperation that permits to make sense of the local contexts of the innovations and the complexities of technological innovations acknowledging the plurality of digital journalism histories.

## **Submission ID**

931

# **A phenomenology of news: Reunderstanding news in digital culture**

## **Authors**

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## **Abstract**

Technology has changed the ecology of journalism. First, communication in the digital media age is not limited by time and space. Secondly, to some extent, the labeling characteristics of inherent individuals are eliminated. Each communication subject has equal status. The age of digital media environment forms a more abundant and diversified social relationship group. The pattern of interpersonal communication has changed from the traditional "subject-intermediate-object" pattern to the "subject-intermediate-subject" intersubjective communication pattern. The communication model presents the important characteristics of intersubjectivity. If we look back at history, we find relevant discussions in epistemology philosophy in the 20th century. A theoretical approach based in classic phenomenology will open up a new world for us. The definition of news has changed in the age of digital media. This article sets out to explore alternative ways to understand and conceptualise news. In the past, we used to regard "news" as an objective existence separated from human beings. But from a phenomenological point of view, we argue news is not only the existence of relations, but also the way and power to construct all kinds of relations. News not only reflects and presents human existence, but also connects people inside and outside the news. Returning to the field of news production, we argue that the future of news should be connected, the power of news lies in its ability to build relationships. A new culture of news is emerging.

## **Submission ID**

932

# **Journalism Education in the Post-Pandemic World: Teaching Media Law and Ethics**

## **Authors**

Dr. Thomas YESUDHASAN - Curtin University

## **Abstract**

In this paper, I will reflect on an action research project where I integrated the Ethical Principles and frameworks of journalism into the teaching of a newly designed unit, Media Law and Ethics. This project's main issue or problem would be to critically reflect on how the integration of global journalism ethics, concepts, and theories into a very structured subject, Media Law, resulted in a newly developed unit, Media Law and Ethics. I will use qualitative observation, self-reflexivity or 'critically reflective stance' and descriptive notes

to outline how the changes stated above have resulted in a holistic, inclusive curriculum. The author will also elaborate on the innovative assessments and teaching pedagogies in a global context. The project will further explore the possibilities of incorporating a global curriculum that includes Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic learners and thus facilitating engagement and belonging. It is critical in this post-pandemic globalised education environment, mainly where Global Campuses are being part of the home campus and intend to deliver the units globally and by embracing holistic educational principles. The author will outline what has been considered while incorporating a curriculum inclusive of Asian and global paradigms and ethical philosophies in this context. In the constructivist approach, the practitioner guides the students towards the subject matter, engage them in problem-solving activities, and thus achieves the learning outcomes. This project will further outline how the innovative assessments have motivated the journalism students to consume news from the broadcast and print and new media and the ways they engaged with the media sources consistently. In this context, the students are encouraged to examine their own position on journalistic ethical and legal paradigms, present their arguments and discuss alternatives. On the other hand, the learning activities enabled them to learn from each other irrespective of their primary interests; for instance, a student who is more interested in crime stories would learn from another student passionate about politics.

## **Submission ID**

1084

## **Gender Education in Journalism Schools in China**

### **Authors**

Prof. Haiyan WANG - University of Ma

### **Abstract**

#### **Abstract:**

Journalism is one of the most popular programs in Chinese higher education system today. Since the first journalism course was introduced in the then-Yenching University (now Peking University) by the U.S.-trained Chinese journalist-cum-educator, Xu Baohuang, and his colleagues in 1918, journalism education has had a century-old history in the country. The latest figures from Higher Education Commission show that: as of 2013, there are 307 universities in China offering journalism degree to students who are pursuing Bachelor's degree; and this is in addition to another more than 700 tertiary education institutions offering journalism and communication-related degrees at varying levels, including Master, Ph.D., and Associate; as a result there are around 60,000-70,000 fresh graduates in the subject area entering the job market each year. What these figures indicate is the breathe-taking speed of expansion of journalism education in China. Although like in many other countries, Chinese media organizations have experienced job

cuts as a consequence of digitalization and loss of revenue in recent years, the size of student admissions in j-schools has shown no sign of obvious decline.

Popular as it is, journalism education in the country, however, has long suffered from a disappointing omission - the absence of gender-related subjects in the curriculum. As scholars and advocates promoting gender equality have argued, gender is a socially and culturally constructed concept, and in the process of social and cultural construction, the news media, especially the producers of news media contents, have an important role to play. University education is a crucial stage to prepare the future journalists with gender-related knowledge and a gender-sensitive mind, and thus it is essential to introduce the concept of gender to journalism students to the pursuit of gender equality in the society at large and through news media in particular. But unfortunately, gender-related subjects are seriously under-developed in journalism education in China. Although a full and comprehensive picture at national level is difficult to get at this point of time, a preliminary investigation of the top-15 journalism departments/schools by this researcher shows that not a single gender-related module has ever been taught. This void is highly incompatible with the fast-developing pace of journalism education in the country, neither is it able to keep up with the pace of the burgeoning feminist movement in the country.

Based on these recognitions, this research aims to examine the current state of gender-sensitive education in journalism schools in China, and explore the mechanisms hinder its development. The research methods will be interviews with journalism educators, supplemented by a survey of curriculums and journalism textbooks. Given the vast size of journalism schools in widely dispersed localities in the country, as mentioned above, this paper chooses to focus specifically on the journalism schools in the south coastal province of Guangdong. Guangdong is among the mostly economically developed, politically liberalized, and culturally enlightened provinces in the country. It is also the hub of media reform and feminist movement in the country. It makes a typical, if not representative, case of study in terms of gender and journalism education. The universities this research will study include: Zhongshan University, Shantou University, Shenzhen University, South Normal University, South Technological University, Foreign Studies University, Peking University (Shenzhen), and Beijing Normal University (Zhuhai). These are the major tertiary education institutions offering journalism degrees in the region. The interviews are expected to be conducted with faculty members in the journalism schools. A preliminary list of questions will include: what modules are taught to students according to the current curriculum, how these modules are taught, whether the concept of gender is introduced in any of existing modules, what are the reasons for the absence or presence, how students/colleagues/university administrations responded, how the curriculum in general is designed, where are the chances for a gender-related module to be introduced, and what are the challenges and difficulties, etc.. In addition, the content of a collection of journalism textbooks will be surveyed in order to get a picture of how, in what context and with what tones gender is mentioned or not mentioned.

## Submission ID

1085

# Theorizing News Agency Journalism: in search of a conceptual framework

## Authors

Dr. Pedro Aguiar - Fluminense Federal University (UFF)

## Abstract

This essay draws on many previous attempts at conceptual research on this topic to build a framework for a theoretical approach to news agency journalism. There is no doubt that news agencies are a very important part of the media industry. A few times in the last 50 years, they were subject to thorough scrutiny from communication scholars, but this never turned into a systematic, constant, and widespread study of the way they work. Particularly in journalism, much attention is placed on print, broadcast, and more recently, digital forms of news production, but news agencies themselves remain quite a lesser-known type of company and an obscure object of research.

In order to compile what theory has already been formulated on news agency journalism, I collected and analyzed books, papers and corporate documents in six languages: English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Serbo-Croatian and Romanian. As far as I could find, there has never been a systematized theory on news agency journalism. What has been left, however, are mostly scattered bits of thoughts and a few theoretical elaborations about the practice of journalism within news agencies. Among them, works by Boyd-Barrett (1980), Aguiar (2018), and Lisboa (2018) alternate between description and conceptualization. Sifting through a heterogeneous array of works, from a Marxist normative textbook by Haškovec and First (1984) to Mouillaud's semiology of news (2012) and Neveu's sociology of journalism (2001), these disperse discussions are drawn together here into a propositional framework. One of the highlights is the distinctive nature of the news dispatch, compared to the media news story. Adding to that, distinctive syntactic and semantic features of news agency journalism are examined, such as content complementarity, editorial centralization, and pre-mediation. The lack of deadlines and news cycles in editorial routines within news agencies also sets it apart from the work carried out in media outlets. Finally, the issue of the indirect audience, mediated by clients adding an extra layer of discursive intervention (editing, cutting, rewriting), is addressed as one peculiarity of this type of journalism.

What follows in the paper is a rough draft compilation of those fragments, aiming to assemble them into a meaningful body of theory (even if not strictly coherent) that is useful to future studies in this branch of journalism. Ultimately, the goal is to provide an object-specific theoretical framework to look at the working routines within news agencies, not as a byproduct or lesser type of journalism, but as a distinct, nearly bicentennial (1835-2022) tradition in the journalistic field.

## **Submission ID**

1099

# **Ambition and struggle: Habitus-based typology and morphology of Chinese foreign correspondents**

## **Authors**

Mr. Mingjiang Lu - School of Journalism and Communication, Tsinghua University

Ms. Hanqin Li - School of Journalism and Communication, Tsinghua University

## **Abstract**

Foreign correspondents play a key role in the construction of a foreign mediated reality to audience. As existing research notes, this group bridges the gap between the events and the global audience, shaping their perspectives at the same time. As the environment of international communication grows increasingly complex two years after the outbreak of Covid-19, foreign correspondents' roles and functions have become more complicated and significant. Considering these unavoidable transformations, how to understand the positioning of foreign correspondents is of value to the academia.

Meanwhile, as China's global influence grows, it is actively seeking a role in the order of global communication compatible with its political and economic position. As president Xi Jinping stressed, China needs to strengthen the capability to present a true, multi-dimensional, and panoramic view of itself to the world. Nevertheless, contrary to the country's urge for better performance of international communication, research focusing on Chinese foreign correspondents were marginal and scarce.

Based on the current research gap, this study draws on Bourdieu's field theory and his key construct of habitus, attempting to offer a typology and morphology of Chinese foreign correspondents working for mainstream Chinese media outlet from a habitus-based approach. This study defines "foreign correspondent" as media practitioners who collect and transmit information about events occurring around the world for the non-native audience, ruling out those Chinese reporters who work in foreign nations but target at the Chinese audience.

Under the theoretical framework of Bourdieu's field theory, this study uses the methods of survey and in-depth interviews to collect data and probe the habitus of Chinese correspondents. Drawing on previous studies, this study attempts to operationalize habitus and collect data from two dimensions: firstly, questionnaires consisting of demographic information, role perception, and cultural proximity will be given to foreign correspondents working for major Chinese media outlet, mapping out the primary habitus and basic portrait of Chinese foreign correspondents; secondly, in-depth interviews will be conducted with the purpose of exploring the details of secondary habitus (role perception and cultural

proximity) and other issues such as how they view their identity, what difficulties they face in work, what they think of their career path and its prospect, and so forth.

By exploring the habitus of Chinese foreign correspondents, this study will finally offer the typology and morphology of them to address the literature gap. For further discussion, this paper analyzes their role, contribution, and limitation in the era of neo-globalization. In addition, this study contributes to deepening the understanding of Chinese media outlets in the overseas background, Chinese foreign correspondents, and their association with China's ambition to promote its global reputation.

## **Submission ID**

1165

# **Brazilian and Swedish Defiance of Covid Restrictions in Portuguese News: The Perpetuation of Media Stereotypes**

## **Authors**

Dr. Claudia Alvares - ISCTE-Lisbon University Institute

Ms. Mariana Moraes - ISCTE-Lisbon University Institute

## **Abstract**

This paper aims to analyse the frames applied by the Portuguese media to two countries – Brazil and Sweden- which did not adopt the mandatory lockdown during the first phase of the Covid pandemic as a measure to curb contagion. In a period in which Covid death tolls became ubiquitous in the news, countries that refused to impose restrictive measures, such as social distancing and masks, were frequently highlighted in the media. The aim of this presentation is to explore the different value judgements attributed to the two above-mentioned countries in their defiance of consensual forms of combating the Coronavirus. Our research objective will be achieved by comparing the frames applied to the same themes in different national and cultural contexts.

The analytic corpus will consist in the digital version of the newspapers *Diário de Notícias* (DN) and *Público*. The selection of these publications is due to the high levels of trust that both elicit. According to the Digital News Report 2021, published by Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, 78% of respondents indicated trust in DN and 76% trusted *Público*. As for the time-frame, our study will concentrate on the period ranging from March to May 2020, corresponding to the beginning of the pandemic, a phase marked by uncertainties and the adherence to the 'social distancing' model as necessary in the fight against the Coronavirus.

Methodologically, we will take recourse in valence frame theory (Boomgaarden and De Vreese 2003) for comparison of the frames applied to Covid coverage in Brazil and Sweden. Valence frames allow us to see how the same information is cast from a positive or negative perspective, depending on the 'central organising idea' (Gamson & Modigliani

1987) which confers meaning to a flow of events by giving salience to particular aspects over others. Framing thus seeks to understand how definitions of events come to be promoted, contributing, in the process, to the public's 'moral evaluation' of the issue portrayed (Entman 1993; Tewksbury & Scheufele 2019).

In the Brazilian case, Bolsonaro's conduct was the main organizing principle that conditioned interpretation of how Brazil dealt with the pandemic during the time-period analysed. Indeed, the Brazilian president's inaction in decision-making processes (cf. Ortega & Orsini 2020) is often represented in a derisive, top-down tone. In the Swedish case, although the country received criticism for its lack of active intervention against Covid, an effort was made to understand deeper issues about the Swedish model to fight the pandemic.

By focusing on the different valence frames applied to these two different countries which opted for a liberal approach towards the pandemic without the imposition of compulsory quarantine, we aim to show how stereotypes are unwittingly perpetuated through media promotion of preferred readings (Hall 1973). We will argue that these preferred readings are partly conditioned by shared understandings of Sweden as a model society, corresponding to 'Nordic' and 'European' advancement, and Brazil as a developing country whose past is related to Portugal, from a perspective of colonial domination.

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#### **Submission ID**

1201

# **Disseminating without Responsibility? Journalistic Role Performance during the Covid-19 in South Korea**

## **Authors**

Dr. MISOOK LEE - Rikkyo University

Mr. Dongwoo Lim - The University of Tokyo

Mr. Keunsik Park - Rikkyo University

## **Abstract**

The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted every aspect of daily lives with its unpredictable and unknown risk characteristics, resulting in over 570,000 deaths in the world. Facing the unprecedented health crisis, the news consumption for mainstream media has substantially increased (Newman et al. 2020). South Korea was one of the first countries to be affected by the Covid-19, and was regarded as one of the countries which successfully contained the pandemic with the '3 T' (Testing, Tracing, and Treating) measures in 2020 (You 2020). This paper aims to examine the role of South Korean journalism during 2020, the year of initial outbreak and spread of the Covid-19. In order to examine the role of journalism, the conceptual framework and methodological approach of journalistic role performance was taken. The concept of Journalistic role performance is defined as the manifestation of professional roles in both news decisions and the news outcome that reaches the public (Márquez-Ramírez et al. 2020: 55) and observed as six journalistic roles: the interventionist, watchdog, loyal-facilitator, service, civic, and infotainment roles (Mellado 2015, 2019; Mellado et al. 2017). In terms of covering the Covid-19, the hypothesis is that the interventionist and watchdog role performance will be decreased and the dissemination of the information by authority's public health and risk management will be increased when compared to the non-covid articles. In addition to the change of the journalistic role, the heavy dependence on authority sources will be increased. The journalistic role performance is measured by content analysis, and the survey to journalists is conducted to see the tie or gap between the journalistic ideals and their materialization. For the content analysis, news articles of 6 outlets, KBS and JTBC as two representative broadcasters, Chosun Ilbo and Hankyoreh as two representative newspapers, and OhMyNews and Dailian as the most well-known and accessed online news media, were collected for 14 days throughout the months in 2020 (data collection of different dates for each month except June and August for two-time data collection) and coded by three trained coders. The total number of the articles was 3757 and the stories of Covid were 1169 (31%), and the journalists who responded to the survey conducted via online platform were 96. The findings show there were overall decreased interventionist and watchdog role performance in the Covid-19 articles except newspapers in the interventionist role. In addition, the authority sources including government and political parties has been increased in the Covid-19 articles. The most conservative newspaper, Chosun-Ilbo, shows the most strengthened interventionist role in the Covid-19 articles, and

shows the least decrease in the watchdog role with its confrontational attitude to the progressive government. Although South Korean journalists considered the intervening role of journalism such as providing journalist's point of view and interpretation is comparatively important, their actual role performance was not materialized except the Chosun-Ilbo. Rather, the actual performance can be seen as disseminating the stories with a detached attitude of 'objectivity' and 'neutrality' without properly interpreting and contextualizing the stories with responsibility to the public.

## **Submission ID**

1206

## **MPS-Paper - Conceptualizing Cross-Border Journalism**

### **Authors**

Prof. Liane Rothenberger - KU Eichstätt-Ingolstadt

Dr. Maria Konow-Lund - Oslo Metropolitan U

Dr. Lea Hellmueller - City University London

### **Abstract**

The first presentation examines current attempts at conceptualizing cross-border journalism. It asks which theoretical frameworks exist to conceptualize, structure, and analyze CBJ. To do so, we provide a definition of CBJ and then distinguish between approaches that are grounded in empirical research and normative demands for how CBJ should function, e. g. we present the approaches of Berglez (2008), Reese (2008), Alfter (2017), Cottle (2019), Heft et al. (2019), and Tanikawa (2019). Besides the "glue" of a topic that binds cross-border journalism together, especially in geographically close areas, we see a prominent categorization in the conceptual distinction between cooperation and practice-driven collaboration. While collaboration can be understood as supplying the means to arrive at a common end, cooperation specifically involves pooling resources and joining efforts to reach individual ends (Konow-Lund et al., 2019). Cooperative work goes back to the news agencies in the early 20th century. But we ask about the uniqueness of cross-border journalistic collaborations. What distinguishes such collaborations from other forms such as foreign correspondence? We then present an own systematization of manifestations of cross-border journalism on four systematic levels of society. On the micro level, researchers can apply actor theories, actor-network theory, role perceptions, cultural studies, identity, and value theories as well as cognitive mindsets. At the meso level, one can investigate editorial teams or publishing houses using organizational theory or culture of organizations. Of course, technology (in our model situated at the micro level), could also be an influencing factor on other levels, for example if social media is used more widely, a larger impact of such technology on group identity and group behavior might be perceived. The exo level refers to settings that influence the individual and organizational actors and are larger than single organizations but not systems as such; the

level was introduced by Bronfenbrenner (1986). On the exo level, the performative presentations are important, for instance, how globally acting media corporations build networks of conglomerates. Possible frameworks include neoliberalism, media imperialism / the global dominance paradigm or neo-institutionalism. On the macro level, a global public sphere or journalism system might be described using the analytical termini of systems theory. Every level lends itself to analyze the degree of influence of technological developments, economic pressures, political and legal frameworks and immersion in a certain culture and (group) identity. Finally, we shed light on theories of CBJ's audiences that are neglected by many studies and models that focus on news production processes.

## **Submission ID**

1221

## **MPS-Paper - De-Westernization in Cross-Border Journalism**

### **Authors**

Mrs. Pauline Gidget Estella - TU Ilmenau

### **Abstract**

The second presentation covers critical issues in CBJ under the lens of de-Westernization and in the spirit of de-centering the discourse. The first part explores the notion of de-Westernization in journalism studies in relation to the state of research in CBJ. What does de-Westernization mean in the context of CBJ research, and how can mainstream theoretical and methodological approaches be critiqued given the realities of CBJ practice (and research) beyond the West or the 'Global North'? How do structural or systemic conditions influence the nature of CBJ in these environments and what are its implications on CBJ research? For instance, Alfter's (2016) oft-cited conceptual framework identified the elements of collaborative CBJ, but these elements are hard to identify or are simply absent in CBJ outside Europe and North America. Are frameworks like these simply normative, which offer benchmarks that can be attained in the future, or are they simply inapplicable for Global South areas at any point in time (and so it would be unfair to use these as a yardstick for making sense of CBJ beyond the 'West')? Another example would be the fact that in the Global South, advocacy issues are a strong area for international collaboration, perhaps much more than journalistic production. This could be attributed to the forces and circumstances that have long been shaping journalistic cultures in these regions – forces and circumstances that are for the most part alien to the Western liberal democracies, such as blatant and strong political pressures, the culture of impunity in the harassment (and killing) of journalists, heightened polarization, and mis- and disinformation rooted on educational deprivation. De-westernizing CBJ studies entails a meditation on these contextual realities that circumscribe the practice in areas beyond the mainstream West, especially in what is called the peripheries. Perspectives that are normally marginalized or omitted in discourse, as well as emerging trends, will be discussed.

The second part uses the critical discussions in the previous section – particularly the dimensions of de-Westernization (Waisbord and Mellado, 2014) and the system-level factors shaping CBJ beyond Europe and North America – as underpinning for analyzing CBJ competence. CBJ competence then becomes a case study: How can this aspect of CBJ be analyzed under the spirit of de-Westernization? This part describes the most important CBJ competencies identified through an empirical study that aims to be truly global in scope. This case study is offered as an illustrative example that also sheds light on the norms and challenges to CBJ practice in an increasingly globalized but also increasingly fragmented world. The presentation will then end with an attempt to address the question: What should be the considerations in terms of methodology and theory-building if we are aiming for de-Westernizing CBJ studies?

## **Submission ID**

1225

## **MPS-Paper - Cross-border journalism in North America**

### **Authors**

Prof. Lars Willnat - Syracuse University

Prof. David Weaver - Indiana University Bloomington

Dr. Maria Elena Hernandez Ramirez - Universidad de Guadalajara

Ms. Laura Canuelas Torres - Syracuse University

### **Abstract**

This third presentation describes the characteristics of selected news organizations in Canada, Mexico, and the United States (including Puerto Rico) that produce news that is constructed and consumed across the borders of these three and other countries. We analyze the producers, content, and audiences of these news organizations, as well as the challenges and obstacles that these journalists and news media face. We briefly address the political, legal, economic, and cultural contexts within which cross-border journalism is practiced in these countries..

We do not consider cross-border journalism to include that which crosses state or province borders within these countries. We define cross-border journalism as that which is produced by journalists working in different countries who collaborate on reporting projects, and who disseminate their reporting across national boundaries.. The term “cross-border” is more specific than the more general term “globalization,” but the meaning of the two terms is similar, in that to be “global” journalism must cross borders. What is new here is an emphasis on *producing* journalism across borders as well as *disseminating* it across such borders. We provide several examples of cross-border collaboration and point out some of the problems of doing this kind of journalism, as well as different kinds of

collaboration, and we also speculate on the future of cross-border journalism in North America, given the factors that influence this journalism and the journalists who create it.

## **Submission ID**

1227

# **MPS-Paper - Cross-Border Journalism in Eastern Europe and Russia**

## **Authors**

Prof. Svetlana Pasti - Tampere University

Mr. Andrej Skolkay - bratislava

## **Abstract**

The fourth presentation begins with a brief introduction to the specifics of the CBJ environment in the regions and its impact on the scope and agenda of the CBJ.

In Eastern Europe, CBJ belongs to a long tradition of cooperation between neighbors, which has gained new impetus for development with their EU accession and subsequent financial support. It develops around relevant issues such as cross-border, global crime and corruption, tourism, and culture. In Russia, independent journalists develop CBJ on sensitive issues (human rights, corruption, protests) that are ignored by the mainstream media. Their legitimacy is confirmed by the economic support of readers and the professional support for cross-border cooperation. However, their growing influence in society is directly proportional to their risk of closure by the authorities under one pretext or another.

This exploratory study uses a case method to find out what kind of cross-border journalism is developing in these regions, what influences its development, and how it will develop in the future. The analysis of selected cases: the Visegrád Group (V4) in Eastern Europe and independent projects and media in Russia, including *Insider*, *Meduza*, and *Important Stories*, aims to clarify the importance of this type of journalism and its specifics.

Therefore, the focus of the analysis is on the history of CBJ, its core values, the ways in which journalists cooperate, their relationship with the audience, and the role of CBJ in society.

The study concludes about the authenticity of this type of journalism, which is confirmed by the cooperation within the profession and the involvement of journalism in civic activism, the perception of journalists themselves as "intermediators of change". CBJ is developing both in favorable political and institutional conditions in Eastern Europe and in unfavorable and dangerous conditions for it in contemporary Russia, which is increasingly isolated from its Western neighbor. The future of CBJ is inextricably linked to the quality of democracy and the rule of law, as well as good neighborhood policy.

**Submission ID**

1229

**MPS-Paper - Cross-Border Journalism in South Asia****Authors**

Dr. Waqas Ejaz - National University of Sciences and Technology

Mr. Muhammad Ittefaq - The university of kansas

Mr. Waqas Jan - G5 Internet Observatory (G5io)

**Abstract**

The fifth presentation describes the current state of CBJ in South Asia with specific focus on India and Pakistan. It examines the current state of cross-border journalism (CBJ) in South Asia with a specific focus on India and Pakistan. The discussion pertains to political, economic, and ethical determinants of cross-border journalism in the region while taking stock of different attempts to promote such practices. This presentation also assesses whether such efforts can guide media organizations, policy makers, and journalists to overcome certain challenges specific to the South Asian region and work together in creating a conducive environment for the promotion of cross-border journalism across one of the world's most populous regions. Journalists do not have it easy promoting cross-border journalistic practices. Because of the existing political structure, journalists on both sides of the border face considerable challenges in terms of resisting political influences premised on securitized discourses. This is further explained by comparison of some of the most salient examples of how cross-border journalism has transcended state censorship and securitized agendas over the last few decades. For example, by highlighting issues such as state surveillance, cybersecurity, and data privacy. To understand cross-border journalism in South Asia, it is important to assess both countries' media business models in terms of products, capital, and ownership. This also goes beyond economy of markets in both countries such as media concentration, its convergence, and divergence. The contribution concludes with proposing solutions that can promote CBJ in the region and possible directions for journalism practice and research.

**Submission ID**

1231

**What Hinders Health Fact-checking? Examining the Dark Side of Social Media****Authors**

Dr. Shaohai Jiang - National University of Singapore

## **Abstract**

During public health crises, misinformation, the false or inaccurate information regardless of intentional authorship, can undermine adoption of evidence-based public health efforts. Particularly, misinformation has increasingly become a salient issue on social media. To respond to the threat of health misinformation, fact-checking matters. Fact-checking refers to the process of verifying factual assertions to determine their accuracy and veracity. Scholars found that health misinformation has proliferated on social media but has rarely been checked or verified by users. To promote health fact-checking, an essential step is to understand factors inhibiting individuals from checking the accuracy of health information. In the existing literature, limited is known about the role of individuals' social media use in influencing their health fact-checking. Therefore, the present study aims to signify what mechanisms are integral to the process by which social media use might hinder health fact-checking, by taking into account the dark side of social media.

The O-S-O-R model offers the key theoretical foundation for this study. The O-S-O-R stands for Orientation 1 (also called pre-orientation)-Stimuli-Oriented 2 (post-orientation)-Response. This model explains how individuals' pre-orientation influences their exposure to certain stimuli, which result in post-orientation that eventually determines behavioral response. Based on the O-S-O-R model, the present study investigated the process underlying how social media use might lower the uptake of fact-checking during the COVID-19 pandemic in China. Specifically, one mediation pathway was proposed as follows: one's worry about COVID-19 (O1) triggers social media information overload (S), which leads to social media fatigue (O2), which in turn reduces fact-checking (R).

A two-wave online survey was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic in China. The recruitment of participants was implemented by a commercial survey company that has an online panel of over 2.6 million members in China. In February 2020, the company sent out 3,492 invitations to its online panel members, and 1,094 completed the Wave 1 survey. In May 2020, the Wave 2 survey was disseminated to Wave 1 respondents, and 73% of them finished the Wave 2 survey (n = 803). This study included respondents who have completed both surveys.

The results showed that individuals' worry about COVID-19 increased social media information overload, which resulted in social media fatigue that reduced health fact-checking. Also, the direct relationship between worry and fact-checking was not significant, completely mediated by social media information overload and social media fatigue. Thus, the present study suggests that whether social media use can promote or hinder users' fact-checking behaviors depends on their experiences within the social media environment (e.g., information overload vs. easy-to-navigate information environment). The immediate outcome (e.g., fatigue) of social media usage experience can then influence post social media use outcomes, such as fact-checking. Theoretically, the model proposed in this study accounts for a combination of factors that relate to affective response to risks, external media environment, an individual's psychological response to the media information environment, and one's behavioral response as the distal outcome. All these

aspects provide a nuanced understanding of the processes hindering users' health fact-checking.

## **Submission ID**

1381

# **Seeking the future journalist. An industry perspective on skills and roles**

## **Authors**

Dr. Lia Spyridou - Cyprus University of Technology

Mrs. Sophie Demetriou - Cyprus University of Technology

## **Abstract**

Journalism education has been the subject of debate and contention for more than 100 years. Drastic technological developments, the disruption of journalism's traditional business model, and more recently the Covid-19 pandemic have inevitably sparked a new debate on the content and purpose of tertiary journalism education (Mensing, 2010; Marinho & Sánchez-García, 2022).

The most prevalent and persistent aspect of journalism education has been the theory-practice division, which basically reflects the opposing views between academia and the industry (Josephi, 2016). Employers and editors see university-based journalism programmes as theory-laden and out of touch with industry realities (Robinson, 2016), whilst academics insist on the study of journalism in terms of its role, history, law, ethics, standards, methods and impact along with practice (Jarvis, 2012). Although the debate never really ended, since the early 2000s the idea of educating future journalists as 'reflective practitioners' seemed to have taken hold (Josephi, 2016). The advent of computational journalism (Thurman, 2017) on the one hand, and serious challenges ranging from shrinking budgets, severe criticisms of outdated curricula and students being skeptical whether the degree will land them a paying job (Robinson, 2016), resulted in journalism schools opting to become more industry and technology-oriented (Schmidt 2018).

Curricula experiments have offered mixed findings; the addition of technology courses and social media elective modules have been hasty with questionable results, whilst internships, although in some cases proved helpful for preparing young professionals for a career in journalism, in other cases brought up instances of labor exploitation and minimal professional benefits (Senat et al, 2019). Some argue that such moves simply reinforce the alignment of journalism education with an industry-conceived model of journalism (Mensing, 2010); a model which emphasises the tenets of the 'super journalist paradigm' at the detriment of relevant, explanatory, well-sourced and well-verified journalism (Spyridou & Veglis, 2016). Meier & Schützender (2019) argue that one of the core

qualifications that future journalists should have is to communicate constructive solutions; their suggestion draws on the science-practice combination “to go beyond the current professional model”. The issues of media literacy and critical thinking are being raised by Friesem (2019) as important skills to help future journalists not only comprehend economics, ideology, and power relations but also as important means to deconstruct information disorder in the post-truth era.

The current professional and material conditions of journalism designate that the debate needs to go beyond the theory-practice division; rather it is necessary to re-examine the “core journalistic competencies as a response” to the ever-changing landscape (Guo & Volz, 2021, p. 93). Drawing on the notions of skills and professional roles, this study investigates how the industry envisions the future journalist; what type of skills do media organizations expect from future journalists. What is the perceived role of journalism from an industry perspective? The study is based on twelve semi-structured interviews of senior editors working in the big media groups in Cyprus. The findings aim to contribute in the broader discussion of reforming journalism education

## **Submission ID**

1402

# **Photojournalism on pause and reset. Visual strategies in Swedish newsrooms during the pandemic**

## **Authors**

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## **Abstract**

During the global Covid-19 pandemic, covering stories on site has been difficult due to the risk of contagion and restrictions limiting access to people and places. This study explores strategies used by news organizations in Sweden to procure visuals and the impact of the pandemic on photojournalistic routines. While Sweden did not implement a strict lockdown, news organizations switched to remote work as did many other organizations and government entities. In this respect, news organizations developed their own policies and routines (Appelgren, 2021). Inspired by the notion of the pandemic as a critical moment for digital journalism (Quandt & Wahl-Jorgensen 2021; García-Aviles, 2021), this study explores photojournalism as a site of possible disruptions. Photojournalism offers a useful prism to consider structural changes in the field of journalism that certainly preceded the pandemic but which may have been exacerbated or re-evaluated during the crisis. Furthermore, as the journalistic form arguably most contingent on being on location and up close, photojournalism may help illuminate challenges as well as strategies and opportunities for innovation. Through qualitative interviews with visual editors and photojournalists, three questions are explored: The impact of the pandemic on newsroom routines for photojournalism; journalism’s boundary work during this period, in particular

regarding the use of contributions from the public; and the pandemic as a challenge to photojournalism's historic prerogative as eyewitness (Zelizer, 2007). Preliminary results of the study, which is currently underway, indicate a sense of frustration at producing less unique in-house coverage; an increased use of archival and generic imagery--a standardization of visual coverage that preceded the pandemic (Caple, 2019); increased contributions from the public, in part solicited by news organizations; and discourses of innovation and attempts to find new ways to tell visual stories, including through personal projects as the meaning of "witnessing" is being re-evaluated.

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## Submission ID

1429

## Re-Politicization, Consumption and Participation of Memory: Face swap news products in China

### Authors

Prof. Ruhan ZHAO - Communication University of China

### Abstract

As a specific informative storage and knowledge, memory is constructed by individual experience and the media practice. The relationship between memory and daily life became even closer because news media tend to recall past events frequently to prove

today's world. News media has the function of correction, and the memory building of news media is closely related to other forms of cultural memory, widely existing in different time and spaces and different types of journalism. (Kitch,2000) Journalism is one of the most essential social frameworks for constructing, updating and rewriting people's memories. Not only individuals' memory is deeply influenced by the narrative and frame of news, but global collective memory also relies on the materials that journalism provides (Volkmer,2006).

As From 2017, People's Daily, the state-owned media in China, announced 18 interactive face swap news products, attracting more than 1 billion users to upload their photo so as to generate a customized one with specified time, class, profession decoration. This mini program on *WeChat*, supported by AI technology, creates a timeline with significant political milestones.

To understand the phenomenon, this research explores how those news products attempt to connect the political events in the past and present, and which context and elements they applied to re-politicizing recent news events. Therefore, 18 new media products of People's Daily were selected as a sample, while in-depth interview and textual analysis were conducted as a research method. In addition, to understand how different generations consume these products, focus groups were organized among four generations (70s,80s,90s,00s.) groups.

The primary result demonstrates that *first*, the narrative of face swapnews product transformed from story-telling to self-experience. *Second*, face swap news products also adopted the traditional process of news making. Journalists are not only the gatekeepers who set news agendas and plan a news-rich memory show, but also those who rebuilt the memory and contemporary propaganda. *Third*, the interactive and participatory setting of new media products is a crucial tool to connect generations, especially for the young generation to understand and reconstruct the political discourse of the older generation.

## **Submission ID**

1495

## **Better realization of digital platform information transmission: platform information dissemination led by KOL**

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## **Abstract**

**Abstract:**With the development of science and technology, digital platform is more and more widely used in the dissemination of knowledge information. At the same time, with the vigorous development of knowledge payment market, opinion leaders who play an important role in guiding knowledge payment have also attracted people's special attention. The existing research on digital platform is more about the data structure characteristics of cargo anchors in e-commerce platform, but there is no relevant analysis on KOL's output content and data results in knowledge payment platform. Therefore, researchers consider taking NetEase Cloud Classroom platform as an example to analyze KOL's content output and data results.

The problems to be solved in this study are as follows:

Question 1: What are the characteristics of KOL's high-frequency vocabulary in the process of content output on the platform?

Question 2: What factors are closely related to KOL's data results in the platform?

The research mainly adopts the research methods of comparative analysis, questionnaire survey and in-depth interview. In the process of research, data visualization and text visualization technology are used to classify the text content output by KOL according to subjective and objective conditions, and compare and analyze the relevant indicators of different KOLs in live broadcast time, duration, number of viewers and feedback volume, and at the same time, make clear the attitude and choice of users to subjective and objective output content and course viewing situation.

It is found that in addition to objective professional knowledge, the output of text content has the nature of comforting and encouraging subjective words, and the output process has the characteristics of emotional communication. In our investigation, we also found that for some users, spiritual communication exceeds knowledge content itself, and emotional resonance with KOL platform is an important reason for them to choose the platform. However, the professionalism of KOL and the effectiveness of output knowledge affect the number of live viewers and the amount of feedback. This shows that KOL's subjective emotional output can attract more users and broaden the communication field of digital platform, while objective knowledge output is the basis for KOL to keep fans sticky, and it is also the guarantee for digital platform to continuously spread information. KOL can be used as the mouthpiece of digital platform to effectively spread knowledge and information.

**Keywords:** KOL; digital platform; information dissemination ;subjective and objective content

## **Submission ID**

1523

# China's migrating elephants transcend ideological barriers: An environmental news frame analysis of empathic communication on social media

## Authors

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## Abstract

The Chinese unique concept of "ecological civilization" has been caught in an understanding dilemma by media outlets outside China. Due to cognitive differences and stereotyped impressions, it has been misinterpreted as either a propaganda ploy or political rhetoric (Su, 2021). However, in the year 2021, a series of social media-based international coverage on China elephants' migration in the southwestern province of Yunnan changed this situation. By connecting elephants' life with climate events, these coverages and discussions revealed a concrete expression of China's philosophy of "ecological civilization" on international social media platforms.

In April 2021, a herd of 15 elephants started heading north toward some unknown destinations, generating international attention in their journey. The herd was dubbed by internet users as an "elephant tour group" and given human movements and thoughts, forming a unique media landscape of cyber-elephant-watching on the social media platform. This study draws on the theory of empathic communication (Hoffman, 2000; Batson, 1991) and digital public diplomacy (Manor, 2019; Cull, 2011) towards social media news. Twitter is chosen for data collection and analysis mainly because it has emerged as a vital tool for climate change communication (Kim, 2018).

The main research questions of this paper to pose are: (1) what news frames are used in the discussion of China's migrating elephants on Twitter and (2) how do the news frames enhance the effect of empathic communication?

Methodologically speaking, this study applies Natural Language Processing approaches including the LDA topic model and sentiment analysis. "Yunnan Elephant" and "China Elephant" are utilized as the keywords to search on Twitter between May 24, 2021, and October 1, 2021. After retrieving and processing the data, a total of N=2074 reports are chosen as samples. Then the study leverages frame analysis on 20% of the samples and codes manually.

The study finds that (1) the frame of situations initially appeared in the series. This kind of frame objectively showed the anecdotes of elephants and human-elephant interaction through aerial photography, monitoring cameras, and villagers' mobile phones, which helped the audiences establish a close emotional connection with the elephants. (2) After that, the frame of actions and friendship was widely used to highlight the protection of

elephants, so that the audience's affection for elephants can be transformed into recognition of the protection measures taken by Chinese residents. (3)The frame of responsibility gradually increased, which delved more into the climate factors behind elephant migration, highlighted the implementation of sustainable development in southwest China, and explained the country's ecological concept. (4)The frame of issues was occasionally used to infer climate factors behind the migration and to realize the digital supervision of elephant protection by social media users.

Findings show that utilizing empathic symbols such as elephants in the digital communication of ecological news can surmount the constraints of political correctness to a certain extent, and avoid the misinterpreting of framing due to ideological bias. The adorable things that are universally acknowledged in different cultures can raise empathic concern on social media platforms, melting the hard shell of political persuasion and deepening the understanding of national cultural values.

## **Submission ID**

1724

## **Immersive Journalism and New Audience Relationship**

### **Authors**

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### **Abstract**

The paper aims to explore the use of virtual reality (VR) and other immersive technologies such as 360-degree panoramic video, augmented reality (AR) and mixed reality (MR) in journalism and how these technologies offer new forms of storytelling and alter relations between creator/journalist and user/audience. We are going to propose a new analytical model to study different actors in the forming of immersive journalism and its immersive experience through the conceptual lens of Actor-network Theory (ANT). Though ANT is widely criticized as merely descriptive, it is a useful analytical tool with a focus on the connections between both human and non-human entities (Shim & Sin, 2019). This paper argues that technology, producers and users are three important actors that interact with each other in the formation of 'immersion'. VR technology stimulates a virtual scene where users can have a sense of presence. Producers of VR journalism have to re-adjust previous journalism norms and adapt to the technology by employing first-person and subjective narratives. Users have more agency when consuming immersive journalism as they can interact with the new story and experience the story rather than merely reading or watching it. These new practices of immersive journalism have allowed the rise of new journalistic culture characterized with participation and gamification, in which there is a shift of power from journalists to users and a new episteme of fact and experience.

## Submission ID

1773

# The application of nonviolent communication to the news coverage of 'Pet Regret'. A cross-country comparative analysis.

## Authors

Dr. Diana Garrisi - Xi'an Jiaotong - Liverpool University

## Abstract

This paper explores how the principles of Non-Violent Communication (NVC) postulated by Rosenberg (2015) can be integrated into journalism practice by promoting the use of a language that critically informs and engages, without provoking moralistic judgments.

There is a mutual relationship between blame and violence in that judgmentally targeting a certain group for a negative outcome can create resentment toward it, producing even more hostility (Armoudian and Milne, 2021). In the past two years, we have seen how news can aggravate a polarization of attitudes through what Rosenberg calls 'life-alienating communication'. That is a form of reporting that 'alienates us from our natural state of compassion' and deploys evaluations that infer 'wrongness or badness on the part of people who don't act in harmony with our values.' Using as analytic categories the four components of NVC (observations, feelings, needs, and requests) and drawing on Levinas' ethical theory of responsible communication, I will conduct a narrative and stylistic analysis of the news coverage of a worldwide phenomenon called by the press 'Pet Regret'. Many of the millions of pets that were taken home during lockdown to cope with restrictions and isolation, are now being abandoned in the street or handed over shelters. It is happening everywhere in the world, but I will be focusing on mainstream news-outlets from three different countries, China, the UK, and Italy, to enable a cross-case comparison in order to identify continuities and ruptures between three significantly different reporting styles, and between three countries with different animal-related values and legislations. I aim to address the following research questions:

- 1) How do the narrative techniques and stylistic devices used to report on 'Pet Regret' convey and can arouse moralistic evaluations?
- 2) Which human needs and feelings are likely to be neglected in the news coverage of 'Pet Regret'?
- 3) What is the relationship between the aspirations of NVC and the news values of 'conflict', 'negativity', and 'positivity' in the news?
- 4) Are there journalistic examples embodying the four components of NVC?

Ultimately, this study aims to bring attention to the human, ethical, and imaginative potentials of journalistic texts to awaken an attitude of non-judgmental attention towards the subjects represented.

## **Submission ID**

1775

# **What happened during the first wave of immersive journalism? European public broadcasters and the experimentation with 360-degree video storytelling**

## **Authors**

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## **Abstract**

In the second half of 2010's media organizations around the world entered a phase of experimentation with virtual reality and 360-degree video technologies, mainly encouraged by the tech hype of the VR industry. During this first wave of immersive experiments in newsrooms, news outlets specially explored the possibilities of the spherical format for non-fiction storytelling, presenting the first-person experience of the events as a differentiating factor compared to other formats. This novel form of representing reality, called immersive journalism, was even used as a sort of competitive edge for positioning in the media market and reaching new audiences.

But now that a new phase of experimentation is beginning due to the emergence of the metaverse and the increasing popularization of augmented reality, it is time to critically review the particularities of the immersive pieces published during the first wave. In particular, this proposal analyses the introduction of 360-degree video into non-fiction production by European public broadcasters during the five-year period 2015-2019. The aim of this research is threefold: to analyze the evolution of the experimentation with the spherical format; to examine the main formal features of the contents published; and to assess the value that immersive video provides to non-fiction storytelling compared to conventional forms. Regarding the methodology, both quantitative and qualitative techniques are combined. On the one hand, a content analysis of a total of 766 360-degree videos was carried out. On the other hand, and aimed at triangulating the results, semi-structured in-depth interviews were conducted with professionals at European public broadcasters, immersive content producers and immersive narrative specialists.

The results show that 360-degree videos were introduced into non-fiction content production as a technological innovation that gave way to a new way of presenting reality and bringing users closer to real-world situations. By providing a first-person experience, the aim was to foster a better understanding of complex issues and provide viewers with a bigger picture of a particular reality. However, most of the pieces did not respond to the

specificities that both the immersive language and narrative demand, so that broadcasters failed to exploit the potential of the format to generate sense of presence. Moreover, there was a drop in interest in the format after the boom in 2016, which intensified over the years. In this regard, three main challenges compromise the viability of this immersive storytelling in newsrooms: the absence of a sustainable business model, the low penetration of VR viewers in households and the impossibility of reaching the general public.

## **Submission ID**

1803

# **Self-Positioning and Differential Competition: An Empirical Study of Journalism Students' Pre-socialization Process in a Chinese Non-elite University**

## **Authors**

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## **Abstract**

In 2017, the Chinese government officially implemented the “Double First-Class” initiative, targeting at developing selected universities and disciplines into the world first-class universities as well as first-class disciplines in the world. With the aim of cultivating a group of core majors in key universities, educational resources would be inevitably skewed toward the elite students. It does, in fact, provide a lens through which to examine the disparities in students' pre-socialization processes in “layered” undergraduate education (pre-socialization process in this study refers to the course in which students get their perceptions of the society and profession before they take jobs at the workplace).

Though many studies have examined how journalism students plan their career paths, how they view their careers, and how university education influences their worldviews, few have looked into the critical role of school rankings and the quality of school education in these processes. According to an implicit elitist perspective, different colleges and universities follow virtually the same pedagogical paradigm, impart similar views of media professionalism, and prepare their students for potentially homogeneous journalism practices in the future. However, even within the same cultural and social environment, the pre-socialization process of journalism students varies greatly due to differences in university education. For example, in China, many studies on journalism students' professional identities have focused on top universities in the field of journalism and communication, while non-elite universities and average students are rarely mentioned.

This study takes a mixed-methods design including cyber ethnography, in-depth interviews, and policy analysis to study 15 journalism-majored senior students at W University in X Province, South-east China, between October 2021 and January 2022. W University and its journalism department are not included in the “Double First-Class” initiative. So the journalism department at W University has no competitive advantages compared to leading universities in terms of teachers, curricula design, and financial investment.

Therefore, this study proposes four factors that influence the process of pre-socialization: internship opportunities, peer influences, teacher and tutor guidance, and curricula setting, hypothesizing that all these factors would contribute to the development of their career imagination and career planning. After testing the hypotheses, this study accepts all the above hypotheses and concludes that during the pre-socialization process, journalism students in non-elite Chinese universities would dynamically modify their self-expectations to differentiate themselves from other journalism students and position themselves in the journalistic profession. These findings prove the evident influence that university-based factors could exert on students’ career imagination and perception, and suggest strategies for non-elite universities to propel their quality development.

## **Submission ID**

1860

# **EXPLORING THE ATTITUDE OF TANZANIAN JOURNALISTS TO CITIZEN JOURNALISM**

## **Authors**

Prof. Eno Akpabio - University of Namibia

Mrs. Shekha Ally Hussein - University of Dar es Salaam

## **Abstract**

Citizen journalism has emerged as an empowerment tool to ordinary citizens who are now capable of gathering and disseminating information on Blogs, Facebook, Twitter, You Tube and other platforms sometimes in direct competition to professionally trained journalists and in other instances complementing their efforts.

These developments, has led the Tanzania Media Fund to posit that

an alternative space for journalism has emerged. The increasing popularity of social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter and the success of Jamii Forums and bloggers such as Issa Michuzi, coupled with the growth of mobile phone usage in the country (62% of Tanzanians is [sic] now having household access), point to a huge potential for online and citizen journalism (p.7).

With this premise in mind, this qualitative study explored the attitude of Tanzanian professional journalists to citizen journalism through in-depth interviews with managing editors, news editors and reporters who were purposely chosen from three media houses: The government-owned media *Daily News* and *Habari Leo*, the privately-owned media *The Guardian* and *Nipashe* and cross border ownership - *The Citizen* and *Mwananchi*. The number of study respondents was 24.

The findings revealed that citizen journalism is flourishing in Tanzania. Traditional media, mostly the privately-owned outfits, are incorporating citizen journalism outputs into news routines. In specific terms, citizen journalists provided tips or news ideas which are then developed by professional journalists into fully-fledged news stories while taking into consideration news values and ethics; made available news worthy information from localities not covered by media professionals and impacted newspapers' content much more than radio and television.

Based on the increasingly important roles played by citizen journalists across the world, it is recommended that their outputs be embraced by Tanzanian media, including government-owned entities that seem to have no interests in citizen journalism, if citizens are to be kept abreast of daily intelligence.

## **Submission ID**

1870

# **From AI Anchor to Anchor Avatar: The Imagination of Journalism in Metaverse**

## **Authors**

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## **Abstract**

The AI technology has become a necessity to open the metaverse or a mixed world of future virtual reality or a Mirror World named by Kevin Kelly. Meanwhile, the wide application of the AI technology in journalism also points to a new direction for its future development. Kevin Kelly first redefined the meta verse as a mirror world in his lecture "Mirror Worlds: Imagining the Future of the Internet", in which he regarded the future of the Internet as a hybrid virtual reality platform that could provide immersive experiences for human avatars. He proposed that :(1) The mirror world is a larger concept than the meta verse, which is a hybrid world with the real world superimposed on the virtual world; (2) Any substance in the real world has a corresponding digital avatar with connected device connecting the mirror world; and (3) Avatars will become platforms for human interaction and the most important future social device. The penetration of AI technology has helped journalism make a front attempt in the news ecology constructed by virtual reality technology, but how to deal with the news practice and news ecology of the mirror world in

the future remains to be further explored. This study will adopt the method of field investigation, take Y news program of X TV station as the investigation sample, and follow up to investigate the group of 20 news anchors. If AI anchor is the presettings for news anchor Avatar's news practice in the mirror world in the future, then this study will try to discuss (1) whether news anchor Avatar's practical subjectivity exists ethically and work legally in the mirror world where the virtual and the real world blended . (2) How should news anchors make news and tell stories in the metaverse , namely according to Kevin Kelly, the future Mirror World?

## **Submission ID**

1954

# **Immersing formats – productional characteristics of immersive journalism and their ethical challenges**

## **Authors**

Mr. Lukas Kick - University of Passau

## **Abstract**

Since roughly a decade immersive media is used in journalistic contexts and created a broad variety of products. With these new technologies also came new storytelling possibilities, that emerged from the increased importance of emotion and empathy within immersive contents (Constine, 2015). On the one side this potential for storytelling of immersive journalism results from the technical specialities of virtual and augmented environments and on the other side from the narrative options due to new perspectives audiences can be placed in (Bailenson, 2018, pp.83-84). But despite immersive contents being increasingly present in the media landscape, ethical considerations that cope with the technological requirements and the emerging display formats are quite underrepresented in the current discourse.

This lack of a discussion about ethical aspects in the context of immersive content production leads to new challenges regarding journalistic core values and expectations on news reporting. These arise from the technological specialities of virtual and augmented realities, ranging from capturing techniques to post-production processes (Doyle, Gelman & Gill, 2016, p.22). Furthermore, the peculiarities of immersive technologies often are contradictory to existing practical guidelines and reference frameworks for journalists, due to their interference with ethical concepts of post-production in non-digital media forms. A comparable development of ethical guidelines can be seen in digital photojournalism. Here, the necessary technical processing steps result in contradictions to the applied standards of image- and photojournalism regarding the aspects of image editing and the manipulation of content. Hence, existing guidelines reach their limits when it comes to covering the demands of new digital photography technologies (Godulla, 2014. pp.407-408). This lack of the integration of modern technology and their production-related

necessities into existing frameworks also becomes apparent in relation to immersive contents, especially in VR.

To outline the ethical guidelines, that need to be extended in order to incorporate adequate considerations regarding immersive production processes and to further concretise the challenges that emerge from creating new virtual storytelling formats, the potential areas of concern are discussed on basis of the German Press Code. In detail, the guidelines are analysed and discussed by their potential reference points for media-ethical extensions with special regard to the technological challenges of immersive productions. In particular, the focus lies on the aspects of truthfulness, sensationalism and diligence contained in the German Press Code. Due to a still strong print-oriented approach of the guidelines of the German Press Code, it serves as a perfect example for extending reference points with technical requirements, without neglecting the essential core values of journalistic self-perception included.

In summary this article argues for broadening up the ethical debate on the display formats of immersive journalism. Especially, the technical necessities of virtual and augmented realities have to be further included in considerations of future guidelines in order to enable journalists to produce immersive contents in accordance to central journalistic values and ethical quality standards .

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## **Submission ID**

1980

# **Journalistic Professionalism in COVID-19 reports:A comparison between China, United States ,Britain and Japan**

## **Authors**

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## **Abstract**

COVID-19 has rapidly progressed to become a global pandemic, causing unprecedented, far-reaching impact on the health, social and economic well-being of communities around the world. In the management of the COVID-19 pandemic, the media has played an important role. A reliance on news media for communication is an expected and deliberate component of a pandemic response (US HHS, 2018). Under the normalization of epidemic prevention and control, the media can help the public establish the concept of prevention, improve health awareness, and innovate hygiene habits. In the early stage of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the reports of the national mainstream media provided first-hand information for the public to understand the COVID-19 pandemic, and also affected the attitude and behavior of the government and the public towards the COVID-19 pandemic.

Most of the previous studies compared reports published in two media, and their research methods were mostly discourse analysis based on corpora or databases. They examine the performance of journalism specialization in media operations in different countries from historical and practical perspectives through case studies. The heterogenization of news forms and practices arising with digital media further strains claims to professionalism (Robinson, 2007). The selected research contents are mostly specific events or report types, or typical media are selected, focusing on analyzing their comment systems, content discourse, etc., in order to analyze the follow or deviation of these news reports from the professionalism of news.

For these reasons, this research explores the professionalism and due diligence of different mainstream media in news reporting. We take The People's Daily, The New York Times, The Times, and The Asahi Shimbun as the paper objects. We selected all the reports on the new crown epidemic published by 4 media within two months since the notification of the epidemic (2020.01.03). Discourse analysis has been chosen as the research method. The ideological differences behind different media are revealed by analyzing the discourse characteristics and evaluation tendencies of the samples.

This paper finds that the relevant reports of the 4 media are influenced by cultural background, political position and ideology, which deviated from the professionalism of journalism to a certain extent. The purpose is to call on news practitioners to carry forward the professionalism of news, improve the standard of media news business, and provide new ideas for the development of the news industry.

Keywords: Journalistic Professionalism, COVID-19, Discourse Analysis, Mainstream Media, Comparative Study

## **Submission ID**

2121

# How mentors train journalism students through online internships during a pandemic: A mixed methods study from the Philippines

## Authors

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## Abstract

Journalism internships —operationalized during periods of normalcy and physical mobility— immerse students with real-world journalistic work and its dynamics. However, the running COVID-19 pandemic and its corollary mobility restrictions have forced the conduct of virtual or online internships by the news media industry and by journalism schools. Studies done during both pre-pandemic and during the pandemic periods show that interns and employers are inclined to prefer virtual internships because of reduced expenses and costs from both sides. Questions are raised, however, if the online internship arrangement assures the delivery of proper reportorial and editorial training of these upstart journalists (like the usual face-to-face internship). Online internships also remain a barren research topic in journalism studies, as well as in other professions and their corresponding disciplines.

This mixed methods research project from the Philippines seeks to determine how online internship arrangements occur, and how does such approach see Filipino journalism students acquire technical and soft skills in news work. Employing the convergent mixed methods design, researchers will combine quantitative data coming from the numeric assessments of student performances found in internship evaluation forms, and qualitative data coming from students' reflection papers and from key informant interviews with at least ten mentors from news outlets. Students from a journalism school in the Philippines, who took their internships starting academic year 2020-2021 (since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic on 11 March 2020), are covered by this research.

Data will then be analyzed through the following: [*quantitative*] partial least squares – structural equation modeling (PLS-SEM), and [*qualitative*] thematic analysis of interview answers and of significant statements from students' reflection papers. After individual quantitative and qualitative analyses are done, both sets of data will be integrated through joint display tables. Mixed methods results and findings to be derived from this project strive to provide preliminary lessons and documentation on online journalism internships that became a staple fare to countries with on-and-off mobility restrictions that the pandemic wrought.

Keywords journalism internships, online internships, COVID-19 pandemic, news work

mixed methods, technical and soft skills.

## **Submission ID**

2131

# **Misinformation in the mobile environment. A comparative analysis of Spain, the United States, Brazil and India**

## **Authors**

Dr. Laura Alonso-Muñoz - Universitat Jaume I

Prof. Andreu Casero-Ripollés - Universitat Jaume I

## **Abstract**

Misinformation has become one of the most important problems in modern societies, especially after the health crisis caused by covid-19. In this context, social media and mobile instant messaging services have played a fundamental role, becoming the main stage for fabricated information, picture manipulations, or decontextualized information. Although misinformation is a global phenomenon, some research has found that there are differences among countries. The objective of this research is to know the type of misinformation that has been shared on social media and mobile instant messaging services during the last twelve months in the four countries with the highest penetration rate of these digital platforms. To do this, a quantitative approach is used based on the online survey technique, which was launched through Qualtrics in July 2021 and answered by 2,803 citizens residing in Spain, the United States, Brazil, and India. Data shows that the frequency of receiving fake news has been especially high in Brazil and India, where more than half of those surveyed acknowledge having received this type of information more than once a week. In these two countries, along with Spain, those related to covid-19 stand out, especially in vaccines, the origins of the virus, the cure, and the situation in the country. In contrast, in the United States, most of the hoaxes that are shared through digital platforms refer to technology, such as 5G, and the health consequences that it entails. When asked about the type of misinformation they received, respondents from all countries mainly pointed to exaggeration based on truthful data, decontextualization and manipulation of audiovisual content. Finally, when asked about the best formula to fight against misinformation, the citizens of the four countries point to the verification agencies as essential agents. However, the data allows us to verify how in India they believe that the government's action plans, as well as the creation of laws that penalize this type of content, are useful and reliable resources to combat this phenomenon. In this sense, it is striking how American citizens consider the conventional media to be very unreliable sources in the fight against misinformation. These findings have allowed us to know how misinformation has been received through social media and mobile instant messaging services in four countries, as well as to observe common patterns among them regarding this phenomenon.

This work is funded by the *Direcció General de Ciència i Investigació* of the Generalitat Valenciana under the project with reference AICO/2021/063.

## Submission ID

2132

# Diversity: a journalistic (re)construction of a public issue in the Belgian francophone media

## Authors

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## Abstract

In the past few years, the concept of diversity became widespread in the Western world. Its polysemy and vague referent (i.e., the social phenomenon it refers to) has not prevented the word to become a keyword in rich countries, characterised by the acknowledgment of a postcolonial society and the coexistence of ethnic minorities. In the French field of discourse analysis, it has been noted that the word behaves like a fuzzy expression that condenses complex social issues that the word *per se* helps to shape. In a social context where different interests, power relations and strategies « have made its use necessary and at the same time problematic » (Maingueneau 2014: 98), the word *diversity* is manipulated « in political and social discourse without ever being explicitly defined » (Devriendt 2012).

Belgium has embraced diversity, a concept that we can easily find in the media as in political discourse, even if it has no clear meaning (Senac 2012; Devriendt 2012). In the francophone Belgium, the idea of diversity emerged at the beginning of the century under the influence of American management, but also in a context where international organizations (mainly the UN and the EU) advocated for the promotion of cultural diversity and the end of ethnic discrimination (Mathien 2013; Sholomon-Kornblit 2018; Senac 2012). In the post-multiculturalism era, diversity seeks to engage with the cultural complexities of ethnic identities, while rejecting communitarian multiculturalism (Hall 1991, Titley 2014).

In the Belgian political agenda, diversity appeared alongside the concept of equal opportunities in the last twenty years, as a follow-up to migrant integration and ethnic and racial discrimination (Adam 2006; Tandé 2013). According to some scholars, the reformulation of the public problem of discrimination into diversity led to a depoliticization of the issue (Tandé 2013). In this communication, we seek to explore how diversity arose as a public issue in the media, competing with and reconstructing other public issues (Cefai 1996). To achieve this goal, we will collect a corpus of the three main francophone newspapers from the year 2000 onwards, using the keyword *diversity* (7 million words). This large corpus will be analyzed using a mix of discourse analysis and corpus linguistics,

a mixed methodology that can help observing under which social conditions a lexical shift occurs (Calabrese & Mistiaen 2017). Through the observation of frequencies, the concordance tool and co-occurrences, we will show how diversity was gradually constructed in newspapers as a public issue, namely a social problem seeking for solutions involving public authorities.

## **Submission ID**

2150

# **Seeking Inspiration in Similarities and Differences : A Comparative Study on Reporting Frame of “Vaccine Hesitancy” Related Coverage Posted on Social Media Between Chinese and American Mainstream Media**

## **Authors**

Ms. Lou Yiran - Communication University of China

## **Abstract**

In this era when vaccination against COVID-19 has become relatively commonplace, “Vaccine Hesitancy” remains an important issue faced by countries around the world (Shi, 2021), introducing the research and exploration of “Vaccine Hesitancy” stepping in the stage of rapid development and improvement at the moment. According to the analyzing results of the core database of *web of science* through *CiteSpace*, The United States takes the leading position in the research field of “Vaccine Hesitancy”, with its literature contribution accounting for 42.2%, and China, as the largest developing country, ranks seventh (4.8%) (Zhang, 2022). In the meanwhile, the research directions in this field are extensive, distributed in many disciplines including basic medicine, clinical medicine, public health and psychology, etc. However, although mainstream media in various counties, as a bearer of health knowledge as well as setter of public agenda, plays a vital role in constructing public cognition of vaccines, literature covering the research direction of journalism and communication in the field of “Vaccine Hesitancy” can be counted on one’s fingers, making it a lonely land, waiting to be cultivated by scholars. This paper attempts to make a comparative analysis of the reporting framework of posts on COVID-19 vaccination hesitancy published by mainstream media in China and the United States on social media platforms, in order to fill in the gap of relevant research, and provide a springboard for a useful reference for mainstream media to improve their reporting strategies when dealing with COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy.

In the study, the reports on COVID-19 vaccination hesitancy published by mainstream media in China and the US on social media platforms are taken as the research object, further, relevant contents posted by *People’s Daily* on Weibo and those posted by *the New York Times* on Twitter, during January 30, 2021 to December 31, 2021 are selected as

research samples. From the perspective of framing theory, this paper seeks to explore the similarities and differences between *People's Daily* and *The New York Times* in their reporting frameworks for “vaccine hesitation” on social media, and then summarize the characteristics of their framing, by means of comprehensively applying statistical method, content analysis, text analysis in describing, comparing, and analyzing the selected research samples from five aspects (theme framework, report form, report title, report content and report language). For instance, the study finds that in terms of report content, *People's Daily* weighs timely reporting the overall COVID-19 vaccination situation of the Chinese people through clear and continuously-updated data more, while *The New York Times* pays more attention to showing the specific process of certain celebrities' attitude towards vaccines from resistance to acceptance; in terms of the report language, *People's Daily's* posts against COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy are more soft and euphemistic, featuring that only 2 articles in the whole year directly contained the word “vaccine hesitancy”, while *The New York Times* is more direct, with five of its stories headlined “vaccine hesitancy”... Based on the above, this paper further reflects on the shortcomings of mainstream media in China and the US in their COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy related coverage posted on social media platforms, such as the limited clarification effect of false information, and it also provided with suggestion on optimizing the framework for mainstream media to use social media platforms to publish reports on COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy.

## **Submission ID**

2177

## **Main effects and side effects: Rethinking the emerging concept of constructive journalism**

### **Authors**

Ms. Wei Lin - Tsinghua university

### **Abstract**

The concept of constructive journalism was first proposed in a news review in Denmark, and then was tested in several empirical studies on topics including climate change, homeless people, urban transformation (K. E. McIntyre, 2015), Ebola (Zhang & matingwina, 2016) and reconstruction in Rwanda (K. McIntyre & Sobel, 2018). After reviewing the relevant terms like action journalism, positive journalism, peace journalism, development journalism (Chang & Tian, 2020), researchers conclude that constructive journalism is not a single concept, but an umbrella-like concept (K. McIntyre & Gyldensted, 2018) summarized along with the journey of journalism practice. There are two main operational strategies in practice: From the perspective of news frame, constructive journalists adopt a solution frame instead of a catastrophic frame (Baden, McIntyre, & Homberg, 2019). From the perspective of reporting tone, a negative tone of criticism is

replaced by a positive one to convey a sense of meaning, accomplishment, and vision for the future.

This study designs a two (with / without a solution frame) by three (positive / negative / neutral tone as the reporting strategy) between-subjects experiment to examine media effects of constructive news. It is found that either a positive strategy or a solution frame makes readers feel better, show higher news engagement and prosocial intention, which correspond to previous studies. However, the side effect of constructive news should not be neglected. Individuals' perception of risk in the face of the global public health crisis has decreased. Weak risk perception means the wane of the media role as the watchman who monitor the environment. Additionally, trust of government is an important moderator between constructive news and positive emotion. The positive strategy cannot significantly evoke positive emotion of an individual with low level of government trust.

To summarize, the constructive role of media has been added to the widely accepted normative roles of the press in Anglo-Saxon journalistic norms and practices (Aitamurto & Varma, 2018). This study takes the issue of COVID-19 to examine the practice of constructive journalism in China, a developing country empirically to expand the discussion, and aims to provide a critical view of this emerging concept in non-Western contexts. This study critically tests both main effects about creating a more positive experience for the public and side effects about risk perception of constructive journalism to depict its fulfillment of media roles.

## **Submission ID**

2221

# **MPS Overview - Scoping a new research agenda to address contemporary challenges and risks to journalists**

## **Authors**

Dr. Sara Torsner - The University of Sheffield

## **Abstract**

News plays a key role in shaping global culture by “providing the technological and cultural framework for the connectivity, positive or negative, without which the globe would be merely a shadow” (Silverstone 2007:10). In shaping the global order, news journalism itself and the communicative capacity it has to support an inclusive global civil society is conditioned both by shifting modalities in the global order as well as localised developments within nation states. This communicative capacity of news journalism is constantly challenged through various socio-political, cultural and economic developments, sometimes referred to as a “multi-faceted crisis” (Waisbord 2018) in which news journalism faces: “a geopolitical crisis (due to the aggressiveness of oppressive authoritarian regimes); a technological crisis (due to a lack of democratic guarantees); a democratic

crisis (due to polarisation and repressive policies); a crisis of trust (due to suspicion and even hatred of the media); and an economic crisis (impoverishing quality journalism)” (Reporters Without Borders 2020).

With the COVID-19 pandemic news journalism has experienced intensified precarity as increasingly unsafe conditions have emerged through a combination of developments such as rising targeted attacks on journalists (Torsner 2022); the continued formalised repression and restriction of critical news coverage by governments (Harrison and Torsner 2021); and the rise of disinformation which is strategically used for political and polarising purposes to undermine trust in journalism. What these trends signify is “that journalism is becoming more and more a contested domain and space for struggle over information, ideology and politics” (Matar 2021).

Against this background there is a renewed urgency for communication scholars and policy makers to develop new directions of research and research agendas to better understand how the ever-evolving communicative conditions within which news journalism is practised generate conditions of unsafety for journalists. And relatedly, to understand how such precarity plays out in a differentiated manner in its manifestation, scale and intensity, across different societal contexts.

This multi-paper session identifies emerging areas of research and supports the continued conceptual and empirical reorientation of communication research to contribute towards evidence-based understandings of evolving risks to journalistic practice.

Paper 1. Understanding journalistic precarity via a typology of the civil-communicative conditions of journalism, Jackie Harrison and Sara Torsner, University of Sheffield, UK

Paper 2. Can journalists be safe?, Silvio Waisbord, George Washington University, US

Paper 3. Contemporary risks and online violence against diaspora Journalism: The case of Arab Journalists in the UK, Rana Arafat & Zahera Harb, Department of Journalism, City, University of London, UK

Paper 4. Threats to journalists from the consumer Internet of Things, Anjuli R. K. Shere\*, University of Oxford, Jason R. C Nurse, University of Kent, Andrew P. Martin, University of Oxford, UK

## **Submission ID**

2255

## **MPS paper - Understanding journalistic precarity via a typology of the civil-communicative conditions of journalism**

### **Authors**

Dr. Sara Torsner - University of Sheffield

## **Abstract**

This paper posits that news journalism has a communicative capacity to sustain a shared associative and communicative civil life by fostering the ideal of solidarising inclusion. Through this communicative capacity, news journalism can support common meaning making and the forming of shared objectives among members of society (Silverstone 2004). We argue however that this capacity - or civil role - of news journalism (Harrison 2019) is always precariously undertaken and vulnerable to various forms of anti-civil power that endangers the free and independent undertaking of news journalism by occasioning circumstances of civil diminishment. Such civil diminishment of news journalism occurs when various forms of anti-civil power, for instance via the state or market, is illegitimately exercised in ways that restrict or repress the civil role of news journalism (Torsner forthcoming). This paper develops an approach to understand how risk to the civil role of news journalism is evolving and how it is manifest within different types of societal contexts and conditions. The evolving precarity to journalism is explored in this paper via a proposed new typology identifying four types of communicative environments that capture the range of communicative circumstances within which news journalism is practised and is exposed to different forms of civil diminishment. These four types of communicative conditions are: agonistic pluralism (a communicative environment grounded in respectful contestation in accordance with principles of agonistic pluralism that promises to regulate relationships between adversaries not enemies); antagonism (a communicative environment disfigured by contentious relationships that display hostility and enmity (respectful contestation begins to break down)); repression (a communicative environment restrained, limited and subdued due to pervasive antagonism resulting in irreconcilable hostility, enmity and conflict (respectful contestation has broken down)); and authoritarianism (a communicative environment that is subjugated and dominated and where respectful contestation has been eliminated). Each of these different types of communicative environments determine the scale and intensity of civil diminishment that news journalism, and by extension civil associative life face. These four types represent the dominant features of a given communicative environment as well as the potentially diverse nature of communicative conditions that can occur within a given context and which can over time move in any direction and can thereby enhance or reduce journalistic precarity.

## **Submission ID**

2271

## **MPS paper - Can journalists be safe?**

## **Authors**

Prof. Silvio Waisbord - George Washington University

Dr. Sara Torsner - University of Sheffield

### **Abstract**

Anti-press violence is not exceptional, even in countries that generally receive high marks on press freedom. It is not limited to journalists who cover certain news beats. As a rich literature demonstrates, violence, especially online, is constant, particularly for certain groups of journalists (e.g. women, minorities) who are constantly harassed. In this paper I suggest that anti-press violence raises difficult challenges for which we don't have proven, effective solutions. My interest is to analyze the broad phenomenon of anti-press violence and safety amid the worsening conditions for press freedom around the world. Instead of focusing on a particular case, my focus is on laying out an analytical framework to examine violence against journalists as a global phenomenon. I take a comprehensive understanding of violence as the transgression of expected behavioral norms that cause harm and drive censorship. The study of anti-press violence should not be limited to physical violence. My argument is that journalists cannot be safe, if by safety we understand a complete sense of protection from risks through complete control of work and life conditions. Absolute safety is unattainable especially given three conditions: the weakness or the absence of a strong, well-defined social contract about the press as a public good; a digital public life without communication guardrails; and the prominent public position of journalists, especially online. Given these conditions, it comes to no surprise that journalists hold differentiated expectations about the possibility of safety. Consequently, communication scholars as well as a future research agenda on the safety of journalists need to take a comprehensive understanding of violence and to critically engage with the possibility of safety in various contexts. While identifying and pursuing safe practices is necessary, espousing a maximalist conception of safety seems problematic, for it fails to recognize broad and fundamental communicative, social and political conditions that shape current conditions for journalistic practice.

### **Submission ID**

2281

## **Appeasement and Personification: Analysis of Chinese National News Program's Short Video Column Anchor Says News on the Coverage of COVID-19 Pandemic**

### **Authors**

Mr. Aocheng Zhou - Communication University of China

### **Abstract**

Traditional mainstream media face changes and innovations with the advent of the Internet era and the development of new media technologies. Therefore, they need to accelerate their construction on new media platforms to ensure efficient communication and effective

influence in major emergencies. In such a context, China's most influential TV news program, *CCTV News*, which is owned by China Central Television (CCTV), has also built on itself and relied on its new media center to launch a short video program, *Anchor Says News*, on July 29, 2019. This program played an important role in relation to news dissemination and social stability during the COVID-19 pandemic. In this paper, we will try to analyze the features of *Anchor Says News* in terms of framework and expression by comparing it with *CCTV News*, and further explore the reasons why this short video program was able to gain a lot of attention during the epidemic.

News frames determine the salience of news and people's perception of the world (Entman, 1993), and they depend on the media. In turn, personified representations are built on certain forms of media, which can also differ through the specific use of communication symbols (Chen Zuoping, 2011). *Anchor Says News* mainly involves additions and commentary to the content of the same day's *CCTV News*, with the two programs sharing the exact same host. A comparison of the two programs reveals different content frameworks and forms of expression in different media. This study collected a total of 219 short videos about the epidemic from January 21, 2020 (the first report on COVID-19) to January 21, 2022 from the column *Anchor Says News* on Bilibili platform, as well as the reports on epidemic of the program *CCTV News* of the corresponding day from the official website. This study used content analysis to analyze the collected reports of the two programs in terms of both the reporting framework and expression.

The study found that firstly, the content framework of *Anchor Says News* played a pacifying role during the COVID-19 pandemic. In terms of issue frames, the topics of *Anchor Says News* mainly concerned government and community responses and actions, role model stories of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, and daily measures to prevent the epidemic. However, the topics of *CCTV News* are mainly about the situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, government response policies and actions, and global outbreak developments and international assistance. In addition, *Anchor Says News* has obvious personality features in its presentation compared to *CCTV News*, mainly in four aspects: language rhetoric, language style, physical action and visual style. The communication effect is measured by the number of likes and plays, and it is further found that the higher the degree of personification in terms of language, the better the communication effect of short videos. Finally, this study analyzes the communication strategy of *Anchor Says News* from the perspective of the medium and offers opinions for its coverage of disaster events and major public health emergencies.

## **Submission ID**

2286

# **MPS paper - Contemporary risks and online violence against diaspora journalism: The case of Arab journalists in the UK**

## **Authors**

Dr. Rana Arafat - City, University of London

Dr. Zahera Harb - City, University of London

Dr. Sara Torsner - University of Sheffield

## **Abstract**

Journalists are a “threatened species” who encounter forms of physical security risks, internet surveillance, and malicious digital attacks in their daily practice (Di Salvo, 2021; Høiby & Ottosen, 2019). The economic hardship, increasing rates of job cuts, and lack of job safety are also serious challenges influencing the work routine of journalists (Harb, 2018). Despite enjoying the privilege of distance and operating far from their homelands, diaspora journalists experience forms of transnational repression and adopt various counterstrategies to overcome it. For example, the Syrian diaspora journalists created digital advocacy networks to protect, mentor, and defend the local journalistic community in their war-torn home country serving four novel journalistic roles: sousveillance, defender, trainer, and regulator/policy developer (Porlezza & Arafat, 2021, p.1). Although literature has focused primarily on examining threats (Ristow 2011; Wojcieszak et al., 2013), the counterstrategies taken by the diaspora media outlets to promote physical and digital safety remain insufficiently researched.

This paper aims to examine the various physical, digital, and economic threats that challenge the work of Arab diaspora journalists in the UK and the measures taken by newsrooms to protect their diaspora journalists as well as their local reporters and fixers in the Arab region. In so doing, the paper maps out how those threats differ within different political structures across the region giving a special attention to investigating the forms online trolling, violence, and hate speech diaspora journalists experience because of the political affiliations of their news organizations and if and how they restrict their daily news work. To achieve this, the study draws upon 30 in-depth interviews with journalists working in three Arab diaspora media outlets in the UK: The Saudi-affiliated Asharq Al-Awsat, Emirati-affiliated Alghad, and Qatari-affiliated Al Arabi Al Jadeed websites. Moving the scholarly discussion forward, the paper engages with new directions of research in the field of journalism and news safety suggesting to extend the future research agenda to include the online and offline safety of diaspora journalists (migrants and exiled) and their local counterparts.

## **Submission ID**

2289

# **MPS paper - Threats to journalists from the consumer Internet of Things**

## **Authors**

Ms. Anjali Shere - University of Oxford

Dr. Jason R. C. Nurse - University of Kent

Prof. Andrew P. Martin - University of Oxford

Dr. Sara Torsner - University of Sheffield

## **Abstract**

Often touted in the media as the next great technological trend, the consumer Internet of Things (IoT) market has seen rapid growth in recent years, with devices becoming increasingly prevalent in public spaces, private places and even on bodies. The general security ramifications of this expansion have been widely discussed; however, there are few user-specific assessments of privacy and security threats that can be enacted using IoT devices, and none relating to journalists. Threats associated with the consumer IoT may particularly inhibit the work and wellbeing of journalists, especially because of the imperative to protect confidential sources. These issues may have knock-on effects on societal stability and democratic processes if press freedom is eroded. Still, journalists remain unaware of potential IoT threats, and so are unable to incorporate them into risk assessments or to advise their sources. This shows a clear gap in the research, requiring immediate attention.

Extensive risk assessments are of particular importance to the media industry, as state-affiliated cyber attackers are increasingly targeting journalists. As journalists are already highly targeted, any interaction that they may have with the consumer IoT creates a concerning expansion of their attack surface. Comprehensive risk assessments cannot be carried out without accurate threat modelling that facilitates prioritisation of security strategies and techniques.

This paper identifies and organizes distinctive and novel threats to journalism from the consumer IoT by synthesising relevant literature across a range of disciplines and media. It presents threat scenarios in which the consumer IoT could be used to harm press freedom, mainly by attacking journalists' work and wellbeing. These scenarios were thematically coded and analysed, to cluster and classify consumer IoT threats to privacy and security, as well as journalists' concerns. This formed our novel taxonomy, structured into five overarching categories: (1) stealing information, (2) tracking journalists, (3) altering information, (4) co-opting the functionalities of a device to threaten journalists' credibility or physical security, and (5) limiting device functionality. Each delineates a kind of IoT threat that has the potential to hamper journalistic work, with scenarios that describe how these threats might affect the press. This new IoT threat taxonomy is designed such

that the designated categories accommodate existing and future challenges and explore their impacts and implications for the media, to increase understanding of the societal effects of surveillance and kinetic threats to journalists from these communication technologies. Furthermore, these categories allow for continual updating as threats to journalists from new technologies are constantly evolving.

Far from being conceptual black swan scenarios, these threats are clearly feasible given today's IoT capabilities and the motivations of the highly resourced attackers who are likely to be targeting journalists. Additionally, given the prevalence and perceived inescapability of the consumer IoT, these threats against journalists are growing. It is therefore important for communication scholarship to address the contemporary and emerging risks to journalism that are associated with connected devices. This taxonomy enables the evidence-based conceptual evolution of communication research to facilitate novel understandings of technological risks to journalists.

## **Submission ID**

2300

# **Adaptation to WhatsApp among journalists in Bolivia: Ambivalent implications of professionalization and qualification**

## **Authors**

Dr. Victor Quintanilla - Universidad Iberoamericana

## **Abstract**

Although there are numerous academic efforts aimed at understanding the impact of technology on journalism, they tend to show little interest in contexts other than Western ones and to privilege the analysis of some factors over others. Faced with these and other gaps, the purpose of this article is to examine -in a comprehensive and multidimensional way- what the inclusion of digital platforms, especially WhatsApp, in their newsgathering processes implies for the professionalization and qualification of Bolivian journalists. Our argumentative basis is that innovation implies for journalists processes of individual and collective adaptation to the use of technology. In addition, we highlight the complex environment in which reporters negotiate access to news information and in which they interact in different ways and with different organizational logics. The analysis is framed within a sociological perspective that conceives journalists as members of a particular and changing occupational community, allowing us to understand how they work together with their sources and colleagues to carry out journalism (Dickinson, 2007). This approach makes it possible to incorporate sociological debates about general trends affecting other occupations (Örnebring, 2009), including the de-skilling and/or re-skilling of the workforce. It is a view that builds bridges between the notions of journalism as a profession and as an

occupational practice. The methodological approach is that of qualitative research, based on semi-structured interviews with 26 journalists from the main cities of Bolivia and on participant observation of the interactions they have with each other and with their sources on WhatsApp. Based on the proposal of a model of analysis of technological innovation in journalistic environments, the findings show that technology is not a force in itself, but rather that it is shaped by the concrete realities in which it is inserted. Thus, technological innovation translates for journalists in Bolivia into the simultaneous occurrence of processes of de-professionalization, de-skilling, professionalization and re-qualification, phenomena that depend on the negotiation of news with different organizational logics, as well as on factors internal and external to journalism.

## **Submission ID**

2305

# **Unboxing Journalistic AI: Understanding Algorithmic News Distribution in Chinese Newsrooms**

## **Authors**

Ms. Joanne Kuai - Karlstad University

## **Abstract**

Worldwide, AI and algorithms in news media has been adopted in the whole news value chain (Diakopoulos, 2019; Marconi, 2020; Newman, 2021) with the expectation that such journalism innovation would enhance production efficiency, cut newsroom costs and free journalists to do more meaningful and profound work and aid journalistic practices in various ways. However, many questions remain in our interrogation of the crucial role that AI and algorithms play in the information ecosystem, our everyday life and in our society in general (Bucher, 2018; Gillespie, 2014; Pasquale, 2015).

With AI's expected transformative power to our society and its revolutionizing power over journalism, how the technology is being used in Chinese newsrooms is worth further scrutiny, as China promotes its own global alternative to liberal democracy. China is one of the key players in adopting AI-powered technologies in its newsrooms. One of the most important ways in which AI has the potential to override the values of journalism is the notion of autonomy, when algorithms bypass journalists in the creation, curation and distribution of news (Carlson, 2018; Dörr & Hollnbuchner, 2017; Wu et al., 2019).

This paper will give an overview of the state-of-art of journalism innovation in China. It also gives a brief account of the developing stages of Chinese newsrooms' adoption of AI, the motivating forces behind it, the implications on journalism and society it has had, and how neighbouring nations and other global actors are reacting. The paper is informed by my years of research on the topic. Through several field trips to China, I have conducted interviews with media professionals, market observers, engineers, developers, scholars,

and educators. Additional data are acquired through media organizations' internal reference reports, publicly available documents and commercial database.

The research contributes to the understanding of how Chinese newsrooms are implementing journalism innovation in China's unique political and social context and add to the discussion of some common debates around China's rising tech platforms and their influences, power dynamics among states negotiated through media and everyday technology and issues surrounding global governance on AI. To understand how the algorithms in news distribution work, it paves the way for further inquiries into who it works for and for what purposes. That is to say by understanding how AI work, it paves the way to address the issue of how do we align the goals of AI with our goals, and ultimately what our goals are. In so doing, the study also aims to advance our knowledge of how China uses technologies to control information ecosystem and increase our understanding of the shifting dynamics between news organizations, tech platforms and the government in a non-Western context.

## **Submission ID**

2306

# **Formats, aesthetics and languages of journalistic audiovisuals on Instagram: a study of production patterns in press profiles in Brazil**

## **Authors**

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Dr. Maira Bittencourt - Federal University of Sergipe (UFS)

## **Abstract**

The audiovisual journalistic work has become complex with the multimedia productions coming from different sources and supports. In this fluid digital environment and in the ubiquity of media technologies (DEUZE, 2016) are there standards, formats and languages of their own? This study seeks to investigate possible patterns of audiovisual journalism outside television, focusing on productions published on Instagram. This is the fourth most used social network in Brazil, with around 110 million users, and one of the most popular in the world. It is in this context that the present study seeks to reflect on the factors that led to the transmutation of the types of information products produced and the ways in which they are made available to the public (ANDERSON; BELL; SHIRKY, 2013). The solid bases of reports, television news, talk shows, among other genres and formats with pre-established standards, mainly in the audiovisual field, left the scene and opened space for an open field for experimentation. Characteristics such as hypertextuality (Canavilhas, 2014), multimediality (Salaverría, 2014), interactivity (Rost, 2014), Instantaneity (Bradshaw, 2014) and ubiquity (Pavlik, 2014) provide an understanding and

point out ways for digital journalism in a more comprehensive way. . The intention of this research is to find initial clues for what can be considered as format, language and aesthetic standard of journalistic videos produced for social networks. The research is anchored in Brazilian journalistic profiles on Instagram and posts of audiovisual content during the first five months of the year 2020, thus portraying a specific reality, but can point to ways to understand what audiovisual journalism is on social networks. The study is based on a descriptive analysis, consisting of 300 videos obtained by postings from 6 Brazilian journalistic vehicles (UOL, Folha, G1, Correio Braziliense, BBC Brasil and CNN Brasil) on the social network. The main results show that there is still a predominance of content experimentation, where old and new audiovisual characteristics converge. Using the fluidity and high connectivity with users, characteristics of social networks, the profiles of large journalistic vehicles strongly incorporated the audiovisual production of users in their posts. Thus, in addition to publishing content sent by users in a natural and direct way, the vehicles also use, in their professional audiovisual productions, the most colloquial and spontaneous mode of production. In this sense, recordings with single takes, which we call continuous recordings, gain great space. It also opens up the possibility of videos that are only images with tracks and still others that are made only with the presenter or reporter. It is a process of breaking with the standard of telejournalism of OFF, sound and passage. The videos become shorter and more objective and the presence of reporters and presenters is smaller. As for aesthetics, there is a mix between the traditional and the new. In this sense, it is noteworthy that most of the videos are in the horizontal position, which still brings much of the concept of television and cinema in audiovisual journalism produced for social networks

## **Submission ID**

2354

## **Hacer que “ganar poco y arriesgar mucho” valga la pena: La fabricación cotidiana del illusio de los periodistas de la Ciudad de México**

### **Authors**

Dr. Sandra Vera - Universidad Iberoamericana

Dr. Leticia Hernández - Universidad Iberoamericana

### **Abstract**

En México, cada año, cientos de recién egresados buscan un empleo como periodistas. Quienes ya lo tienen, en su mayoría, desean estabilizarse o incluso ascender dentro del campo, a pesar de los bajísimos sueldos, las precarias condiciones laborales y el temor de arriesgar, literalmente, su vida. “Ganar poco y arriesgar mucho” parece la realidad de la

profesión. ¿Cómo es que las y los periodistas dan sentido a un tal predicamento? Del exterior, parece una paradoja el que estos profesionales encuentren justificación para querer adentrarse o mantenerse en su profesión y, sin embargo, la respuesta se dibuja de una manera relativamente simple: Las y los periodistas refuerzan cotidianamente su creencia de que ser periodista “vale la pena”, gracias a su capacidad de “encontrar su lugar” al ajustar sus propias condiciones de posibilidad a los ideales normativos de la profesión. Empíricamente, esto se refleja en 3 aspectos: primero, su capacidad de transformar la falta de retribución económica en retribución simbólica (“no me pagan, pero es curriculum”; “no tengo contrato, pero hago lo que me gusta”). Segundo, en la capacidad de transformar la excelencia periodística a su propia producción (“no soy reconocido, pero es mi compromiso para la sociedad”, “no me ganaré ni un premio, pero lo hago por gusto propio”). Tercero, en la capacidad de apropiarse la responsabilidad de la satisfacción laboral (“lo hago por pasión, no para hacer dinero”; “yo sabía que era muy peligroso”). Partimos de un enfoque bourdieano (1979,1989), con el que entendemos al campo periodístico como un juego donde está presente la violencia simbólica y hay reglas constituidas históricamente que deben seguirse (Neveu & Benson, 2005), todo esto fundamentado por el “illusio” (1980), la creencia de que “vale la pena jugar este juego” (Bourdieu & Wacquant, 1992, p.98). Este concepto rara vez es empleado en los Estudios de Periodismo para conocer los argumentos de los profesionales para vincularse al campo (Maares & Hanusch, 2018) y quienes lo han hecho (Nölleke, Maares & Hanusch, 2020, por ejemplo) encuentran ideales de incidencia social y diversas satisfacciones. Realizamos una investigación de corte cualitativo (entre agosto de 2019 y septiembre de 2020) que incluye 71 entrevistas en profundidad a editores y periodistas de distintos medios en la CDMX.

## **Submission ID**

2395

## **Datafied audiences from a multi-lensed perspective: Editors, journalists, and data analysts’ different uses of metrics in Norwegian media**

### **Authors**

Dr. Ana Milojevic - University of Bergen

Prof. Hallvard Moe - University of Bergen

### **Abstract**

This paper aims to add to the growing research about the role of audience metrics and analytics in journalism by examining how use of audience analytics differs between actors with different positions in media organizations. Fürst (2020) has noted that more than hundred studies have addressed the influence of audience metrics on news work during

last decades. This wide body of research has shown how analytics effects selection, positioning and assembling of news, news-work routines and practices, evaluation of journalistic work, as well as organizational structures and strategic decision making among other. However existing research does not reflect enough on how versatile news organizations and application of metrics inside them are.

Therefore, this paper examines differences in self-perceptions of data analysts, chief editors, news editors, and journalists-reporters about the use of audience metrics in Norwegian news media. In this respect, Norway makes an interesting context to study, since media industry is one of the leading in innovations in Europe, while at the same time media system is characterized by strong public service broadcasting, high newspaper readership, and proactive state intervention governed by arm's-length principles (Ahva et al., 2017; Allern and Blach-Orsten, 2011). Theoretically this study follows the tradition of sociology of news work, while methodologically relies on the thematic analysis of the 28 in-depth semi structured interviews. Interviews were done during March - June, and December 2021, with journalist, chief editors, news editors and data analyst, who work in three most influential news organizations in Norway – leading publishing house, public service, and commercial broadcasting company. Thematic analysis was conducted using Nvivo software for qualitative analysis.

Analysis shows that journalists mostly find metrics useful to make story level decisions, such as assigning news value to events and issues, but they still 'go with their gut feeling' and balance out between what they think public needs with what analytics shows audience wants. Editors work more closely with analytics, to 'tweak' stories according to real-time data, and rearrange front page, but they are also driven with traditional news values and want to provide public a good news mix. Finally, data analysts are mainly concerned with what numbers show in the long run with respect to main organizational mission and goals.

## **Submission ID**

2428

## **Peace journalism and media digitization: Exploring opportunities and impact**

### **Authors**

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## Abstract

Peace journalism has made noticeable progress since its inception as a concept back in the mid-1960s. Despite the criticism faced by peace journalism regarding its diversion from core journalistic principles (Hanitzsch, 2004), scholarly research has suggested that media reporting of events that is in line with the main propositions of peace journalism evokes empathetic audience responses (McGoldrick & Lynch, 2014) and can pave the way for a meaningful dialog between belligerents (Kempf, 2019). However, in order to maintain its relevance and utility in the modern era, scholars argue that peace journalism needs to embrace the advent of new media (Aslam, 2016). Therefore, the aim of this paper is to synthesize literature on peace journalism and digitization to highlight further development possibilities of the original concept in the digital era.

The following five main areas of further development possibilities are identified: (1) *Digital distribution of peace journalism*: As news use increasingly takes place on news websites or social media platforms (Newman et al., 2021), peace journalism—like mainstream journalism—is challenged to embrace these digital platforms. This implies the potential to reach new and wider audiences with the concept. (2) *Exploration of new forms of digital storytelling for peace journalism*: Forms of digital storytelling that have partly already been integrated into mainstream journalism (e.g., digital data journalism, multimedia stories etc.) (Zayani, 2020) could be explored in their potential for highlighting characteristics of peace journalism (Higgins, 2011). (3) *Utilizing the potential of two-way communication for peace journalism*: As digital platforms allow for a two-way communication (Lee & Tandoc, 2017), this possibility can be utilized not only for participation of the audience but also to explore its potential to include voices of different actors in a conflict. By this, a multiperspective of voices can be stressed that is central in the concept of peace journalism (Galtung & Fischer, 2013) as well as an opportunity for dialog can be given. (4) *Curating various digital sources of conflict actors and fact-checking*: Similarly, the internet offers to link and curate various content and information (Merten, 2020) from conflict actors. This can also add to the multiperspective in reporting, while at the same time allowing for fact-checking of this information. (5) *Virtual trainings and digital skills in the curricula for peace journalism*: Journalistic training is a main part in the original concept of peace journalism (Aslam, 2011). The use of technology for the training of journalists in conflict-prone areas around the globe now enables new possibilities due to aspects pertaining to efficiency and convenience (Ureta & Fernández, 2017) and to enhance the trainings through a focus on skills that enhance digital know-how of the modern-day journalist. The paper illustrates each of the five areas with best practice examples.

This paper contributes to the discussion about peace journalism by bringing together the primary postulates of the concept with digitization. By this, it adds a new perspective towards the understanding, highlighting potentials for a wider applicability and thereby increased relevance of the concept in a digitally connected world.

## Submission ID

2430

# Journalism in war and conflict situations: Identifying, comparing, and utilizing key concepts

## Authors

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## Abstract

The field and practice of journalism have experienced noticeable evolution as a response to shifting socio-cultural and technical dynamics (McNair, 2009), giving rise to several variations of the concept like peace journalism, citizen journalism or constructive journalism. These manifestations of journalism are distinct based upon their applicability within specified contexts, requiring an understanding of their uniqueness and of their practice—independently from one another as well as in unison. This paper aims to contribute to the understanding of how various concepts of journalism can be made fruitful for the concrete case of war and conflict reporting—a contribution even more relevant as the number of wars and conflicts worldwide is increasing (HIIK, 2020).

Communication scholars have discussed responsibilities (Youngblood, 2016) and the possible benefits associated with effective news reporting in war and conflict situations (Galtung, 2003). However, most of that research explored the relationship between journalism and (violent) conflicts from a general perspective and does not consider possible synergies obtained by means of a unified approach that incorporates the various types of journalism.

The paper (1) identifies, based on the literature, concepts pertaining to journalism that can be beneficial in conflict situations more broadly (from societal conflicts to war situations), (2) elaborates their potentials and limitations to (3) systematize them to initiate the discussion on how news reporting in war and conflict situation can benefit from them—separately or in a new combination of these different concepts.

The following concepts were identified as relevant: peace journalism, conflict-sensitive journalism, public journalism, citizen journalism, constructive journalism, and solutions journalism. These types of journalism can contribute to de-escalation (Kempf, 2003; Howard, 2015), empowering of the ordinary (Atton, 2009; Wall, 2015), community-development (Nip, 2006), as well as the highlighting of solutions (McIntyre & Gyldensted, 2017; McIntyre & Lough, 2019) based on their distinct characteristics, therefore warranting

a systematic approach towards their practice in conflict-coverage. The paper systematizes these different concepts of journalism according to different levels (nation/country-wide approaches, community-oriented practices restricted to targeted localities), stages (pre-conflict, active conflict, and post-conflict) of conflicts and their reporting and types of interaction (conflict versus cooperation).

Out of the all the concepts identified, peace journalism has been the subject of most scholarly work. Therefore, the paper suggests aspects that peace journalism can incorporate from the other concepts. These include aspects of journalistic training from conflict-sensitive journalism, lessons learnt regarding citizen involvement from public journalism, empowerment (of the local) from citizen journalism, a focus on pragmatism from solutions journalism and to apply positive psychology techniques from constructive journalism to allow for a more wholistic approach of war and conflict coverage. Furthermore, the analysis shows why aspects pertaining to peace journalism or conflict-sensitive journalism are fruitful in the actual conflict-phase, whereas a switch can be made towards incorporating elements from constructive journalism or solutions journalism in the post-conflict phase.

The analysis adds to the discussion how different concepts of journalism as well as a new combination of them can be utilized to reach positive implications for society.

## **Submission ID**

2434

## **Sourcing UK Pandemic News: comparative analysis of 15 news brands across three social media platforms**

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### **Abstract**

This study analyses the types and roles of different sources cited in UK news coverage of COVID-19 by focusing on breaking news reports on social media. As a one-year longitudinal analysis covering news reports in 2020, we sought to understand the diversity of source types that featured in UK news about COVID-19, contextualised by the UK's

responses to the pandemic.

The UK's responses to the pandemic, its decision to implement a full lockdown in March 2020, its vaccination strategy and later tiered lockdowns, were framed by political actors as science-led decisions. The expression that governmental responses were 'following the science' eventually ceased to be a part of the governmental discourse by the end of 2020 (Ball, 2021). Previous studies have endeavoured to identify the patterns of news sourcing in crisis coverage, especially the interplay between political sources and health expert sources (e.g. Lopes, Ruao, Marinho, and Araujo, 2013; Oh et al., 2012), but yielded inconclusive results. In light of this, we analysed source prevalence across 15 TV, radio, newspaper, and online news outlets in the UK, as surfaced on their social media platforms. We sought to understand which sources were given prominence as primary definers in relation to a health crisis by different news brands, and if this varied across different social media platforms.

We analysed posts published by these 15 news organisations across Facebook (16,092 posts), Twitter (11,607 posts), and Instagram (1,656 posts) over the course of 12 months (1 January to 31 December 2020), therefore covering the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic and its connection with specific media sources. Our study included the first and second waves of the pandemic in the UK, ending as the first phase of vaccines were being rolled out in December 2020.

Overall we found a dominant reliance on conventional elite political sources, across all platforms and media types, with health, education, and other media sources following suit. In terms of the diversity of voices, Instagram stood out compared with Facebook and Twitter as being more diverse. Whilst elite political sources made up around half of all sources cited for Facebook and Twitter, it was only 38% for Instagram, which also featured citizen voices (8%) and celebrities (7%) more prominently than the other platforms. We also found similar distinctions across media platforms, with TV being more likely to cite elite political sources (52%) compared with radio (35%) - online and print both around 45%. Expert sources - including health and science - did feature more prominently within pandemic news, though as we explore in this paper, these sources often remained unnamed, or referred to in generic terms (such as 'expert', 'scientist', 'police', 'nurses' and so forth). We conclude the paper by exploring the significance of these sourcing practises, how they change over time in response to the pandemic, and what it tells us about the communicative dynamics of the different social media platforms.

## Submission ID

2499

# What is going on Instagram Stories? A Comparative Analysis on Spanish Journalistic Media

## Authors

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Dr. Laura Pérez-Altable - Universitat

## Abstract

In the Platform Society (van Dyck, Poell, de Waal, 2018), journalistic media have to counterbalance both their digital production as well as their digital presence to preserve their business model alive. In this sense, we have chosen Instagram as a platform and its Stories as a format due to their increase relevance when consuming content by Z generation.

In this media ecology and technological environment, incidental news consumption (Mitchelstein, Boczkowski, Tenenboim-Weinblatt *et al*, 2020) conceptualized how individual agency and social structure interact to shape information acquisition practices. Thus, we embrace this approach to analyze how media interact with Instagram stories and its audience.

Therefore, our main objective is to analyze by a comparative method the Spanish legacy media (*Elpais.es*, *Elmundo.es*, *Abc.es*, *Lavanguardia.es*) and the native digital media (*Eldiario.es* and *Elconfidencial.com*) production through Instagram stories in order to describe what type of content is selected and which genre and language are employed.

We gathered the stories published by the media outlets for one month, November 2021, in a systematic way -all stories published every day- with the objective to cover all the agenda setting defined by the media along the week. We obtained 853 Instagram stories to analyze.

After the recollection of the data, we employed a quantitative content analysis of each story. To carry out this analysis, we proposed twelve different categories: three categories refer to the contextual data (Id, media outlet and Instagram account), one about mentions (presence of hashtags), five categories related to the content (topic, headline, content, presence of multimedia content, and other elements (e.g., emoji or surveys)); one category about the presence of link to the website and, finally, one category refers to the message tone. We also included likes.

After performing the analysis, preliminary findings showed how the Spanish legacy media and digital native media are adapting to the new media ecosystem in a different way. The multimedia elements, such as videos or photos, had a high presence in the content shared

in this platform. Related to the tone and content of the messages, we found that most of the stories tended to use more informal language and elements, which are closer to the characteristics of the Z generation. A curious example to consider was the high presence of surveys employing Instagram stories.

Therefore, preliminary conclusions pointed out the hypothesis of, maybe, an alerting behavior by journalistic media. With the aim of approaching z generation, they tended to mix formal and informal content and message tone. They mixed proper journalistic stories (formal) with other (informal) type of content like advertising, jokes, etc; without specifying its criteria.

Dijck, J; Poell, T; and de Waal, M. (2018). *The Platform Society*. Oxford University Press. DOI:10.1093/oso/9780190889760.001.0001

Mitchelstein E, Boczkowski PJ, Tenenboim-Weinblatt K, Hayashi K, Villi M, Kligler-Vilenchik N. Incidental on a continuum: A comparative conceptualization of incidental news consumption. *Journalism*. 2020;21(8):1136-1153. doi:10.1177/1464884920915355

## **Submission ID**

2527

# **CITIZEN JOURNALISM AND WORK-CULTURE AMONG MAINSTREAM JOURNALISTS - PERSPECTIVES FROM NIGERIA**

## **Authors**

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Mrs. Ifedolapo Ademosu - Caleb University, Lagos

## **Abstract**

Over the years, journalism has benefited from technological advancement. In this digital age, journalists have enjoyed the crispiness in terms of production and speed that digital technologies afford them regarding meeting deadlines. However, amidst the quest for ease of doing business in this digital age is the challenge with keeping up with the speed at which social media serves as purveyors of news, now referred to as citizen journalism. Before now, the mainstream media has been the source for verifying current happenings in societies across the world. However, the situation is fast changing as many now found solace in the late-night gist on social media before the news gets to the newsstand the next day. Notably, the mainstream media has made bold moves to meet up with this constantly changing challenge presented by the citizen journalists by also pitching their tents on social media. Nevertheless, while meeting up with this growing expectation from their audiences, they are faced with the task of remaining ethical. Scholars have examined the impact of citizen journalism on journalism ethics and found a relationship. However, it

would be important to know the influence of the activities of the citizen journalists on the daily routine of journalists in the mainstream media. In essence, this paper seeks to examine to what extent the activities of citizen journalists have disrupted the personal routine, work culture and source relations management of mainstream journalists. Suffice to note that the clamour for citizen journalism to become an adopted lexicon in journalism practice remain a debate among professionals. Therefore, this paper will also investigate to what extent, if at all, the experiences with citizen journalism have changed the orientation of journalists in the mainstream media regarding the content and context of their activities in relationship with the ethics of journalism. The paper will adopt the occupation and eventual clash between soldiers from the Nigerian Army and the protesting youths during the #EndSARS protest at the Lekki Tollgate in Lagos, Nigeria on October 20, 2020, as a case study for the interviewees to relate with while addressing the objectives of this paper. The qualitative research design will be adopted for this study and in-depth interviews will be used for data gathering. The population would be journalists working in print and broadcast stations in Lagos State, Nigeria. The sampling procedure will be multistage. Simple random sampling will be used to select five newspaper organisations, five television stations and five radio stations. Purposive sampling will then be used to select one news editor from each organisation making fifteen interviewees. The news editors have a daily routine of ensuring that news is reported as they happen and they would therefore be conscious of the credibility and integrity of their media in this regard. It is expected that their experiences will provide the required responses for the research objectives. Thematic analysis will be used to extract major themes concerning the research questions and draw conclusions.

**Keywords:** Mainstream Journalist; Citizen Journalist; Work Culture; Digital Age; Journalism Ethics; #EndSARS.

## **Submission ID**

2563

## **Vaccine Hesitancy: A Comparison between China and US Coverage on Social Network**

### **Authors**

Ms. Lou Yiran - Communication University of China

### **Abstract**

When vaccination against COVID-19 has become commonplace to some extent, "Vaccine Hesitancy" remains an important issue faced by countries around the world (Shi, 2021), According to the analyzing results of the core database of *web of science* through *CiteSpace*, The United States takes the leading position in the research field of "Vaccine Hesitancy", with its literature contribution accounting for 42.2%, and China, as the largest developing country, ranks seventh (4.8%) (Zhang, 2022). In the meanwhile, the research

directions in this field are relatively extensive, distributed in many disciplines including basic medicine, clinical medicine, public health and psychology, etc. However, the media practice should be adopted as a different perspective to observe the phenomenon. This research attempts to make a comparative analysis of the reporting framework of posts on COVID-19 vaccination hesitancy published by mainstream media in China and the United States on social media platforms, in order to contribute relevant research, and provide a springboard for a useful reference for mainstream media to improve their reporting strategies when dealing with COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy.

In the study, the reports on COVID-19 vaccination hesitancy published by mainstream media in China and the US on social media platforms are taken as the research object, further, relevant contents posted by *People's Daily* on Weibo and those posted by *the New York Times* on Twitter, during January 30, 2021 to December 31, 2021 are selected as research samples. From the perspective of framing theory, this paper seeks to explore the similarities and differences between *People's Daily* and *The New York Times* in their reporting frameworks for "vaccine hesitation" on social media, and then summarize the characteristics of their framing, by means of comprehensively applying statistical method, content analysis, text analysis in describing, comparing, and analyzing the selected research samples from five aspects (theme framework, report form, report title, report content and report language). For instance, the study finds that in terms of report content, *People's Daily* weighs timely reporting the overall COVID-19 vaccination situation of the Chinese people through clear and continuously-updated data more, while *The New York Times* pays more attention to showing the specific process of certain celebrities' attitude towards vaccines from resistance to acceptance; in terms of the report language, *People's Daily's* posts against COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy are more soft and euphemistic, featuring that only 2 articles in the whole year directly contained the word "vaccine hesitancy", while *The New York Times* is more direct, with five of its stories headlined "vaccine hesitancy"... Based on the above, this paper further reflects on the shortcomings of mainstream media in China and the US in their COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy related coverage posted on social media platforms, such as the limited clarification effect of false information, and it also provided with suggestion on optimizing the framework for mainstream media to use social media platforms to publish reports on COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy.

## **Submission ID**

2575

## **Mainstreaming Nativism: US/UK Press and Pitching the Decline of a Mythological Sweden**

### **Authors**

Prof. Christian Christensen - Stockholm University

## **Abstract**

The 2018 elections in Sweden were the first in the country after the upswing of the European “populist right.” While parties such as the Front National in France and politicians such as Geert Wilders in the Netherlands had been popular for years, and Sweden’s own Sweden Democrats had already seen a meteoric (by political standards) rise, the political zeitgeist of the 2018 elections in Sweden was significantly different from that of 2014, as it was framed within the context of events such as the win for Brexiteers in the UK and the election of Trump in the US. In addition, the large influx into Sweden of refugees from Syria between 2014 and 2016, and the political issues related to that influx, generated a synergy effect for international media coverage of the Swedish elections. Specifically, during their coverage in the lead-up to the 2018 elections, mainstream outlets in the US and UK placed an inordinate amount of attention on the supposed “rapid rise” of the populist Sweden Democrats, as well as suggestions that the elections were to be “dominated” by the issue of immigration and immigration-related topics such as crime and integration. All of this was often wrapped with the conceptual bow of this being a “changed Sweden,” where a once peaceful, homogeneous social democratic nation was becoming a violent, ethnically diverse country lurching to the far right.

In this paper, US and UK mainstream news coverage of the 2018 Swedish elections were analyzed through a qualitative analysis of 81 articles published on those same elections (starting from 3 months before the elections). Particular attention was paid to (1) the extent to, and manner in which the populist Sweden Democrats were foregrounded in the mainstream outlets at the expense of coverage of other political parties (the Sweden Democrats were polling 3rd in the run-up, and their support had remained level over the previous two years); and (2) the extent to, and manner in which, immigration and immigration-linked issues such as crime and integration were foregrounded at the expense of other issues. The paper considers how mainstream US and UK outlets normalized both the notion that the Sweden Democrats were, in fact, a dominant (or potentially dominating) political force in Sweden; and, in addition, how the nativist (Mudde, 2012) policy agenda of the Sweden Democrats came to be framed as the de facto central issues in the election. An uncritical acceptance of the notion that Sweden was to be “conquered by the far-right” (to cite a New York Times opinion piece published days before the election), as well as an equally uncritical acceptance of the talking points of the Sweden Democrats, generated a clear image of a country once famed for its “civility” sliding into the “uncivil.”

## **Submission ID**

2579

# Analysing habitus to understand inequality and change in international journalism

## Authors

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## Abstract

This paper examines how to interpret and analyse the ways in which inequality and change structure the field of international journalism, as a grounds for understanding how this influences the transforming nature of the resulting coverage. Drawing on a Bourdieusian framework, we argue for the continued importance of qualitative, ethnographic studies of individuals as the bearers and producers of journalistic *habitus*, as a basis for consideration of how this informs the work they produce. Field and habitus may be understood to be mutually constitutive in Bourdieu's framework, and we do not wish to gainsay the value of works that have sought to map the field of journalism. Nevertheless, we argue it is ethnographic analysis of habitus that provides the most effective and grounded – albeit inevitably incomplete – means for engaging with the processes of change in the field of international journalism.

This conceptual essay does not perform either an ethnographic or textual analysis but seeks to provide the theoretical grounds and justification for such work. It first outlines the theoretical framework, and since Bourdieu's work has had wide take-up in the field of journalism studies (Benson and Neveu, 2005; Marliere, 1998; Schultz, 2007; Myles, 2010; Markham, 2011; Benson, 2014), we summarise its key elements.

Bourdieu's habitus refers to 'a system of schemes of perception and appreciation of practices, cognitive and evaluative structures which are acquired through the lasting experience of a social position' (1989:19). Habitus exists as an embodied history of common sense and dispositions that shape the self-awareness and positions of agents in the field – such as international correspondents - and legitimize (and/or delimit) their power and access to specific forms of capital (Bourdieu, 1986). The socialisation of habitus occurs through subjects' participation in the practice of 'fields', such as journalism, which are governed by a particular 'logic of practice' (Bourdieu, 1986; Bourdieu, 1990; Ryfe, 2017). Rather than being uniform, fields exist as objectively existing, contested spaces of institutional and individual positions that are shaped by the uneven distribution of capital (Bourdieu, 1986), enabling the study of how 'individuals are each differently constrained by the uneven distribution of symbolic power' (Couldry, 2020:55) – the forms of capital valued within the field. Bourdieu structures the field hierarchically, with those possessing greater levels of valorised capital being structurally advantaged in struggles to accrue greater levels of power and influence over other individuals and the collective.

For the purpose of considering the changing field of international correspondence, the habitus of practitioners, and how this informs their practices of producing news, we argue that a focus on individuals is important. This is so because it is through the practices of individuals that habitus is performed, reproduced and contested. Furthermore, while habitus is shaped by individuals' position in the journalistic field, it is important to emphasise that individual habitus cannot simply be 'read off' broader mappings of the field and its relatively dominant and subordinated positions and distributions of capital.

As basis for analysing how practices of habitus emerge *in situ*, we turn to consider what existing studies suggest about the historical formation of the habitus of international correspondents. Among the sub-fields of journalism, foreign correspondence comes with the greatest amount of what Hannerz called 'occupational mythology' (2007:300), helping to elevate it to the apex of a journalistic order of distinction and to serve as part of the discursive frames through which practice is partially shaped and reflected on.

The 21<sup>st</sup> century has brought transformations that have resulted in fewer full-time correspondents; more free-lancers, part-timers and fixers who have taken on roles once reserved for their 'elite' colleagues.

What do such changes mean for the nature of the journalistic field and the practices of habitus deployed? This is a question that demands further empirical investigation and, we have argued, can only be addressed through closer ethnographic analysis, for which this paper seeks to provide a basis.

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## **Weibo and Wechat: Social Media and TV Journalistic practice in Chinese Socio-Political Environment**

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### **Abstract**

This study investigates how TV journalists negotiate their professional norms when using their personal accounts on Weibo and WeChat for journalistic practice and conducting the interactivity with audiences in specific Chinese environment. Based on a content analysis of journalists' personal accounts and semi-structured interviews with journalists, editors and newsroom leaders, it argues that TV journalists' professional use of these accounts is informed by political censorship, commercial pressures, cultural traditions, organisational control and Western journalistic professional norms.

Focusing on the professional norms of objectivity, transparency, accountability, autonomy and gatekeeping, this study argues that there are competing concepts of professionalism in the television news industry. While some journalists work with a Western understanding

of professionalism as their (unattainable) ideal, others have a Maoist understanding of their public role as servants of the ruling Party.

Journalists usually use Weibo and WeChat J-accounts to convey information, to search and verify information. They use them for networking, but rarely for self-promotion and branding. This process challenges objectivity due to the opinions expressed by journalists. Meanwhile, transparency is not apparently increased with fewer links, but truth and accountability are enhanced due to the fact checking on social media. The role of gatekeeping on Weibo and WeChat J-accounts is maintained owing to journalists not allowing their audiences to participate in news information delivery.

Due to its public nature, Weibo is particularly useful for journalists whenever they want to publish news, search for stories, check facts or connect with strangers. However, not all want to be recognised as journalists. WeChat J-accounts are used for the less public-facing kinds of journalistic work, such as keeping in touch with colleagues. On WeChat, journalists feel less watched, or they can create spaces in which they feel they can better control who sees what they post. Journalists use WeChat for very specific work, including making contacts, which is much more private and does not reach many people.

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