South and North, with a range of cultural heterogeneity and political practices that vary in the United Kingdom, and the United States. These countries encompass both the Global about the subject. We focus on media environments in four democracies – Brazil, India, Australia, and the United States – and place them in a comparison perspective with countries that have been less democratic over longer periods of time. In these countries, what we think we know and what we want to know: Amy Ross Arguedas, Richard Fletcher, Rasmus Kleis Nelsen: Misinformation and disinformation (Chakrabarti et al. 2018). As Irineu Machado, head of content delivery at UOL (Brazil), told us, audiences increasingly ‘distrust organisations who traditionally’ cover news and ‘distrust information in general’, and some rely not just on public social networking sites but also on encrypted messaging services like WhatsApp, specifically in Brazil and India, which have combined with deficits in digital literacy to serve as a ‘breeding ground’ for misinformation. As Irineu Machado, head of content delivery at UOL (Brazil), and others have found, false claims to be more prevalent on social media than on mainstream media, this is the first systematic evidence that the spread and social media than on mainstream media, this is the first systematic evidence that messaging apps might be the primary source for spread of misinformation. “Trust misplaced? A report on the future of trust in media. Ipsos, 2020, 31 p.” (overview) https://www.ipsos.com/sites/default/files/ct/publication/documents/2020-10/trust-misplaced-2020.pdf

3. Benjamin Toff, Sumitra Badrinarathan, Camila Mont’Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Richard Fletcher, Rasmus Kleis Nelsen: What we think we know and what we want to know: perspectives on trust in news in a changing world. Oxford: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, 2020, 26 p. “Trust in news has eroded worldwide. According to the Reuters Institute’s Digital News Report 2020, fewer than four in ten people (38%) across 40 markets say they typically trust most news. While trust has fallen by double digit margins in recent years in many places, including Brazil and the United Kingdom, in other countries more stable overall trends conceal stark and growing partisan divides. Why is trust eroding, how does it play out across different contexts and different groups, what are the implications, and what might be done about it? These are the organising questions behind the Trust in News Project. This report is the first of many we will publish from the project over the next three years. Because trust is a relationship between stockholders and trustees, we anticipate focusing primarily on audiences and the way they think about trust, but we begin the project by taking stock of how those who study journalism and those who practice it think about the subject. … We focus on media environments in four democracies – Brazil, India, the United Kingdom, and the United States. These countries encompass both the Global South and North, with a range of cultural heterogeneity and political practices that vary in their partisan and populist tendencies. For our purposes, one of the most important differences across these countries is in how audiences have integrated digital and social media practices into how they consume news. Whereas public social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter have rapidly become key conduits of information in democracies worldwide, many of those we interviewed pointed to the popularity of encrypted messaging services like WhatsApp, specifically in Brazil and India, which have combined with deficits in digital literacy to serve as a ‘breeding ground’ for misinformation and disinformation (Chakrabarti et al. 2018). As Irineu Machado, head of content delivery at UOL (Brazil), told us, audiences increasingly ‘distrust organisations who traditionally’ cover news and ‘distrust information in general’, and some rely not just on public social networking sites but also on private groups and messaging applications … This report is divided into two main sections. First, we outline important lessons from existing research

"The authors engage with a range of cross-disciplinary perspectives in order to explore the actions of a vigilant digital audience — denunciation, shaming, doxing — and to consider the role of the press and other public figures in supporting or contesting these activities. In turn, the volume illuminates several tensions underlying these justice seeking activities — from their capacity to reproduce categorical forms of discrimination, to the diverse motivations of the wider audiences who participate in vigilant denunciations." (back cover)

https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0200

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN

"Quatre Togolais sur cinq environ disposent d’une radio dans leur ménage (81%) et suivent régulièrement les informations à la radio (78%). Deux ménages sur cinq (44%) ne possèdent pas de télévision. La moitié (51%) des Togolais ne suivent jamais ou rarement les informations à la télé. Un cinquième des Togolais (18%) possède un ordinateur. Quatre Togolais sur cinq (82%) ont un téléphone portable à usage personnel. Un tiers (32%) de la population ont des téléphones qui peuvent accéder à l’Internet. Moins de deux Togolais sur 10 (18%) s’informent souvent via l’Internet." (résultats clés)


"The Afrobarometer survey conducted in late 2019 shows that although radio and television remain the most dominant news sources, daily news consumption via social media (by 22% of Ghanaians) and the Internet (19%) is steadily increasing. Social media is less trusted as a source of information — only 39% of Ghanaians say they trust it "somewhat" or "a lot" — than private and public media (55% each) and government sources (54%). Close to eight in 10 Ghanaians (78%) say politicians and political parties spread information that they know is false. But smaller majorities also blame government officials, journalists, social media users, and activists and interest groups. Among an overwhelming majority (92%) of Ghanaians who have heard of social media think social media usage makes people more aware of current happenings, almost as many (86%) say it makes people more likely to believe fake news. One-third (32%) of Ghanaians support government regulation of access to the Internet and social media, but close to half (48%) prefer unrestricted access. Large majorities of Ghanaians "agree" or "strongly agree" that the government should be able to limit or prohibit the sharing of false news (77%), hate speech (89%), and news and opinions that criticize or insult the president (57%). Close to half (48%) also say the government should be able to limit the spread of information it disapproves of." (key findings, p.2)


"Radio remains the leading source of media news for adult Zimbabweans. Six out of 10 citizens (59%) said they get news regularly ("every day" or "a few times a week") via the radio, compared to 33% for television and 17% for newspapers. About one in five citizens get news regularly from social media (21%) and the Internet (18%). But "other people" surpass all media channels as a regular source of news, cited by almost two-thirds (64%) of respondents. News habits have changed little in Zimbabwe in recent years. Only social media shows significant recent growth as a regular news source. Urban and rural residents differ sharply in their news habits. For example, while television beats out radio in cities (69% vs. 63%), only 12% of rural inhabitants regularly get TV news. Most Zimbabweans (95%) own a mobile phone or live in a household where someone else owns one. But only 43% of those phones have access to the Internet. About three-fourths (73%) of citizens own or have access to radios, compared to 48% for televisions and 23% for computers. Poor citizens are less likely to own communications devices and to access the Internet than their better-off counterparts. Religious leaders are the most trusted institution in Zimbabwe, making them a potentially valuable conduit for information during the COVID-19 pandemic." (key findings, p.2)


"Most adult Namibians own mobile phones (88%) and radios (67%). Four in 10 (40%) own television sets, and one in four (25%) own computers. Daily Internet use has multiplied over the past decade, increasing from 5% in 2008 to 28% in 2019. But more than four in 10 Namibians (44%) still "never" use the Internet. The most common source of daily news for Namibians is the radio (62%), followed by TV (40%), the Internet (27%), social media (27%), and newspapers (23%). Among the three-fourths (76%) of adult Namibians who have heard of social media, half (51%) see its effects on society as positive, while one-fourth (24%) see them as negative. Social media users are most frequently blamed as sources of false (fake) news (by 67% of respondents), followed by journalists (62%) and politicians (60%). Eight out of 10 Namibians regard the country’s news media as "completely free" (47%) or "somewhat free" (33%). But a majority (56%) think the government should have the right to prevent publications it disapproves of — more than twice as many as a decade ago. Moreover, majorities say the government should be able to limit or prohibit the sharing of false news (64%), or information or opinions that it disapproves of (54%) or that criticize or insult the president (62%), and of hate speech (62%). Yet more than half (55%) of citizens say that unrestricted access to the Internet and social media should be protected." (key findings)


"L’utilisation de la mesure d’audience par les médias est faible en Côte d’Ivoire. Selon une étude du Ministère de la Communication, de l’Économie Numérique et de la Poste (2017), la plupart des médias ivoiriens naviguent à vue sans une véritable connaissance et maîtrise du marché par des études d’audience et d’habitude de consommation des cibles. Dans le cas de la presse écrite, les maisons d’édition permettent d’établir l’audience en précisant même le lieu. Pour la presse numérique, les compteurs présents sur les pages web le permettent également. Par contre, avec une transmission par la voie des ondes, il est difficile de savoir qui regarde quoi et à quel moment. L’un des moyens permettant aux diffuseurs d’avoir un retour sur leurs émissions est le sondage. En effet, l’audience a acquis, au fil des années, une importance capitale. Plus un écrán est regardé, plus un annonceur est intéressé. De plus, le déploiement de la télévision numérique te restre (TNT) est en cours sur le territoire ivoirien, évolution qui renforce la nécessité d’une mesure d’audience fiable et régulière afin de permettre une édition adaptée des chaînes et programmes répondant aux attentes de la population. Bien que tous les indicateurs de mesure d’audience ne soient pas investigués par les enquêtes d’Afrobarometer, les résultats ici présentés révèlent que la télévision et la radio ont les scores les plus élevés d’audecie. Cependant l’on observe que les audiences de l’Internet et des médias sociaux tels que Facebook et Twitter connaissent une forte progression. La radio se présente comme le seul média à s’imposer aussi bien en milieu rural qu’urbain et avec la plus faible différence selon le niveau de pauvreté." (résumé)

https://afrobarometer.org/publications/ad379-face-l-hegemonie-de-la-télévision-et-la-radio-internet-et-les-medias-sociaux

AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN

"En la mayoría de los casos existe una relación lineal entre la confianza y el consumo de cada medio. En ese contexto, entre los consumidores frecuentes de cada medio la confianza neta (Confía Mucho + Confías Algo) es mayor en Telefe (80%), CSN (78%) y Clarín (74%). De todos modos, cabe aclarar que en todos los medios la confianza neta entre los consumidores frecuentes es mayor al 50%. En varios medios de comunicación se observa partidismo en su consumo y en la confianza. En efecto, se reflejan diferencias en el consumo de medios entre los votantes de Macri y de Fernández principalmente en CSN, TN (Todo Noticias), La Nación, Canal 13 y Página 12. Al contrario, se observa una mayor similitud de consumo entre votantes en los casos de Canal 26 y Telefe. Por su parte, la mayor diferencia sobre la confianza en los medios según el voto se registra en TN"

Key finding 1: A trusted thirdperson is the most important information provider. When asked for their main source of information, family, friends, and religious leaders accounted for 88% of the response choices combined. Additionally, 97% stated they trust their family and friends. Key finding 2: Social media, the new player in the game? Even though radio remains the main channel of information used by the population (76%), followed by television (49%) – WhatsApp (28%) and Facebook (23%) combined total 57% of respondents’ choice. Moreover, among participants who have Internet access, the leading applications to receive news are WhatsApp (82%) and Facebook (70%). Key finding 3: News on current events and sports are the most preferred content in traditional media channels. Participants mostly responded they like to see “news on current events” and “sports news” in traditional media channels. Radio listeners mostly enjoy “news on current events” (61%), newspapers readers like to read about “news on current events” (65%) and “sports news” (33%), and television consumers mostly favor “news on current events” (49%) and “sports news” (37%). Sports are ahead of educational and/or health programs in all types of media. Key finding 4: Residents in Port-au-Prince have unmet information needs. When asked about the information they need the most – at the time –, 52% of participants selected “how to find a job”, followed closely by “general news about what is happening in the country including COVID-19” (51%). Respondents also asked for more information on “How to access to food and drinking water” (48%), as well as information about the “security situation in Port-au-Prince” (47%). Key finding 5: Information consumers are not passive actors: trust and relevance are key points. Content and source about the main two factors affecting the information ecosystem in Port-au-Prince. Even among their preferred source of information – family and friends – or their preferred channel – radio, trust is not blindly granted. In the focus groups, participants point out the lack of training of journalists, the fact that many confuse facts with opinions or place greater value in sensationalism, often leading to unsubstantiated claims and misinformation ...


http://saber.ucab.edu.ve/bitstream/handle/123456789/1700/Prosumidores%20y%20comunicacion%20en%20la%20era%20digital-UCAB-2020.pdf?seq=ence=1


*Que se haya establecido en primer lugar el uso de la aplicación WhatsApp nos muestra la importancia de las redes en la comunicación personal, afectiva, familiar, en el trabajo, la economía y la organización de las personas. El Facebook denota la importancia e las redes abiertas. Sin embargo, también las características como medio de información y el grado de apertura de la población a la información global. En tercer lugar, la importancia del Google y el YouTube como plataformas de exploración de información más especializada en salud, tutoriales para actividades manuales, información agropecuaria, muestra nuevas formas de búsqueda y de adquisición de conocimientos y habilidades en diferentes temas de interés, sin límite. Otras formas de acceder a vincularse de manera colectiva e individual, como la información de otras organizaciones, el correo electrónico, aunque han mostrado numéricamente menos representatividad, su uso no es menos importante, ya que por una parte se trata de contenido local nacional y por otra de comunicación personalizada. Respecto a las brechas del uso del Internet frente al nivel de educación alcanzado, estas pueden ser disminuidas gracias a las herramientas, como el uso de mensajes de voz, por lo que llamamos a los jóvenes a darse la tarea de encontrar la manera de transferir estos conocimientos a las personas con mayores dificultades. De manera que se independicen para atender sus propias necesidades de información. Al mismo tiempo que el estudio ha encontrado relaciones de solidaridad entre familiares y vecinos, que llevan más allá del uso individual de estos medios, por lo que alentamos a mantener estos mecanismos de colaboración. La radio y la televisión son todavía importantes medios de información, sin embargo, la tendencia en la propia comunidad Machareti muestra que puede ser complementario al uso del internet, lo que en los próximos años ayudaría a disminuir la brecha generacional entre los distintos medios de difusión y comunicación. (conclusiones, p.79-80)

https://ipsdrs.org/index.php/publicaciones/libros/impreso/93

ASA & PACIFIC


*The study revealed some clear patterns about why people fall for misinformation, regardless of their age, gender or education level. Some of the key trends common across city and village respondents were: 1. Majority of the respondents do not question the source of the information, or assess if the source or sender is a credible authority on the subject. Respondents across demographics focus more on the content of the message and rely on personal biases and beliefs while deciding whether they will believe or reject a message. 2. Respondents usually do not verify information from alternative sources on the web. There is a noticeable skepticism against social media, but despite that it is noteworthy that majority respondents are unaware of strategies to evaluate evidence or verify online content. 3. A great deal of trust in mainstream media, to the point that they blindly trust information misattributed to mainstream media. 4. Majority respondents do not realise the extent of manipulated content they access online. Respondents are also oblivious to the absence of gatekeeping on social media and the difference of nature between news versus non-news content. 5. If the sender is a prominent influencer or a person they look up, respondents were more likely to believe the message. Believability increases if the ideology of person sharing information aligns with that of the audience. (key insights from user study, p.4)


*The essays collected here are based on two decades of engagement with the residents of the slums of Govindpuri in India’s capital, Delhi. The book presents stories of many kinds, from speculative treatises, via the recollection of a thousand everyday conversations, to an account of the making of a radio documentary. Zig-zagging through the lanes of Govindpuri, Listening into Others explores the vibrant sounds emanating from slum living. From the crossing of the war of the sexes through bodily gestures, and conflicts over ownership of both property and sound generated in the slums — these are among the many encounters Chandola opens up to the reader. Slums are anxious spaces in the materiality, experience, and imagination of a city. They are the by-products of the violent and exploitative mechanisms of urbanization. What becomes of the slum-dwellers, who universally, across centuries, cities and continents, befal similar fates of being discriminated, reckoned to be the scum of the earth, and a burden on society? By listening to identified others and amplifying their voices in their own vocabularies and grammar, Tripta Chandola’s praxis creates a methodological, political, and poetic rupture. Slums, she finds, are not anathema to the city’s past, present, or future. They are an integral component of urbanization and a foundational part of the city. (publisher)

https://networkcultures.org/blog/publication/toy36-listening-into-others-an-ethnographic-exploration-in-govindpuri/


*Across various demographics, Sri Lankan audiences highly value news and current information. More than three quarters (77%) identified news as being very important, and another 18% said it was somewhat important. National news on current affairs had the highest level of audience interest (76%), followed by national politics, local current affairs, national level entertainment news, national weather, local politics and national level sports. There was limited interest in economic and business news, and even less in international news. Audiences have a good sense of what good journalism means to them. Among the many attributes of good journalism highlighted by participants were: trustworthy, evidence-based information; clear and accurate; timely and relevant; and drawing from multiple sources; ethical use of sensitive visuals; and never advocating racism or violence. Most people turn to two, three or four news sources on a regular basis apparently to guard against being misled by media biases and manipulation ...

(executive summary)


*This study was specifically intended to: 1. provide comprehensive insight into the public’s media consumption patterns, and its underlying causes: a) values; b) needs and interests, particularly regarding media content; c) motivation and aspirations, with specific emphasis on buying media content; d) financial functioning and attitudes towards different types of payment systems, etc. and 2. provide comprehensive analysis and recommendations to inform the Strengthening Media Systems Activity (SMS) programmatic approach in all aspects of media sustainability, as well as to inform organizational and business strategies and tactics of different types of media outlets on the local, regional and national levels. The research implemented in 2019 combined a variety of methods (both quantitative and qualitative) and techniques (a face-to-face survey and computer-assisted web interviewing, or CAWI), and targeted a number of groups – a representative sample of 1500 respondents age 15 to 65 for the face-to-face survey, a sample of 100 daily internet users for web interviews, and 96 internet and local media users aged 15 to 65 for the 12 focus group discussions in Belgrade, Niš, Kragujevac, Novi Sad, Sombor, Loznica, and Zajecar. The key aim of the research was to gain an in-depth understanding of the needs, habits, and expectations of the audience, in order to facilitate rational and informed discussion about the media sector and public attitudes; and strategic decision-making by media businesses, with the starting assumption that understanding audience needs and profiling target groups constitutes integral parts of any media business strategy in terms of both preparing and formatting media content. Thus, the study was structured to facilitate the achievement of SMS objectives and to provide directions for SMS strategic and operational interventions in the following areas: 1. Content production and editorial policy, 2. Content sources and formats, 3. Interaction and community involvement, and 4. Financial sustainability." (abstract, p.2-3) https://www.irex.org/sites/default/files/pdf/sms-demand-side-report-serbia.pdf


*Many parents and guardians are under a common misconception that their child is safer if they use the computer at home, or at school, than elsewhere. This is a dangerous misconception because the Internet can take children and young people virtually anywhere in the world, and in the process, they can be exposed to potentially dangerous risks, just as they could in the physical world. However, children and young people do experience slightly increased risk of harm when accessing the Internet via a smartphone, tablet or other handheld devices. This is because these handheld devices give instant access to the Internet from anywhere and are less likely to be monitored by parents or carers. These guidelines have been developed within the Child Online Protection (COP) initiative, as part of the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda3, with the aim of establishing the foundations for a safe and secure cyberworld not only for today’s youth but also for future generations. These guidelines also target children with vulnerabilities, particularly, migrant children, children with ASD and children with disabilities. The guidelines are meant to act as a blueprint which can be adapted and used in a way that is consistent with national or local customs and laws and address issues that might affect all children and young people under the age of 18.* (executive summary) https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/CyberSecurity/Pages/COP-2020-Guidelines.aspx


*We recruited participants aged 13-14 in three countries: Mexico, South Africa and the Netherlands. Through a questionnaire, an observation exercise and interviews, we gathered information in order to identify trends ... We constructed a number of global personas that cut across the groups. Safety Seeker: Aims to avoid potential harm online; they do not interact with content they believe is not genuine and they are discerning about friend requests. Awareness Raiser: Is concerned about global issues and considers the positive impact of online content more important than its veracity. Entertainment Junkie: Cares about having fun, being entertained and making friends smile; truth isn’t as important. Dedicated Fan: Believes content posted by the people they admire and will call out fake news about the things they care about. Socialiser: Is all about friends, connecting across several social media platforms. They are discerning about friends but still have hundreds -- and they believe the things they share. Scrollor: Doesn’t engage with misinformation or content they don’t care about; they just scroll on past. They can be challenging to engage.* (executive summary, p.4-5) https://www.freepressunlimited.org/sites/freepressunlimited.org/files/research-fpu-keeping_it_real.pdf


*The Theories of Change for both Citizens’ Voice [a programme focusing on social cohesion and inclusive governance] and the SRHR programme (which includes Love Matters [delivering information and media on love, sex and relationships to 18-30-year-olds]) contain a key assumption that through providing reliable information on our digital platforms, young people gain new knowledge and understanding on topics that matter to them. For Citizens’ Voice, the assumption is that by accessing pluralistic information and engaging in dialogue with people with other backgrounds and perspectives, young people are aware of different viewpoints, accept and respect diversity, challenge restrictive norms and participate in society. For Love Matters, it relates to providing evidence-based and pleasure-positive SRHR information that helps people to make informed decisions in their personal lives. To investigate whether this assumption holds true for both programmes, a dedicated survey question was included in the surveys of platform users conducted as part of the Next Generation Mid-Term Review (MTR) evaluation conducted by external researchers in 2019. This open question asked users whether they could give an example of a change they had experienced through engaging with the platform. The answers and examples given by users have been analysed by the PMEL team to answer the main research question: To what extent do users’ experiences change in knowledge, attitude or behaviour as a result of engaging with the platform?* (introduction) https://www.rnw.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Creating-Change-through-Digital-Communities-2.pdf


*Overall, this evaluation has shown that over the last biennia UNESCO has made significant achievements through its work in MIL and is holding the lead in this constantly evolving field that has gained increasing importance at the forefront of global and national agendas. It also revealed that MIL offers increasingly interdisciplinary opportunities for the Organization and strategic decisions are needed as to the level of priority and adequacy of resources required for optimally positioning this strand of work to contribute to the achievement of Agenda 2030 through a wide range of topics. Among other, work on data privacy and big data, media and freedom of expression areas, a focus on PVE and a boost towards the disinformation, life-long learning and artificial intelligence approaches, as well as an enhanced focus on disadvantaged groups and a more consistent approach to advancing gender equality will allow UNESCO to remain at the forefront and to keep and expand its intellectual and foresight role in the area of MIL.* (abstract) https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000374972


*Media and Information Literacy (MIL) plays an essential role in helping people navigate the media. It helps them separate fact from fiction, exercise their right to access information and be active members of the media ecosystem. DW Akademie’s goal is to empower young people to be active and act responsibly in the media world.* (p.3) https://www.dw.com/downloads/55960001/dw-akademie-mil-flashcards-2020-english.pdf


*Here are some practical steps you can follow to keep yourself safer during this period and improve the time that you and your family have both online and offline: 1. It is important to check your privacy settings on ALL of your social media accounts and know how to set your accounts to private or to friends online. You can find advice here or here on how to change your settings. 2. Make sure that when you are using any applications that use video, your location cannot be identified. 3. When you step away from the camera for any reason, the video may still be on and recording. It is okay to cover the camera when not using it. ALWAYS ensure that the video is turned off at the end of a session. And think about what other people can see when the video is on. 4. Be extra careful of how you treat and communicate with your friends online during this time. Think about how you post, comments, likes and shares might affect those who see them. 5. Meeting new people is part of the attraction of being online but be extra careful while you are online during the pandemic. Remember that not everyone online who wants to talk to you has the same reason as you for wanting to chat. If you are in any doubt, block the person and speak to a trusted adult about your concerns ...* (p.2-3) https://reliefweb.int/report/world/tips-young-people-staying-safe-online-during-covid-19-pandemic

"This open access book considers the stories of adolescents and young adults from different regions of the world who use digital media as instruments and stages for storytelling, or who make themselves the subject of storytelling. These narratives discuss interconnectedness, self-staging, and managing boundaries. From the perspective of media and cultural research, they can be read as responses to the challenges of contemporary society. Providing empirical evidence and thought-provoking explanations, this book will be useful to students and scholars who wish to uncover how ongoing processes of cultural transformation are reflected in the thoughts and feelings of the internet generation." (publisher)

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-51189-0

AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN


"Esta es una obra miscelánea que se adentra, desde múltiples perspectivas, en las interacciones entre educación y comunicación por medio de la influencia global de las redes sociales. En un contexto hipereconectado, pero no necesariamente ‘empoderado’, resulta esencial la formación en competencias mediáticas para que la ciudadanía pueda responder de forma inteligente, crítica y creativa ante el gran reto de la ‘pantalla global’. El texto es resultado de los trabajos de la Red Interuniversitaria Euroamericana «Alfamed» en el V Congreso Internacional de Competencias Mediáticas: «Redes sociales y ciudadanía: Hacia un mundo ciberconectado y empoderado», celebrado en dos modalidades: versión virtual del 14 al 16 de octubre de 2020, y versión presencial del 5 al 7 de mayo de 2021 en Quito (Ecuador)." (cubierta posterior)

subjects: digital & information literacy; digital media use: children; digital media use: youth; mobile phone use: youth; Instagram; YouTube; civil society, civic engagement, citizen participation & digital media; cyber advocacy / digital activism; media literacy & education: teacher training; prosumers; influencer (social media); media literacy & education: secondary education; distance education; algorithms & big data - Latin America; Spain - case studies

https://doi.org/10.3916/Alfamed2020

ASIA & PACIFIC


Summary of Key Findings: Facebook is “best” source of information for elections, but television is still most trusted. Among first time youth voters, 83% of survey respondents cited Facebook as the best channel to receive election information. In Myanmar, Facebook and the Internet are virtually interchangeable. Key Informant Interviews (KII) and Focused Group Discussions (FGD) confirmed that information flows primarily among Facebook users, who receive and share information in their respective common interest groups on Facebook, highlighting the importance of informal social media networks, which function as information sharing mechanisms. A few qualifying facts add more nuance to this finding: 1) the online survey was distributed through Facebook, which self-selects Facebook users; 2) the emergence of COVID-19 has increased Facebook use and the number of Facebook users; 3) respondents and interviewees were well aware of disinformation common to the platform, diluting their trust in information received via social media ...


https://doi.org/10.5771/9783748922216

EUROPE


"El imparable progreso tecnológico, los nuevos dispositivos electrónicos que se van incorporando al mercado, a la sociedad y a los centros educativos, demandan la adquisición y desarrollo de competencias digitales sólidas entre los ciudadanos. Dado que es en la etapa de Educación Obligatoria cuando los estudiantes adquieren, desarrollan y van consolidando estas competencias, esta obra ofrece las claves para evaluarlas, al presentar una prueba muy relevante para los docentes, Ecodies, ya validada y que puede emplearse, total o parcialmente, dependiendo de las áreas de competencia digital que se deseen evaluar. La obra también proporciona una revisión exhaustiva sobre las principales variables personales y familiares que influyen en la adquisición y desarrollo las competencias digitales, por lo que resulta de interés para las familias y los distintos profesionales de la educación. Además, se describe todo el proceso de investigación realizado para la elaboración de Ecodies y su validación, así como las decisiones adoptadas respecto al diseño metodológico." (https://octaedro.com)

MIDDLE EAST / WESTERN ASIA & NORTH AFRICA


https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000374975

Christian & Religious Communication

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


"El Papa Francisco, contribuye directamente a señalar tanto las nociones básicas para una experiencia auténticamente comunicativa, describe los ambientes que gestan y nutren esta capacidad, especialmente desde el núcleo de la familia, así como recomienda el rumbo del desempeño profesional de los comunicadores a la par de su comprensión y manejo de los recursos tecnológicos tanto tradicionales como de nueva generación a su alcance. Así, se puede concluir, y a partir de una síntesis conceptual de sus Mensajes dirigidos a la Jornada Mundial de las Comunicaciones Sociales cuatro ejes que pudieran representar su carácter de Pastor y comunicador. Se agruapan así sus constantes sobre la experiencia de la comunicación cuatro dimensiones: 1. Entender la comunicación..."


https://doi.org/10.1201/9780429322198


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subjects: Christian media ethics; digital & social media ethics; journalism ethics; advertising ethics; video games; ethical issues

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


subjects: Catholic communicators / journalists; Catholic congregations & communication; Jesuits - Zimbabwe - biographical reference works & biographies


35. Alberto Gil, Guido Gili: Transmission or ‘creative fidelity’? The institutional communicators’ role in the Church today. In: Church, communication & culture, vol. 5, nr. 3, 2020, p.320-338

*The role of the institutional communicator in the Church today has a special relevance derived from the credibility crisis suffered by this institution. A greatly increased awareness to this theme leads to the discovery of profound and essential dimensions of this role, which are discussed in this article. The focus is on the credibility of the communicator, who, on one hand is called to take full responsibility for what he says, but on the other hand speaks in the name of and through a collective subject—the Church or one of its specific constituent parts—that doesn’t always receive much appreciation from its numerous audiences; it is actually often perceived to be “biased” as an institution, it is widely opposed and criticized. An in-depth analysis regarding the role of credibility from a sociological point of view is illustrated by the application of the three roles identified by Erving Goffman—animator, author and principal—to the figure of the institutional communicator, underlining his responsibilities as communication co-leader. A comparison with the concept of translator as a mediator illuminates other characteristics of the communicator, and functions as a basis to comment on some of the virtues (both personal and professional), which he must possess, enhancing both his credibility and efficiency. The application of the concept of creative fidelity (fidélité créatrice) from the French philosopher Gabriel Marcel, together with the interaction between comprehension and exposition in a comprehensible manner (hermeneutics and creativity), highlights the necessity of reconsidering the importance of communication and of the communicator within the decision-making process." (abstract)

https://doi.org/10.1080/23753234.2020.1820881


*En el primer momento de nuestra investigación plantearíamos un estado de situación de la pastoral de la comunicación, analizando algunos documentos del magisterio pontificio desde comienzo del siglo XX hasta nuestros días. Presentaremos las perspectivas y las actitudes de la Iglesia en su vínculo con los medios de comunicación y las líneas pastorales propuestas para afrontar los desafíos culturales suscitados por el impacto de las tecnologías de la comunicación en cada momento de la historia ... Hemos dicho que somos testigos de los cambios culturales que han producido las tecnologías de la comunicación, pero ¿qué entendemos por el concepto el cultura? A partir de algunos autores, en un segundo momento profundizaremos brevemente en esta noción, a la luz de las ciencias humanísticas, de la antropología y la sociología. Presentaremos también la evolución de este concepto en el magisterio eclesiástico desde el Concilio Vaticano II hasta nuestros días, llegando a la definición de cultura que propone Papa Francisco en la exhortación Evangelii Gaudium, asumiendo el valioso aporte elaborado por el magisterio latinoamericano. A continuación presentaremos una descripción de la cultura comunicativa actual a la luz de tres autores, Henry Jenkins, Ruggero Eugeni y Luciano Floridi, quienes han investigado las tecnologías de la comunicación y su impacto en el hombre y la sociedad. Por último, presentaremos el aporte de Massimiliano Padula y Filippo Ceretti, que propondrán un retorno a la dimensión antropológica de la comunicación a la que llamarán humanidad medial ... Luego de adentrarnos en este contexto comunicativo y su impacto en la cultura, la pregunta se hace evidente: ¿cómo pensar una pastoral de la comunicación en esta cultura postmedial? A partir de este análisis intentaremos presentar en el último capítulo algunos elementos para diseñar una pastoral medial hoy. Desde la perspectiva antropológica de las tecnologías de la comunicación, buscaríamos reconocer cuál es el kairós propio de este tiempo que nos toca vivir, proponiendo algunos criterios para diseñar una pastoral medial con un nuevo estilo evangelizador a la luz de las enseñanzas de Papa Francisco. No es nuestra intención proponer una guía exhaustiva sobre cómo elaborar y establecer un plan de comunicación eclesial, sino presentar algunos elementos que sirvan como “materia prima” para la reflexión y el discernimiento sobre cómo llevar adelante una pastoral de la comunicación que sea evangelizadora en y de la cultura postmedia.* (Introducción, p.6-7)


subjects: Pentecostal Churches; Pentecostal Churches & communication; religion and politics - Brazil


*This article refutes dominant views that define evangelical indigenous media as intrinsic tools for religious indoctrination. The case of the Colombian Misak community shows that evangelical radio stations can contribute to community building. However, the degree of the positive or negative contribution of evangelical media depends on the dominance of evangelical presence at indigenous localities. The rapid expansion of indigenous evangelical groups via the provision of social services has radicalized Evangelicals against views different from their own. As a result, these evangelical media are progressively...

*"[This publication] is a senior project in Religious Studies that explores the conditions, both historical and clinical, which led to the popularity of the guided meditation app Headspace, and the cultural attitudes that surround mindfulness meditation in America." (publisher) https://digitalcommons.bard.edu/senproj_s2020/255/*


*"Los distintos capítulos y temas que forman el enjambre de este plan de comunicación tendrán un alcance muy ambicioso y se contempla inicie su aplicación a partir de enero del año 2021 extendiéndose hasta septiembre del 2023, estructurada en tres etapas. El primer capítulo explica la justificación de nuestro plan de comunicación y se resume de forma concisa y precisa por qué se ha elegido diseñar este necesario plan de comunicación para la CED. En el segundo capítulo el enfoque se dirige a la audición inicial realizada, la cual incluye la investigación sobre los antecedentes de la institución, estructura, gestión de la comunicación, análisis de la noticiableza de la organización, medios digitales, entre otras informaciones. En el tercer capítulo se establecen los objetivos generales y objetivos específicos, y en el cuarto, se delimitan los públicos internos y externos con los cuales se relaciona la institución. En el quinto capítulo se definen los argumentarios y contraargumentarios, las estrategias de comunicación y las acciones propuestas para llevar a cabo la estrategia. En el sexto capítulo, se detalla la inversión que se requiere para la aplicación del plan, en el séptimo, la calendarización de las acciones, en el octavo, las conclusiones y, finalmente, las futuras líneas de investigación para desarrollar en un próximo plan de comunicación." (introducción, p.9-10)"


*"Investiga os efeitos de sentido, como são construídos e que valores são colocados em circulação no espaço destinado aos comentários nas transmissões ao vivo das missas pelo Facebook. Busca entender como, ao longo da transmissão, acontecem as interações entre público, padre e plataforma no espaço dedicado aos comentários. Toma como corpus os comentários das live das celebrações transmitidas através da página do Padre Anderson Gomes, responsável pela administração da Paróquia Nossa Senhora do Perpétuo Socorro, em Vitória do Valé (ES). Constitui pesquisa documental, a partir dos posts extraídos da página, com recorte feito após o levantamento das transmissões das missas realizadas no período de um ano, entre 01 de outubro de 2017 e 30 de setembro de 2018. Analisa a transmissão ocorrida no dia 10 de julho de 2018. Trata os dados de forma qualitativa, à luz do referencial teórico e metodológico da sociocosmética, de Eric Landovski, A.J Greimas e colaboradores. Tem como hipóteses que a experiência religiosa on-line do público está vinculada à experiência offline e que a interação entre os sujeitos acontece não só através dos regimes de manipulação e programação, mas também a partir do regime de ajustamento." (resumo) http://portal.ufes.br/posgrad/reses/teses/14123_01dissertao57%CEo_final_gilliard.pdf*

44. Paulina Guzik: An unfinished story of conversion: clerical sexual abuse in Poland. A communications case study on betrayal, healing and trust recovery. In: Church, communication & culture, vol. 5, nr. 3, 2020, p.417-455

*"Poland is one of the most Catholic countries in the world. 33 million out of its 38 million people (92.9% of its population) declare themselves to be Roman Catholic. Church initiatives for the needy, whether poor or immigrants, are everywhere. The Church is a robust and influential institution, strengthened by the pontificate of the Polish Pope, John Paul II, who is considered not only a saint but also a national hero. In many aspects, Poland could be put as an example for Catholics in other countries. But there is an issue in which the Church is not at the vanguard: the fight against sexual abuse. Recent cases have eroded the solid trust Polish people put in their Church. More recently, the documentary Tell No One, released in two parts in May 2019 and May 2020, was a turning point, and the confidence in the institution visibly plummeted. This case study tells the recent story of the issue of sexual abuse by Catholic clergy in Poland, its lights and its shadows. The paper ends with some suggestions for a trust recovery strategy, as recommendations for both Church authorities and their communication offices." (abstract) https://doi.org/10.1080/23743670.2020.1725776*

MIDDLE EAST / WESTERN ASIA & NORTH AFRICA


*"Issues of verification in the age of mass media, and now social media, have been a long-discussed topic among Islamic media scholars. While Islam might be a common thread in COVID-19 religious misinformation, there is nothing inherently Islamic to the religious tinged elements of misinformation on social media, beyond its use for financial or political expediency. Furthermore, religious misinformation can be used by opponents of Islam to further undermine the religion and its adherents, prompting Islamophobia. Religious misinformation comes from various types of actors. On one hand, we saw examples of top-down misinformation from certain religious leaders who benefit from social media platforms to spread false remedies. On the other hand, demonstrate content creators taking advantage of pandemic-induced uncertainty to attract new subscribers and followers. While the content and the actors behind religious misinformation are significant, in McLuhan’s terms, the medium is the real message (McLuhan, 1964). Social media platforms are defining new parameters for religious dynamics and authority. They are the impetus behind why religious misinformation is contributing to this infodemic. Social media platforms have become digital worship spaces for some believers. In recent years, religious leaders were able to share their teachings, while repurposing and remixing Holy scripture to bolster religious participation (Brubaker & Haigh, 2017; Cheong, 2014). Social media have in some instances disrupted and challenged the traditional forms of religious authority structures. Now, anyone can claim religious authority, or assume religious leadership, something ordinarily be out of reach without social media. This form of misinformation finds a home among an online audience eager for peace at a time of crisis. Conspiracy-based content reduces the complexity of reality and simplifies causation in times of uncertainty." (conclusion) https://doi.org/10.1177/2056305120948251*


Community Media

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARIAN


*"The promulgation of the Broadcasting Service Act (BSA), which contains a three-tier model of the broadcasting system, was supposed to revolutionise the broadcasting media sphere in Zimbabwe. It was supposed to change the dynamics of radio broadcasting in Zimbabwe by increasing the opportunity for public, commercial and community broadcasting sectors. However, the three-tier model of broadcasting has remained on the paper, creating a strong debate on community radio licensing among media activists, practitioners, academics, the government and other media policy stakeholders on the government’s reluctance in issuing community radio licences. While some studies have focused on the strategies used by community broadcasting activists to communicate with their target audiences in Zimbabwe, this research seeks to contribute to the growing body of literature on community broadcasting policy and the contestations which have resulted in the impasse of the licensing of community radios in Zimbabwe. Based on the Four Theoretical Approach to Community Media, in-depth interviews with Zimbabwean media policy stakeholders as well as documentary analysis, this study explores the contestation of ideas that characterised community broadcasting reform processes in Zimbabwe." (abstract) https://doi.org/10.1080/2056305120948251*

EUROPE

44. Paulina Guzik: An unfinished story of conversion: clerical sexual abuse in Poland. A communications case study on betrayal, healing and trust recovery. In: Church, communication & culture, vol. 5, nr. 3, 2020, p.417-455
The coordinator of the Medios Comunitarios, Populares y Educativos del Ecuador (CORAPE), the biggest network of community media in Ecuador, and since 2016 has been the main partner of DW Akademie in that South American country. Between 2016 and 2019 the two organizations implemented a project financed by the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), with the aim to strengthen the work of community media in Ecuador in the provision of access to information to vulnerable populations, especially in indigenous languages. One central line of this project was the financial sustainability or viability of community media, which has historically been one of the greatest problems for this sector. The economic viability of community media worsened during the course of the project because of economic and political changes in the country: the fall in oil prices and state restructuring made necessary by the fiscal crisis caused a drastic reduction in advertising income for community media. The project was designed with the participation of CORAPE members, leading to the definition of four focus areas of media viability (advertising; projects and entrepreneurship; partnerships and alliances; production and programming) and the agreement on a series of methodological tools. A selection of eight community media outlets, which varied in their nature, organization, and sources of financing, participated in a process of self-analysis, external consultation, and peer exchanges with the goal of finding solutions to the viability of community media. In this way, they succeeded in defining a series of processes and created specialized tools that could be applied within the network, as well as to other community media in the world. This publication is divided into three chapters. The first presents background information, justification for the project, and the methodology used. The second shows the training procedures and best practices of four of the participating community media outlets. The final chapter reflects the learning outcomes of the project by recommending eight steps and tools to help community media achieve viability. (p.7) https://www.dw.com/downloads/55578023/dw-akademiecommunity-media-in-latinamerican-media-viability-in-web-version.pdf

49. Karla Palma, Camila Alcaíno: Mining the media: how commu-nity radio breaks through extractivist discourse articulations in a context of disaster and socio-environmental conflicts. In: Environmental communication, vol. 14, nr. 6, 2020, p.830-843

"Mining extractive companies have extended their operations to other realms, such as the management of media. Thus, from a space of physical intervention, they start to conquer a space of symbolic representation, creating a gap between local communities’ perceptions of the mining process and the perception that is spread through media outlets about the operations in the territories. In Chile, this perception is complicated by the influence of a pervasive development discourse on the grassroots activities and functions of community media. The starkest example of this was observed through the far-reaching articulations in a context of disaster and socio-environmental conflict in the Choapa Valley where the copper mine Los Pelambres operates. It does it by first discussing how the mining industry pursues narratives of extractivism in the Chilean media and then discussing how local communities defy this narrative by creating their description of the territory through local media outlets." (abstract) https://doi.org/10.1080/17524032.2020.1756887

50. Juan Domingo Ramírez Cáceres: Census of community radio stations in Chile: territorial location, description, charac-teristics and projection of community radio work. In: Journal of radio & audio media, 2020

"The article gives an account of the results of the first census of community radios (CR) in Chile. The official data on these stations and those collected by community radio organizations are not complete or reliable, so it is necessary to know how many radios they are, where they are located territorially and what their characteristics are. The census detects 361 community radio stations distributed in the country. It accounts for characteristic elements and reaffirms the differences in the development of CR in Chile, in relation to other Latin American countries such as Argentina, Ecuador or Colombia, where radios occupy frequencies of the radio spectrum before the government allows it, negotiating its legalization later. It is determined that in Chile the majority of CRs initiate their transmissions and operate in accordance with the law. They are mostly small radios, since Chilean law allows them a maximum of 25 watts; its members are mainly volunteers, with low audience participation in their management and with a weak association between them and with existing radio organizations. The article provides data that allows the development of territorial profiles of broadcasters and provides information on their technical, operational and financial characteristics, and helps to know how CRs actually work in Chile." (abstract) https://doi.org/10.1080/19376529.2019.1698046


"The guide aims to make what community engagement practitioners do visible and demonstrate why it matters. We’re not walking Rolodexes for reporters to tap, nor are we party planners or social media administrators. We create spaces and processes for the people we want to serve to gather their experiences and collaborate with our newsrooms to report them. This takes more time and effort than you might think. It involves a lot of unglamorous labor, such as coordinating meetings, taking and distributing notes, following up with people about tasks, facilitating group processes, and developing partnerships — skill sets that are not often celebrated in newsroom culture, but whose absence is felt acutely when they are missing. This guide is about what engagement looks like and what it takes to do it well. My hope is that it fuels colleagues’ efforts nationwide who struggle for recognition and support in newsroom workflows, as well as helps editors and reporters realize that engagement is not separate from editorial, but plays a fundamental role in crafting relevant, powerful, and nuanced journalism." (p.5) https://internews.org/sites/default/files/2020-07/JMR_playbook_07-13-20_V3.pdf


La importancia de la prevención en la protección integral a las emisoras comunitarias -- Los retos del acuerdo de paz: la situación de las emisoras comunitarias de Caquetá, Nariño, Putumayo y Guaviare -- Aspectos que deben tenerse en cuenta para la realización de análisis de ámbito y entorno -- Medidas de autodifusión para las emisoras comunitarias -- Medidas de autoprotección previas al cubrimiento de temas de interés comunitario -- Medidas de autoprotección durante el cubrimiento de interés comunitario -- La autoprotección empieza al interior de la emisora comunitaria -- Reflexiones y cuestionamientos sobre la difusión de interés comunitario -- Rutas de acción para responder a situaciones de riesgo imminente -- Normatividad que ampara el desarrollo de la labor informativa de las emisoras comunitarias https://flip.org.co/index.php/es/publicaciones/manuales/item/2332-comunicar-sin-riesgo-radios-comunitarias-en-tiempos-de-paz-manual-de-autoproteccion


"Community radio in India operates within a clear framework of development. This calls into question the fundamental purpose of community radio: communication rights, activism, voice, community participation or development? Drawing on ethnographic research conducted at two rural stations in South India, this research explores the influence of a pervasive development discourse on the grassroots activities and functions of community radio. The starkest example of this was observed through the far-reaching influence of the Government of India’s highly publicised sanitisation programme, the Swachh Bharat Mission. This programme represents a pervasive example of the modernisation paradigm in development communication, yet it was found to proliferate throughout community radio, a medium more often associated with participatory communication. This development discourse was found to profoundly impact the way both broadcasters and audience members engage with and experience community radio. The findings highlight a disconnect between the theoretical and ideological frameworks of community radio and the ways in which a development discourse operates through the stations at the grassroots level. As such, this article argues that community radio in India represents a liminal space where multiple development communication paradigms interact and compete with the theoretical underpinnings of the movement." (abstract) https://doi.org/10.1080/01436597.2020.1809371


"This article examines the role of local radio in the contemporary media environment, specifically as a site for community engagement. Previous research finds journalistic organisations, at the local level, are critical to the functioning of society and more needs to be understood about their contemporary role amid destabilised and fragmented public discourse. In contrast to unrestrained and untrustworthy social media platforms, the mediation of local radio can assist in encouraging more inclusive, constructive, and respectful views from people from diverse sectors of society. Empirical research from a case study of a locally produced ABC Radio Community Conversation event exploring community tensions about built, heritage and environmental development in the Australian island state of Tasmania provides new insights into how the facilitation of local radio discussion can help build trust, public knowledge and enable greater participation. Listening and transparency from journalists about their practices is important, creating a

"The traditional approach of communication for rural development (RD) was greatly influenced by the dominant paradigm of development. The retool against this paradigm gave birth to the participatory approach of communication wherein the common people in rural areas were considered as the 'subjects' of development in conjunction with their active involvement. It is the era when alternative communication medium like community radio (CR) was accepted as a tool of participatory RD in developing countries like India. Based on case studies of India’s pioneer CRs (Sangam Radio and Radio Bundelkhand), using media ethnography tools, a qualitative enquiry was carried out to explore its role in the process of RD by inclusion of voices of rural subalterns in their own development."

[abstract]
https://doi.org/10.17172/10165291198686623


"This paper suggests that social media has the potential to play a greater role in building peace in the following ways: Offering new perspectives in understanding conflict contexts and so informing how interventions are designed, including mapping actors and conversations, gathering data about conflict dynamics and overcoming traditional programme design challenges. Amplifying peaceful voices while shaping the public and political narrative, including countering fake news and threat narratives, addressing potential trigger points such as rumour management and acting as a bridging function between local, national and international spheres to mobilise action. Creating new spaces for people to connect, coordinate and mobilise around peace, including as a vehicle for collective coping, augmenting traditional dialogue activities, engaging people in dialogue who may not ordinarily participate in offline activities and strengthening peace processes ...

To take full advantage of social media’s potential, the paper recommends the establishment of partnerships between donors, social media companies and peacebuilding organisations; increased support for and emphasis on social media as a public space for positive political dialogue and countering misinformation; investment in a stronger evidence base; increased flexibility in design and funding for public media peaceorientated programming; and the safeguarding of civil society space in regulating the sector." (executive summary)


"The media can play a positive role in peacebuilding/conflict prevention. Recognition of this has led to increasing programmes on media/communications and peacebuilding, with common interventions including training of journalists, and development of pro-peace programme content. However, there are significant challenges in designing and implementing such programmes, and even more in evaluation. While some interventions have generated positive results (e.g. reduced election-related violence), evidence is limited and it is hard to make causal links between interventions and impact. This highlights the need for more research." (summary, p.2)
https://openjournals.ids.ac.uk/openjournals/handle/20.500.12413/15226


What is online hate speech? -- Hate: an emotion -- Globalization of hate -- Victims of hate - -- Hate from the perspective of the victims -- Hate from the perspective of the perpetrators -- Hate from the perspective of the bystanders -- Counter-communication -- Content moderation -- Psychoeducation -- Hate speech and political regulation -- Modes of hate speech regulation -- Hate speech regulation in Germany -- Hate speech regulation in Ireland -- Hate speech regulation in the Netherlands -- Hate speech regulation in Belgium -- Hate speech regulation in Hungary


"The report is split into three chapters: chapter one looks at over one hundred different campaigns, highlighting effective and successful campaigns, and the evaluations of them where possible. Those that are not evaluated can be used as inspiration. The categorisation of the different campaigns was difficult, therefore within the chapter itself the campaigns have been categorised into 12 different topics, however in the bibliography they are categorised by the country that they originated in. In order to visualise how many campaigns fell into two different categories, the campaign crossover table was created. It is important to note that some of the campaigns in the table may also have fallen into a third category as well, but this has not been displayed. Chapter two identifies training resources and articles that lay out the current state of thinking on the following six different topics: counter/alternative narratives, disinformation resources, good/best practices, current thinking, educational resources and toolkits, and finally, resources discussing online radicalisation. Chapter three provides summaries and key takeaways from the three round table discussions we conducted in Brussels, London and The Hague ...

Finally, as a result of the knowledge gathered in this report, the conclusion and recommendations lay out the necessary components for building a successful, effective, and impactful campaign, in the hopes that it will be informative and useful for future campaigners and trainers." (introduction)


"In March 2020, Peace Direct held a three-day online consultation with over 75 practitioners and academics across the globe. Participants and guest contributors exchanged insights and local experiences on the impact of digital technology on peace and conflict, how local peacebuilders incorporate digital technology in their responses to conflict, and how they envision positive change in this new branch of peacebuilding. We received more than 300 detailed comments over 11 discussion threads. This report presents the findings and recommendations from that consultation." (p.2)


1. Try to verify that the content is misleading or false before you engage ... 2. To comment or not to comment? ... 3. Consider the perspective of the person who shared the story ... 4. Avoid escalation ... 5. Be a resource for others." (p.1-2)


"Social media platforms are taking down “terrorist and violent extremist content” more and more quickly, often in response to the demands of governments, but in a way that prevents the content from being used to support investigations into serious crimes, including war crimes. "Video Unavailable": Social Media Platforms Remove Evidence of War Crimes, examines the value of social media content in human rights investigations and the impacts that content takedowns are having for international and national investigators, civil society organizations, and the media. Human Rights Watch is calling for a broad consultative process with all relevant stakeholders, including social media companies, to develop a mechanism to preserve potential evidence of serious crimes that was posted publicly online and make it available to support national and international prosecutions, as well as investigations by civil society organizations, journalists and academics." (back cover)


"Este libro aborda tres aspectos que explican la crisis que vive actualmente el periodismo tradicional: la crisis de los contenidos, la crisis de estructura y la crisis de credibilidad. Asimismo, profunda en el papel que tiene el periodismo en la promoción de algunos conflictos sociales, en la exclusión de grupos minoritarios y su papel en el control social. En la segunda parte, desde un periodismo de paz, se definen cambios y propuestas que permitan reformular este escenario. Las reflexiones se apoyan en numerosos ejemplos, principalmente noticias; en investigaciones previas y en las vivencias del autor en la organización de iniciativas de evaluación de la responsabilidad mediática." (tapa posterior)
64. Asya Cooley, Skye Cooley: Child’s play: cooperative gaming as a tool of deradicalization. In: Journal for deradicalization, nr. 23, 2020, p.96-132

“This research project contributes to the CVE (countering violent extremism) literature by studying narratives as tools of reflections on self-identity designed intentionally within gaming exercises to help contextualize and account for as much environmental complexity as possible. This paper provides theoretical understandings of narratives (and their role in our lives), discusses narratives as they relate to violent extremist ideologies, and proposes how narrative reflections may serve as a deradicalization tool within cooperative games. Additionally, this article highlights elements of narrative reflection within current CVE resources and provides a list of exercises (games) that can be used in the field to promote narrative reflections.” (abstract)

https://journals.sfu.ca/jd/index.php/jd/article/view/363


“Any technology that can be used to generate false or misleading content, from photographers and Photoshop software to deep fakes, can be weaponised. This paper argues that policymakers face a narrowing window of opportunity to minimise the consequences of weaponised deep fakes. Any response must include measures across three lines of effort: 1. investment in and deployment of deep fake detection technologies; 2. changing online behaviour, including via policy measures that empower digital audiences to critically engage with content and that bolster trusted communication channels; 3. creation and enforcement of digital authentication standards.” (p.4)


“This article summarises preliminary reflections for mediators on social media codes of conduct. Such codes of conduct, to be agreed upon by conflict stakeholders, would aim to prevent and mitigate the use of social media to exacerbate conflicts or jeopardise peace processes. Such codes of conduct would apply to both social media content (specific types of posts and comments such as hate speech) and social media behaviour (specific uses of social media such as coordinated efforts to manipulate public debate).” (p.1)

https://reliefweb.int/report/world/social-media-codes-conduct-reflections mediators


“Inspired by methods used in risk assessment, this paper suggests a structured professional judgment approach (SPJ) to facilitate the decision-making process in expert group settings tasked with the development of narrative-based countering violent extremism (CVE) products. The added value of this concept is to systematically apply the relevant knowledge distributed among the literature and identify the strengths and weaknesses of the narrative-based CVE product in early stages like the baseline assessment. This may enable campaigners to avoid expensive mistakes and accelerate the development of products. A tentative checklist is provided. Furthermore, indicators for monitoring and evaluation are suggested.” (abstract)

https://journals.sfu.ca/jd/index.php/jd/article/view/415/257


“This article makes an exploratory contribution to the theoretical foundations of the study of gaming in radicalization research. It is argued that both top-down and bottom up gamification have already impacted extremist discourse and potentially radicalization processes but that research on gamification in other contexts points to a much wider potential for the application of gamification to extremist propaganda distribution tools in the future. The potential influence of video games on radicalization processes exceeds the transfer of the popular argument that exposure to violent media leads to desensitization to the context of radicalization and includes the exploitation of pop culture references, increases in self-efficacy regarding violence, and the direct experience of retroopian visions through the content of games.” (abstract)

https://journals.sfu.ca/jd/index.php/jd/article/view/359/223


“Key trends: Harassment, arrests and physical violence against journalists, mostly by government security forces and sometimes by protesters, have risen in recent years; Press freedom and freedom of expression has been impacted in many countries by these attacks; A range of attacks have been identified by UNESCO in 65 countries since 2015 for this report; At least ten journalists have been killed since 2015 while covering protests, according to UNESCO’s Observatory of Killed Journalists; Tactics used against journalists have violated international laws and norms that have been long agreed upon under the umbrella of multilateral institutions.” (p.1)

https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000374206

70. Özen Odag, Anne Leiser, Klaus Boehnke: Reviewing the role of the internet in radicalization processes. In: Journal for deradicalization, nr. 21, 2019, p.261-299

“This review presents the existing research on the role of the Internet in radicalization processes. Using a systematic literature search strategy, our paper yields 88 studies on the role of the Internet in a) right-wing extremism and b) radical jihadism. Available studies display a predominant interest in the characteristics of radical websites and a remarkable absence of a user-centred perspective. They show that extremist groups make use of the Internet to spread right wing or jihadist ideologies, connect like-minded others in echo chambers and cloaked websites, and address particularly marginalized individuals of a society, with specific strategies for recruitment. Existing studies have thus far not sufficiently examined the users of available sites, nor have they studied the causal mechanisms that unfold at the intersection between the Internet and its users. The present review suggests avenues for future research, drawing on media and violence research and research on social identity and deindividuation effects in computer-mediated communication.” (abstract)

https://journals.sfu.ca/jd/index.php/jd/article/view/289

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


“Mixed methods research found that including entertaining and relatable characters and storylines in the Life in Lulu radio drama engaged listeners and helped them to apply lessons from the programme to resolve conflicts peacefully in their own households and communities.” (p.1)


72. Admire Mare: Conflict-sensitive journalism: a practical handbook for journalists in Southern Africa. Windhoek: Namibia University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Human Sciences, Department of Communication; Social Science Research Council; African Peacebuilding Network (APN), 2019, 96 p.


AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN


Presentación / Carlos Beristain, Carmen Chicas – La verdad refugiada. Lecciones no aprendidas sobre el desplazamiento forzado transfronterizo colombiano / Adriana Medina Carrillo – La memoria colectiva desde el exilio colombiano: construyendo la paz en el post-acuerdo / Stephanie López Villarán, Nicolás Gissi Barbieri, Sebastián Polo Alvis – Memoria, verdad y justicia en el territorio 11. Desafíos en la politización del exilio colombiano / Diana Ortiz, Carlos Salamanca, Verónica Torres – La verdad en el exilio. Situación de las víctimas del conflicto colombiano en España / Claudia Alejandra Sepúlveda-Giraldo, Liliana Zambrano-Quintero – Movimientos sociales de víctimas frente a la construcción de políticas públicas con enfoque de género en contextos de violencia / Juan Carlos Cardona Londoño – Políticas de la memoria en Colombia: un abordaje desde

Subjects: protest reporting & media representation; safety of journalists - Colombia - criteria catalogues, frameworks, guidelines


"The rapid escalation in the long-running conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia which took place in late September 2020 has been shadowed by a battle across social media for control of the international narrative about the conflict. On Twitter, large numbers of accounts supporting both sides have been waging in on politicised hashtags linked to the conflict. Our findings indicate large-scale coordinated activity. While much of this behaviour is likely to be authentic, our analysis has also found a significant amount of suspicious and potentially inauthentic behaviour. The goal of this research piece is to observe and document some of the early dynamics of the information battle playing out in parallel to the conflict on the ground and create a basis for further, more comprehensive research. This report is in no way intended to undermine the legitimacy of authentic social media conversations and debate taking place on all sides of the conflict." (aspi.org.au)


"Recent reports indicate that over 20,000 Arab fighters traveled to join ISIS in Iraq and Syria and another 5-15 percent of millennials across seven Arab countries consider some violent extremist groups to be on the right path. In response, Arab countries have experimented with entertainment-education (E-E) by using anti-extremism narratives in popular culture to address radicalization at the societal level. This study explores whether those narratives can elicit viewers’ parasocial interaction (PSI)—pseudo friendships with or animosity toward mediated personas that can catalyze persuasion—with fictional characters. Using qualitative and quantitative content analyses of more than 8,600 YouTube comments, this study explores Arab viewers’ responses to a recent E-E project, al-Siham al-Marka (The Piercing Arrows) drama series, that portrays life under ISIS’s control. The findings identify recurrent themes in the pool of comments, such as show debates, religious contastations, political disputes, empathy for victims, and engagement with plotline/characters. More importantly, they reveal at least one out of six comments (n=1477) exhibits PSI with fictional characters, addressing them as part of their social milieu. The study further traces the variations in the nature of PSI in relation to mediated positive role models, negative role models, and transitional characters in the narrative. It concludes with a discussion of E-E’s potentials as an anti-extremism messaging strategy and PSI’s role as a useful metric in assessing such narratives." (abstract)
https://journals.sfu.ca/jd/index.php/jd/article/view/383


"Strategic communications for the purpose of countering violent extremism have become widespread in recent years, especially given the communications revolution which has amplified the messages of violent extremists and those that wish to counter them. Despite this, there is little-to-no research which collects message data and analyses its design in a systematic way. In this article, we collect data from 10 social media multi-message campaigns and undertake an exploratory analysis of their design using a methodology developed from Ingram’s “Linkage-based” framework for countering militant Islamist propaganda. Our findings include: a prevalence towards highlighting the atrocities of violent extremist groups rather than strategies which challenge their competence; a priority to messages which seize the narrative agenda; differing emotional or rational pulls depending on the language in which the message is delivered; a range of different tactics employed depending on the target audience; as well as a wide range of deployments of different themes of positive and negative messages. We offer a number of possible explanations for these findings, before undertaking a cluster analysis of the data to aid the construction of Weberian “ideal type” campaigns, which offer a contribution to the field for the purposes of future research and exposition." (abstract)

COVID-19 Pandemic: Impact on Media & Society


"55 alumni of training programmes run by the Thomson Reuters Foundation (TRF) shared their experiences about living -- and working -- in the COVID era. These insights, coupled with extensive desk research and analysis, inform the narrative of this new report ... COVID-19 has had a twin impact on journalism: not only has it presented a unique set of challenges for journalists, but it has also accentuated and accelerated several major structural issues that predate the pandemic. These issues include encroachments on press freedom, the news industry’s faltering business model, the erosion of trust in journalism and combating fake news. Laws banning ‘fake news’ can be used as instruments to support government crackdowns on media freedom and on reporting with which political elites disagree. The pandemic has offered a justification for more countries to introduce these types of laws, tighten current restrictions or suspend existing laws. Even if these developments are rolled back, journalism and the news industry is unlikely to return to its pre-pandemic state. Many of the jobs and outlets that have been lost will never reappear, and those that do may look very different to the way they were." (executive summary)


"Dozens of plans to help save journalism have emerged since the Covid-19 pandemic decimated media outfits around the world. This report summarizes some of the trends we’ve seen and evaluates where they currently stand. Most promising are Australia’s efforts to get Google and Facebook to pay for news and efforts in the U.S. to get laws and investment that would support local news." (executive summary)
https://www.kas.de/documents/283221/283270/KAS_Saving%20Journalism.pdf/8ee31596-716b-38b4-5511-c42686919ae7#view=1.48=1611338843015


"Judges and courts, both at national and regional levels, will find these guidelines useful to ensure the application of international and regional human rights standards of freedom of expression and privacy when ruling on cases involving States’ responses to the COVID-19 outbreak that have an impact to freedom of expression, press freedom, access to information, privacy and safety of journalists. When resorting to state of emergency powers to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic, States must comply with requirements, criteria and procedures established by international and regional legal instruments to safeguard citizens’ fundamental rights and prevent abuses and arbitrariness. While reporting on the pandemic, journalists may become targets of attacks and intimidations and face limitations due to imposed restrictions. Their work should be considered as the provision of an essential service, therefore protection must be provided and any violations to their safety should be thoroughly investigated and prosecuted. The development of health data collection tools to track infections and properly identify potential disseminators of the virus should consider the effects on the right to privacy, and therefore, observe international standards regarding data protection." (highlights)
https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000374208


"This report presents findings from an analysis of 165 responses to a survey of a strategic sample of known and identified independent news media organisations on how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted them, combined with interviews with a critical sample of seven independent news media operating in middle income countries with some or significant limitations on media freedom across the globe. The bulk of the survey
goals, as well as fight stigma and discrimination during the lockdowns. (executive
and citizens the rights to express themselves freely, thereby interfering with the rights of
Foundation for West Africa (MFWA), 2020, 8 p.

Findings also show that the pandemic had various effects on journalism
clude the mainstays of the industry, these independent news media often invest a far larger share of their operating cost in their newsroom. (key findings, p.7)
86. Teldah Mawarire: "Things will never be the same again":
87. Teldah Mawarire: “Things will never be the same again”:
88. Comunicación, sociedad y salud en contexto de
89. Bolivia, COVID-19: cómo pasamos la pandemia y qué nos depara el futuro. Instituto para el Desarrollo Rural de Sudamérica (IPDRS); Acción Cultural Loyola (ACLO), 2020, 42 p.
“En el área rural, se ratifica la predominancia de la radio sobre los otros medios (59% escucha siempre o casi siempre), seguido muy de cerca de la televisión (56% mira televisión) y luego los medios digitales, el Facebook (41% se conecta) es más reconocido como un medio de información que el WhatsApp (36% utiliza la aplicación). En el área urbana predominaba de lejos la televisión (70% siempre o casi siempre), seguida por el Facebook (60%), el WhatsApp (47%) y la Radio (33%). Un dato importante, es que los que no utilizan nunca los medios digitales en el área rural están aproximadamente entre el 33%; la radio y televisión, alrededor del 17%. En el área urbana quienes no utilizan la radio son un 20%, y la televisión, un 5%, y el promedio entre los que no utilizan Facebook ni WhatsApp es de 13%. Los medios por los que se informa del COVID-19, son más diversos y con características muy particulares por sector y por región. En general, la tendencia de los medios de comunicación es similar a los medios que se utilizan normalmente, aunque aquí hay una mayor predominancia de la televisión (26%), seguida por la radio (21%) y luego el Facebook (19%). Sin embargo, existen otros agentes que sumados hacen un 24%, esos son amigos / vecinos / familiares (7%), otros varios, entre ellos políticos: ONG (7%), dirigentes de organizaciones sociales (6%) y finalmente promotores de salud (4%). En algunos departamentos, estos otros medios, llegan o pasan del 20%, como es el caso de Cochabamba, Pando, Chuquisaca y el Beni. Aquí se ve más nítidamente la importancia de la radio y televisión, es creciente de acuerdo a los grupos de edad, los mayores la utilizan con mayor preferencia que los medios virtuales. En este grupo también se informa de COVID-19 en un significativo 30% por esos otros medios que se indicaron como son los amigos / vecinos / familiares, dirigentes de organizaciones sociales y finalmente promotores de salud” (p.6)
https://ipdrs.org/index.php/publicaciones/articulos/impresso/125
“En el caso de la población rural, prácticamente 70 % percibe que no tiene suficiente información, en el caso de la población urbana este porcentaje es menor a 50 %. Confrontando esta información con los medios y la disponibilidad, la explicación más razonable es que no se trata necesariamente de inexistencia de información, sino más bien de los contenidos que se difunden ... Encontramos dos grandes grupos de preocupaciones, una que tiene que ver con la enfermedad directamente con más de 50%, como es el enfermarse, no ser atendido en los centros de salud y ser hospitalizados. Otro grupo de preocupaciones son indirectas y tienen que ver con separarse de la familia, quedarse sin alimentos y no tener trabajo. Los aspectos que preocupan a las personas han sido poco abordados por los medios de comunicación y no existen políticas que den mayores certezas a la población respecto al futuro inmediato. Existen diferencias notables entre la población rural y urbana, en la primera hay una preocupación mayor por quedarse sin alimentos, en cambio en la segunda prima la preocupación por el empleo.” (p.5-6)
https://aclo.org.bo/estudio-covid-19/


COVID-19 Reporting & Health Communication


*There is an unprecedented need to elevate the role risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) is playing in breaking the chains of transmission and mitigating the impact of the pandemic. A revised RCCE strategy was needed to reflect this and from the learning from the response to date. The new strategy will cover six months from December 2020 to May 2021. Analysis of socio-behavioural data shows us some broad trends. In general, people know about COVID-19 and the preventive measures necessary. However, people are becoming complacent and risk perceptions are lowering. In general, people are feeling less confident in what they can do to control the virus. As the pandemic becomes more protracted, pandemic fatigue is increasing. The growing fatigue, the stress caused by uncertainty, lowering risk perceptions and reducing trust in government responses, is taking its toll on the fabric of our communities.* (executive summary)

https://apps.who.intiris/handle/10665/338057


"COVID-19 disinformation creates confusion about medical science with immediate impact on every person on the planet, and upon whole societies. It is more toxic and more deadly than disinformation about other subjects. That is why this policy brief coins the term disinfodemic. Using this frame, the brief helps to make sense of this new menace, and of the many types of responses that are unfolding internationally. To do this, it unpacks nine main themes and four dominant narratives of COVID-19 disinformation, and presents a typology that groups the range of responses to the problem into 10 classes.* (introduction)

https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000374416


*Building trust in public health authorities and epidemic response takes time and is an ongoing process. However, in the short term, mistrust can be mitigated by responding in contextually appropriate ways through meaningful community engagement: 1.Use social science to understand the socio-economic, political and historical context. 2. Adapt communications to respond to the concerns of different group(s) of people, using trusted sources and platforms. 3. Establish dialogue and break down feedback systems. 4. Include diverse groups and listen with an open mind. 5. Be transparent, consistent and open, particularly about uncertainty, controversy and mistakes. 6. Offer compelling narratives that build a sense of capability and motivation to act.* (p.3-4)

https://doi.org/10.19088/SSHAP.2021.001


*Why understanding these 30 concepts is key during and post COVID-19? As millions of people around the world are quarantined or in physical isolation, with border closings and restrictions in travel, Information Technologies (IT) have become the main means of interaction and communication. Suddenly, Digital Health and related concepts have begun to appear in every conversation related to the Health Systems’ response to the pandemic. And despite being longstanding concepts, the current situation has elevated them to the forefront of all discussions and decision-making about the pandemic response.* (p.1)

https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/52670


*Human behavior plays a central role in reducing the spread of coronavirus. Communication by government entities and other trusted sources about desirable or mandated behaviors during the pandemic is critical. As policymakers, funders, and program staff, it is our responsibility to ensure that communications are clear, concise, and accurate. We can go one step further with messaging that is behaviorally informed, contextually relevant, and communi-cated through novel delivery channels. Effective communication will ensure that everyone hears, understands, and follows guidance necessary for COVID-19 mitigation.* (p.1)

https://www.ideas42.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/142-1226_uPennCOVID_Tipsheet_comms.4.pdf


*This style guide was produced to support Liberian journalists reporting on COVID-19 to encourage the accurate use of terms and phrases while reporting on the pandemic.* (p.1)


• COVID-19 vaccine deployment faces an unprecedented degree of uncertainty and complexity, which is difficult to communicate, such as immune response, duration of immunity, repeated vaccination, transmission dynamics, microbiological and clinical characteristics and multiple vaccines. • Priority groups for vaccine deployment need transparent public debate to build support for ethical principles. • Current seasonal flu uptake is low in certain groups, suggesting vaccination challenges, which include: high risk groups under the age of 65 (40 - 50%), support staff in health care organisations (as low as 37%) and London and even variation amongst key workers such as Doctors (40 - 100%). • Deployment and tracking should build on existing immunisation programmes such as primary care by GPs to identify comorbidities, track vaccinations and reminders for additional boosters. • COVID-19 vaccine deployment faces an infodemic with misinformation often filling the knowledge void, characterised by: (1) distrust of science and selective use of expert authority, (2) distrust in pharmaceutical companies and government, (3) straightforward explanations, (4) use of emotion; and, (5) echo chambers. • A narrow focus on misinformation disregards the fact that there are genuine knowledge voids, necessitating public dialogue about vaccine concerns and hesitancy rather than providing passive one-way communication strategies.* (summary of key points, p.1)


*This document offers tools to help journalists practice responsible coverage of the pandemic using evidence-based information. It also proposes ways to approach coverage and encourages journalists to provide advice and solutions that can help reduce health risks and save lives. The priorities of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) during the COVID-19 pandemic are to save lives, protect health workers, flatten the epidemiological curve to slow the spread of disease, and prevent cases from overloading health systems so that lives will not be lost due to lack of access to needed care. PAHO supports the countries of the Region of the Americas in adopting the measures they deem necessary to tackle the pandemic. Having clear, timely, and accurate information from reliable sources is vital for people in various situations during this pandemic. The information that is given must acknowledge uncertainty and help people protect themselves and prepare for different possible scenarios during the pandemic. This is essential for containing the spread of COVID-19 and the fear associated with it and mitigating its impact.* (p.1)

https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/52392


*For the last 6 months, the Internews’ Rooted in Trust project has collected more than 5,238 rumours from seven countries: Afghanistan, Lebanon, Philippines, Colombia, Central African Republic, Mali and Sudan. We work in 12 local languages and collect data across
seven major social media platforms and a wide range of feedback collection channels, including door-to-door surveys, informal meetings, assessments, community meetings, listening groups, SMS, and radio, with 27 partners across the seven countries. This Global Rumour Bulletin brings together our reflections on two key themes that represent more than 20% of all rumours collected across the seven project sites: rumours that the pandemic either doesn’t exist at all, or that it is a conspiracy, and rumours about vaccines and vaccinations. On the final page you will find a set of recommendations on how we feel the response to rumours and misinformation on these two key themes can be improved. (introduction) https://internews.org/sites/default/files/2020-12/Internews_Global_Rumor_Bulletin_2020-12.pdf


"Misinformation is false or inaccurate information deliberately intended to deceive. In the context of the current pandemic, it can greatly affect all aspects of life, especially people’s mental health, since searching for COVID-19 updates on the Internet has jumped 50%–70% across all generations. Misinformation in a pandemic can negatively affect human health. Many false or misleading stories are fabricated and shared without any background or quality checking. Much of this misinformation is based on conspiracy theories, some introducing elements of these into seemingly mainstream discourse. Inaccurate and false information has been circulating about all aspects of the disease." (p.1) https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/52052


"Studies show that telling people about the quality, safety, effectiveness and availability of vaccines is not enough to influence behavior change related to immunization, and in general, doesn’t increase coverage. For this reason, it’s necessary to understand the reasons why people choose not to get vaccinated or not get their children vaccinated, in order to begin a two-way respectful dialogue using the best, most effective messages. Given this context, the main objective of these guidelines is to provide tools for staff working in the field of immunization to support effective communication between health personnel and the general population, with the aim of strengthening, maintaining or recovering trust in vaccines and the immunization programs in the Region of the Americas." (back cover) https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/53167


"This brief sets out practical considerations relating to flows of information, misinformation and disinformation through online media, particularly social media networks, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. It details various types of online media, key players and influencers on social media, and strategies for ensuring good information and disrupting mis- and disinformation. It is important to analyse different types of information across different channels, how it is spread and to whom, in order to determine how social media can be harnessed in both positive and negative ways. The WHO recommends proactive communication during a public health emergency that, "encourages the public to adopt protective behaviours, facilitates heightened disease surveillance, reduces confusion and allows for better allocation of resources – all of which are necessary for an effective response". With its global influence, social media requires particular consideration during times of public health emergencies and was highlighted as a key issue by the Social Science Working Group of WHO’s Global Research Roadmap for COVID-19. Timely, accurate communication through all media sources is a critical component of ensuring trust in response activities." (p.1) https://www.socialscienceinaction.org/resources/key-considerations-online-information-mis-disinformation-context-covid-19/


"This brief draws on social science literature and informal interviews with experts to illustrate that vaccine hesitancy is more complex and context-specific, and often reflects diverse, everyday anxieties – not just, or even primarily, exposure to misinformation or anti-vaccine campaigns. Based on this, the brief proposes strategies to guide policy makers, public health officials, vaccine developers, health workers, researchers, advocates, communicators, media actors and others involved in vaccine development, communication and deployment to boost confidence in COVID-19 vaccines." (p.1) https://www.socialscienceinaction.org/resources/rapid-review-vaccine-hesitancy-and-building-confidence-in-covid-19-vaccination/


The new coronavirus that causes COVID-19 can spread rapidly and cause a lot of harm. But if communities respond appropriately and quickly, it is possible to limit its spread and the damage it causes. Mass media and communication have an absolutely vital role to play in this effort. Media can: • Provide audiences with crucial information on how to stay safe and help prevent the spread of the coronavirus; • Keep people up to date on the support services available and how to access them; • Counter dangerous rumours and incorrect information; • Hold authorities to account over their responsibility to protect the population; • Provide a platform for those affected or at risk to raise their concerns and need help, ask questions, and explore solutions; • Reassure and motivate people to help themselves and others. BBC Media Action has developed this handbook to help media support their audiences to face this health emergency." (introduction) https://lifeline.bbcmediaaction.org/the-new-coronavirus-and-covid-19-handbook-for-media/


"This guide focuses on medicines and medical devices. It aims to provide journalists with the tools and knowledge to independently assess the evidence, critically appraise the risk-benefit ratio of any given product or policy, and expose corruption and malpractice. It can be read as a textbook, one chapter at a time, or used selectively to support your work. Investigating behind-the-scenes is consuming but rewarding. As we’ll discuss in Chapter 2, combining the methods and standards of muckraking and Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM) can be highly effective. EBM, defined as “the conscientious, explicit, and judicious use of current best evidence in making decisions about the care of individual patients,” has been constantly revised to include a wider public health approach. But as StudentsBestEvidence, a network of students from around the world who are interested in learning more about evidence-based health care, put it: “It’s about asking the right questions and using the best research evidence to answer those questions.” EBM is an approach that matches the ethics and standards of investigative journalism." (introduction, p.8-9) https://gijn.org/health-and-medicine-guide-table-of-contents/


"Lesson one: Put people and principles at the centre of COVID-19 decision-making, not politics. Lesson two: Reframe discussions about responsibility in a pandemic so that those who are considered vulnerable are a priority rather than an afterthought. Lesson three: Prepare ways to share sophisticated information quickly in complex environments. Lesson four: examine current models of communication and cooperation plans for all governmental and non-governmental authorities and organisations so that the response is coordinated and understandable to the community. Lesson five: Find ways for people to get involved and have a meaningful say in the response: make this the cornerstone of any COVID-19 communication plan. Lesson six: Work to re-engage communities as participating partners; have mechanisms to leverage local and volunteer groups to maximise their knowledge expertise to increase the effectiveness of the COVID-19 response. Lesson seven: Move to more participatory, two-way communications and feedback with vulnerable communities; find out what channels they really use, not just what we want them to use. Lesson eight: Empower local agencies and communities to take a lead role in the response, so they can truly supplement the response and take charge at a local level." (summary of lessons learned, p.2) http://www.cdacnetwork.org/tools-and-resources/i/20201116233504-bnmh1


"This report, which was developed in consultation with leading experts in social and behavioral sciences and public health, outlines evidence-informed communication strategies in support of national COVID-19 vaccine distribution efforts across federal agencies and their state and local partners. The recommendations put forth are actionable..."
circulación de información falsa, inexacta o descontextualizada so-bre el coronavirus. Entre ella, cabe destacar los rumores, bulbos y teorías conspirativas sobre (1) el origen, expansión y letalidad del virus; (2) las re-comedaciones y prácticas curativas; y (3) la gestión de la pandemia por parte de las administraciones públicas y organismos internacionales. En el actual escenario de infodemia, esta investigación aborda de qué forma 8 organizaciones de fact-checking han empleado Twitter como herramienta para combatir la desinformación en tiempos de la COVID-19: Agência Lupa (Brasil), Chequeado (Argentina), Maldita.es y Verifrat (España), Colombia-Check (Colombia), Ecuador Chequea (Ecuador), El Sabueso – Animal Politico (México) y Cotejo (Venezuela). Entre los meses de marzo y junio de 2020 estas organizaciones han publicado de forma sostenida en Twitter obteniendo elevadas cifras de engagement en forma de retuits y favoritos. Se han incluido múltiples hashtags sobre la COVID-19, incluyendo aquellas etiquetas promovidas por LATAM Chequea y la IFCN (#CoronaVirusFacts y #Da-tosCoronaVirus) y otros hashtags genéricos dirigidos al gran público. Los contenidos relacionados con la COVID-19 han sido más viralizados por los usuarios. (resumen)
https://doi.org/10.31009/hipertext.net.2020.i21.07

ASIA & PACIFIC


"Navrangi Re! (Nine To A Shade), a 26–episode television drama series was created to take the discussion on e Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) to mainstream audiences, beyond the domain of infrastructure and technology. It was the result of a unique partnership between a donor (the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation), a commercial media network (Viacom18), an academic institution (Centre for Social & Behavior Change, Ashoka University), an evaluation partner (Oxford Policy Management), and a global media brand with proven social and behaviour change communication expertise (BBC Media Action). Navrangi Re! is the story of an urban neighbourhood – a mohalla – where lots of different people live cheek by jowl, and through the trials and tribulations of life in an urban jungle, find ways to overcome this constant crisis mode that has become normalised. The mohalla is a creative device to accommodate an entire socio–economic microcosm, with different families occupying different points on the sanitation value chain ...

The evaluation results of Navrangi Re! demonstrate the power of narratives in making the invisible, visible – in bringing attention to critical, silent and complex social problems. They also validate the science, art and craft used in BBC Media Action’s narrative ‘engagement’ model – a) rooting the storytelling in research and theory, b) a commitment to an immersive creative approach and c) an unwavering focus on ‘entertainment first’. The results also show that it is possible for narratives to walk the tightrope between outcomes and audience ratings to achieve change. There is strong evidence that an insight–based Theory of Change combined with all the ingredients that make compelling drama helped Navrangi Re! deliver on the twin challenges of achieving Television Rating Points (TRPs) week after week and demonstrating impact. The results shine the light on the need for innovative partnerships. Crafting partnerships that bring together donors, private sector platforms, academia, research and storytellers is the need of the hour. In a post–Covid world, different stakeholders need to convene more of these partnerships to leverage the power of narrative for stronger societies." (p.2-14)


"The public generally approved of the Pakistani news media’s coverage of the coronavirus pandemic. A majority of the respondents agreed that the Covid news coverage had provided them the information they needed, provided largely accurate information, worked for the benefit of the public, and helped the country’s image. People found the mainstream media the most trustworthy source of Covid-19 news and information, with 57 percent expressing their trust in it. Family-and-friends networks were the second most trusted source for coronavirus information (56 percent). The lowest level of credibility was associated with social media with 30 percent finding it untrustworthy for Covid-related news and information. One in five respondents also said they never used social media to access coronavirus information. Fifty percent of the respondents said they had never used the government’s Covid web portal or smartphone app. But a majority of the respondents (52 percent) still considered official sources trustworthy for coronavirus information." (executive summary)


“This knowledge brief showcases RNW Media’s experience with online community moderation. It explains what community moderation means, why we believe it is an essential component of our Citizens’ Voice programme, and the strategies we have developed together with our moderators to guide them in the work they do and the decisions they need to make. Also, we present results from research that we conducted on three of our communities to test the effectiveness of our approach. Lastly, our moderators working in Burundi, DRC and Mali share their experience and insights, showing how moderation goes in practice. They talk about the secret of being a good moderator and share the challenges they experience in their daily work. Citizens’ Voice is active in Burundi, China, DRC, Egypt, Libya, Mali and Yemen and focuses on social cohesion and inclusive governance. Applying a user-centred approach and persuasive storytelling, Citizens’ Voice creates and maintains digital platforms offering safe spaces where young women and men from across political, ethnic, racial, regional or religious divides can come together in a way which is often impossible in the offline space. In-country teams create multi-media content relevant to the local context to attract and engage young people via a variety of digital channels. Through moderated discussions, they encourage disparate groups to voice their opinions on issues of common interest, both online and offline. To achieve impact, Citizens’ Voice aims to engage the broadest possible spectrum of stakeholders at all levels.” (introduction) https://www.rnw.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Online-Community-Moderation.pdf


“In a growing number of countries around the world, the greatest menace to editorial independence and professional standards is media capture, a form of media control achieved through a series of premeditated steps taken by governments and powerful interest groups, which undermines journalism as a public good. This study enables readers to understand media capture and other threats faced by independent media today. The important developments tracked in these pages call out for dialogue towards practical actions to strengthen editorial independence and professional standards of journalism.” (back cover) https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000375061


“This handbook brings together principles of conflict sensitive journalism with practical strategies for election reporting to explore how media workers can play a role in protecting and promoting free and fair elections. It aims to provide some guidelines that both editors and their journalists can follow as they strategize around ways of reporting on the build-up to elections, what to do on Election Day and how to cover the post-election period.” (purpose of this handbook, p.3) https://internews.org/resource/newsroom-handbook-conflict-sensitive-approach-election-reporting


“The study of public opinion in nondemocratic states has found that people often say they support democracy, yet they show little demand for democratization or regime change. Given this paradox, recent scholarship has shown that these attitudes exist because people who live under the rule of non-democratic regimes often misunderstand what democracy is. Individuals in these societies often think that authoritarian ways of governance are fundamental aspects of democracy. In another strain of literature, research has shown that the internet can alter demands for democracy and increase protest activity in non-democracies. Given these findings, this study investigates what impact the internet has on understanding democracy in non-democracies. Using World Values Survey data and employing two different styles of empirical modelling, the study finds that consuming information from the internet leads to a better understanding of essential elements of democracy. The findings also show that the effects are more pronounced in autocracies than they are in illiberal regimes.” (abstract) https://doi.org/10.1080/13510347.2020.1795640


“This rapid literature review concentrates on the role of communications activity (including communications campaigns and media relations in contributing to the reduction of corruption in Sub-Saharan Africa. The review also determines if there are any evidence-based examples on the impact of communications (campaigns or related activities) on reducing corruption. Subsidiary questions in the review are to determine if there are any lessons learned from using specific types of communication activity; the types of corrupt practices that communications activity can help to reduce and, if there are any effective communication tools for reducing corruption. Findings of the review show that there is evidence that communication campaigns have an impact on corruption through reducing bribery and promoting reporting of corruption. However, further research is needed to confirm the sustainability of the impact of such campaigns and interventions. The review also suggests that many of the communication interventions that address corruption are initiated by civil society and some of these are undertaken in collaboration with governments.” (summary) https://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/handle/20.500.12413/15177


AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN

121. Jacob Hoigilt, Kjetil Selvik (eds.): Special Issue: Journalism and the challenge of democracy in transitional countries: African experiences. In: International communication gazette, vol. 82, nr. 7, 2020, p.591-681


“The dominant transparency narrative in policymaking attributes a key role to the public: once citizens gain information, they are predicted to use it to demand better resource governance. Whether the public receives the available information in the first place, however, has not been scrutinised in a large-N analysis. This article examines Ghanaians’ information sources and information-seeking behaviour using a unique survey with over 3500 respondents. Although Ghana has actively pursued transparency in its natural resource revenue management, most Ghanaians have poor access to understandable information as information is disseminated through channels that the intended receivers normally do not use. Non-elite citizens and those with limited English skills were least likely to have heard about natural resource revenue management, compared with elected duty bearers, traditional authorities, other opinion leaders, and those with an interest in the issue through working in mining or living near an extraction site. The results suggest that the conceptualisation of transparency may be too simplistic, and that the expectations linked to transparency in enhancing natural resource governance may not materialise through the mechanisms hypothesised in the literature.” (abstract) https://doi.org/10.1080/00203088.2020.1746276


"The discussion is based on an analysis of 46 protest songs, interviews with musicians, music producers and event promoters as well as field interviews and observations among audiences at selected popular music concerts and public workshops in Maputo city. Secondary data were drawn from radio broadcasts, digital media, and social networks. The songs analysed were widely played in the past two decades (1998–2018), a period in which three different presidents led the country. Our focus is on the protest song, conceived as those musical products that are concerned with public affairs, particularly public policy and how it affects citizens’ social, political and economic life, and the relationship between citizens and the state. We found indicators of empowerment and accountability in the protest songs surveyed. In these songs, musicians expressed awareness of their political and economic positions in relation to political and administrative authorities. The songs refer to citizens’ duties such as paying taxes, preserving public infrastructures, and acknowledging the rights of fellow citizens. They also refer to citizens’ rights such as access to health, education, transport, security, and participation in governance processes through elections. In these songs, musicians demand that government authorities be accountable to citizens, with specific reference to political participation, right to information, public consultation, and the provision of public services. The report also found that in the past two decades Mozambican civil society organisations have turned to popular musicians to promote and animate public debates on awareness of citizen’s rights and accountability." (summary)
https://doi.org/10.19088/IDS.2020.001


"The article seeks to discuss varied forms of citizen engagement in the era of Internet viral cultures, ranging from (1) the use of social media for online protest, characterised by political contestation and fleeting outbursts of anger and backlash in the Twittersphere, to (2) the appropriation of protest messages into humorous viral memes (often oversimplified, ignoring the complexities of the situation and more focused on humour rather than underlying core problems). Four select hashtags during the 2017 Kenyan elections are analysed as frames for collective action within the context of playful participation and "spreadable" media." (abstract)
https://doi.org/10.1177/002039720957014


Introduction générale. La communication de l’État en Afrique, de la brutalité de l’injonction administrative à la subtilité de l’art de faire et de faire savoir tous azimuts / Bertrand Cabedoche -- 1. Les médias et la naissance de l’État gabonais -- 2. La télévision publique gabonaise, une institution de la construction verticale à la subtilité de l’art de faire et de faire savoir tous azimuts / Bertrand Cabedoche


Introduction générale -- 1. les médias et la naissance de l’État gabonais -- 2. La télévision publique gabonaise, une institution de la construction nationale -- 3. La Radiodiffusion Télévision Gabonaise chaîne 1: entre instrument de l’État gabonais -- 4. Le journal télévisé de Gabon


subjects: digital political communication; cyber advocacy / digital activism; social media in political communication - Brazil - seminar reports & conference proceedings


"In Brasilien hat sich innerhalb kurzer Zeit die Medienlandschaft grundlegend verändert. Die neuen Medien sind zentral geworden und haben u.a. die Präsidentschaftswahl entschieden. NGOs und Soziale Bewegungen experimentieren mit neuen digitalen Strategien, als auch mit klassischen Instrumenten, um Gegenöffentlichkeit herzustellen. Erkannt ist, dass meist nur der eigne Zirkel erreicht wird. Als Herausforderung und Aufgabe beschrieben die Referierenden, zukünftig über den eigenen Sympathianskreis zu wirken, um andere Bevölkerungsgruppen zu erreichen." (S.3)


https://www.booel.de/sites/default/files/2020-11/201214D_BoeU_Perspektiven_Innentitel_web_FINAL.pdf?dimension=1--division_la


subjects: digital political communication; cyber advocacy / digital activism; social media in political communication - Brazil


"Este estudio, nuevamente, evidencia que existen grandes debilidades en la implementación de políticas de transparencia y acceso a la información por parte de las instituciones relacionadas directa e indirectamente con el sector hidrocarburero; por tanto, para contribuir con su mejora se recomienda que: Las autoridades públicas de los niveles Central y subnacional, involucradas directa o indirectamente en el sector hidrocarburero, asuman acciones para cumplir la normativa relacionada con la transparencia y acceso a información, y se implementen nuevos principios, directrices y normas internas para dotar a la población de mayor información que permita una adecuada participación y oportunos control social sobre este recurso que es estratégico y de propiedad de todos los bolivianos; La sociedad civil organizada también debe desarrollar iniciativas y presentar propuestas de nuevas políticas de transparencia y acceso a la información, éstas pueden tener como base las buenas prácticas internacionales de transparencia y acceso a la información relacionadas con el sector hidrocarburero; En la segunda década del siglo XXI
resulta fundamental que las instituciones públicas, tanto desde el nivel Central como subnacional, implementen instrumentos y herramientas tecnológicas que faciliten el acceso a información por parte de la población mediante el uso del internet y portales web; Se debe impulsar y desarrollar una política nacional de datos abiertos que permita contar con datos técnicos del sector con regularidad y calidad, que permitan ser reelucitados por la ciudadanía; Desarrollar una política de transparencia y acceso a la información, ya sea mediante una norma específica o incorporada en la nueva Ley de Hidrocarburos, que establezca aspectos mínimos relativos al desarrollo del sector que deben ser transparentes, mecanismos para el acceso a información, con plazos para su publicación y sanciones ante posibles incumplimientos." (recomendaciones, p.29).


... El ciberactivismo emerge como una nueva forma de participación y movilización política, que pretende dinamitar los marcos de acción colectiva promoviendo la actuación de los ciudadanos dentro del espacio público. Dentro de la perspectiva de nuestra investigación, el ciberactivismo en Caracas se expresa de forma muy incipiente, si bien se han dado algunos eventos o movilizaciones, no podemos hablar de una movilización en red, ni mucho menos de repercusiones en los ámbitos políticos o sociales que conlleva a un proceso de cambio social. El ciberactivismo en Caracas no representa en los actuales momentos una nueva esfera del ejercicio de la ciudadanía y la participación política, con ello no negamos que hay algunas experiencias concretas o la realización exitosa de campañas usando las redes sociales, pero aún falta un largo camino por recorrer para fortalecer, incentivar la participación e impulsar una cultura cívica para actuar en la vida política ... (conclusiones)

http://saber.ucab.edu.ve/bitstream/handle/12345678/18679/1JJRO-CIBER-8.aml.pdf?sequence=1


Las consecuencias sociales de las noticias falsas / Luciana Panke et al. – Argentina: Cristina y Macri bajo la era de las noticias falsas / Martín Sackell – Ecuador: El dios del Olímpico peela en cancha de barrio: el conflicto con troles y memes que Correa trasladó al escenario digital / Carolina Avial, Ximena Guerrero y Carlos Joaquín Correa – Brasil I: De los medios a las redes: cómo Bolsonaro cambió las elecciones en Brasil gracias a las noticias falsas / Luciana Panke, Débora Milla y Ervileto Arante – Brasil II: Bolsonaro, sus verdades y mentiras en la elección presidencial brasileña de 2018 / Raquel Tarullo y Adriana Amado – El Salvador: el presidente, el ungido: Nayib Bukele y la Tropa de la Infantería / Leonor Martínez – Guatemala: La manipulación de la prensa y medios de comunicación en los tiempos de ungido y modificación de las realidades / Karina M. Herrera Miller – México: El poder de la imagen en México / Carmen García Muñoz y los medios en las elecciones presidenciales de 2018 / María María Ponce – Colombia: La manipulación de la imagen en los medios de comunicación / María José García

Asia & PACIFIC


"Political posters, banners, and similar objects are extremely common in China. This article uses political design from contemporary China, particularly emphasizing the government’s Chinese Dream campaign, to analyze what at first appears to be a paradox. The subjects of the campaigns and the language they use are mandated by the central government and promoted through central and local publicity departments. But the graphic aspects of these campaigns, such as the choice of colours, images, layout, and typeface, are much less strictly controlled, and are decided by local governments or authorities. This makes political design in China decentralized. Decentralized design is inconsistent with the principles of global marketing and with the PRC’s reliance on set forms of political discourse, both of which rely on the assumption that uniformity will lead to more effective communication of messages and persuasion of the public. Evidence from local design campaigns indeed shows that Chinese political posters are often designed hastily and without expertise, resulting in strange and unpersuasive images. Despite this, this article shows that decentralized design is not paradoxical. This is largely because the Chinese party-state uses propaganda as a method of “signalling” its overall power, more than as a tool of indoctrination or persuasion about particular topics." (abstract)

https://doi.org/10.5509/2020934709


"Political divisions, the economic downturn after 2006, and technological developments have enabled Thai authorities to limit public space for political discussion and expression. People in Thailand have turned to social media instead. At present, the hashtag (#) is a growing tool for all kinds of political expression, intruding even into the taboo issue of the monarchy. Facebook, YouTube, Line and Twitter are popular platforms for netizens to publicize their political views. Authorities under Prime Minister Prayut Chan-ocha have moved aggressively to put restrictions on these channels. Netizens in the country are now seeking new platforms for political expression." (executive summary)


This report finds that the potential of ICTs to enable stronger governance, effective public service delivery and better government services is there. In all countries that are part of this study, critical foundational infrastructure is in place ... But there’s still a lot to be unlocked. Increased internet connectivity, the availability of mobile devices and online services and access to information are creating a greater demand from users to their governments. International donors similarly focus on the delivery of “digital aid”, using ICTs to provide international assistance more efficiently and effectively ... The report reaches five main conclusions for the implementation of e-government and digital government initiatives, and it concludes with four recommendations for future programming of international support in the area of ICTs and e-government." (summary)


“Fieldwork from across Afghanistan allowed Osman to record the voices of Afghan media producers and people from all sectors of society. In this moving work, Afghans offer their own seldom-heard views on the country’s cultural progress and belief systems, their understandings of themselves, and the role of international interventions. Osman looks at the national and transnational impact of media companies like Tolo TV, Radio Television Afghanistan, and foreign media giants and funders like the British Broadcasting Corporation and USAID. By focusing on local cultural contestations, productions, and social movements, Television and the Afghan Culture Wars redirects the global dialogue about Afghanistan to Afghans and thereby challenges top-down narratives of humanitarian development." (publisher)


"In this report, we’ve analysed samples of Twitter data relating to the online manifestation of contemporary political protests in Thailand. We’ve sought to explore key ways in which the online manifestation of the protests differs from its offline counterpart. That includes how power dynamics operate differently in online spaces, where institutional actors such as the government wield power through censorship measures, repressive laws and coordinated information operations and where protestors can use the weight of numbers


"By examining Russian YouTube, this article has attempted to show how in this particular digital environment a shift in social attitudes and the emergence of counterpublics are likely to occur, thus advancing a bottom-up approach to social change. The paper has proceeded in three steps. The first section reviewed and linked three distinct, yet interrelated theoretical terrains: social-political change, social attitudes change, and the public sphere. This section advanced the claim that a change in social attitudes must precede any bottom-up social change, and that the former is contingent upon the public’s ability to develop a reflective agency, that is, a capacity to reflect upon one’s previously held beliefs. The four conditions under which such reflective agency is likely to emerge were outlined and then linked to the emergence of counterpublics. On the basis of the theoretical discussion, the ensuing methodological and empirical sections have shown that all four conditions obtain to different degrees on Russian YouTube, thereby allowing for counterpublics to emerge. These four conditions are: a non-institutionalised environment, exogenous shocks, presence of difference and exposure to difference." (Conclusion)

https://doi.org/10.18449/2020WP02


"Misinformation is a lucrative business in several Eastern European countries, reliant on advertising revenue, and pulling in cash from a variety of other sources including government subsidies, crowdfunding, tax designations, donations and sales of merchandise. The Business of Misinformation project, run by the Center for Media, Data and Society (CMDS), set out in its first phase to map the misinformation business in six countries: Bosnia & Herzegovina, Hungary, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, and Slovakia. Our researches identified the individuals and businesses that own local misinformation websites and the links to institutions, parties and individual owners." (Publisher)


"The study’s key findings revealed that the Turkish information landscape is exposed to nearly all kinds of false information at very high rates. Frequent botnet and troll activity in Turkey’s social media use brings about more disinformation, fueling polarization and subversive discourse. Above all, one of the most troublesome suggestions is that "narratives evolve but false information perpetuates over time". The study also drew correlative lines between Turkey’s alternative political realities and its polluted social media information and communication environment. Disinformation impacts almost all significant policy debates in Turkey, ranging from domestic politics to foreign policy and public health issues. For example, while the S-400 case was subject to ‘the US will invade Turkey’ paranoia as well as the false hopes revolving around the Russian SAM system as a ‘silver bullet solution to the imminent invasion’, the Coronavirus Pandemic witnessed biological warfare conspiracies going viral in the Turkish digital channels. In sum, Turkey has long been exposed to the vicious cycle of toxic discourse, disinformation, and extreme polarization in its digital information environment. This shortfall leads to critical vulnerabilities in the face of various hostile actors, ranging from state competitors to radical extremists." (Conclusion)


"This collection presents 14 concepts from a multi-disciplinary collection of internationally leading and emerging scholars, from 13 countries on 5 continents. They come together around three meta-topics: citizenship and justice, critiques of development, and renewing thought (from and for the margins). The short chapter format ensures that authors get straight to the nub of their ideas, providing readers - students, scholars and practitioners alike - with accessible, engaging and innovative ways to think critically about communication and social change, in new ways." (Publisher)

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-42513-5


"Esta guía comparte consejos para comunicar el cambio climático de manera efectiva. Está dirigida a profesionales de la comunicación y otros defensores de la acción climática que trabajan en países en desarrollo. Si alguna vez ha tratado de explicar a los colegas de su organización, a los formuladores de políticas o al público en general cómo está cambiando el clima, cómo les afecta y qué pueden hacer al respecto, entonces esta guía es para usted. Ya sea que se encuentre en el gobierno, en el sector privado, la sociedad civil o el mundo académico, cuando nos referimos a los “comunicadores del clima”, iestamos hablando de usted! Esta guía se centra en las comunicaciones sobre el clima en los países en desarrollo porque ya se ha escrito y debate bastante sobre la mejor manera de comunicar los problemas climáticos en los países industrializados. Esta guía fue escrita por el personal del área de Gestión del Conocimiento y Comunicaciones de CDKN, que viene trabajando en docenas de países de ingresos bajos y medios en Asia del Sur y en el Sudeste Asiático, África Subsahariana, América Latina y el Caribe desde el 2010. Nuestras comunicaciones han apuntado a concientizar sobre: la ciencia física del cambio climático; los impactos del cambio climático en la pobreza y el desarrollo; el potencial para construir resiliencia al cambio climático; las oportunidades de adaptar una economía baja en emisiones." (sobre esta guía, p.4)


"Au-delà de la communication pour le développement qui a suscité maints positionnements intellectuels et idéologiques dans la plupart des travaux d'études et de recherches des africanistes et des latinoamericanistes, la communication de changement comportemental, bien qu'ayant motivé un intérêt patent en science de gestion, s'est positionnée comme le châlon manquant. Elle a été magnifiée par les institutions internationales pour ensemencer le développement dans les pays du Sud. Son opérationnalisation a brassé des spécialistes de tous horizons disciplinaires et des experts des organisations internationales, nationales, et non gouvernementales. Prépondérante, d'ordinaire, en Afrique noire, en Amérique latine et en Asie du sud-est par les médecins et les agents de santé communautaire, elle est, de nos jours, en vivant d'activités de sensibilisation et de prévention dans les domaines existentiels tels l'agriculture, la santé, l'hygiène, la planification familiale, etc., l'urgence développementaliste aidant. (Dox de la couverture)

subjects: behaviour change communication; development communication; development communication: project planning & implementation - textbooks; manuals & training materials

150. Pamela A. Custodio: Remembering Nora Cruz Quebral (1926–2020) and her devcom legacy. In: Media Asia, vol. 47, nr. 3-4, 2020, p.174-177

"Nora Cruz Quebral's passing on 24 October 2020 came at the heels of a mild frenzy when a Philippine senator said that the discipline attributed to her is “cute and archaic” (Nakpip, 2020 para. 1). This prompted various higher education institutions (HEIs), particularly the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) College of Development Communication (CCD), to issue statements that it is alive, thriving, and relevant (Magsambol, 2020). The UPLB CCD statement stressed that development communication (devcom) remains important for three reasons: “First, devcom has a long and established history, which is recognized by thought leaders around the world. Second, devcom is a vibrant academic program being offered by numerous local and international academic institutions. And third, driving positive social change through communication has always been at the heart of devcom. For as long as there are social issues to be addressed, devcom will remain ever relevant" (UPLB Devcom, 2020, para. 2). Quebral, or simply NCQ to her colleagues of devcom. For as long as there are social issues to be addressed, devcom will remain ever relevant (UPLB Devcom, 2020, para. 2). Quebral, or simply NCQ to her colleagues and students, is recognized for founding the discipline of devcom. In 1971, she delivered the paper "Development Communication in the Agricultural Context" (Quebral, 2006) to honor the outgoing dean of the UPLB College of Agriculture, Dioscoro L. Umali. She coined development communication to mean "the art and science of human communication applied to the speedy transformation of a country and the mass of its people from poverty to prosperity" (Quebral, 2006, p. 101)"

https://doi.org/10.1080/01296612.2020.1845006


"This report highlights publishers’ activities and progress that relate to each of the 17 SDG goals. In some cases, these activities are core to what publishers do best, for example ensuring quality education. For other goals, such as clean water, the activities may be more indirect, and this report has been instrumental in expanding our perception of the broad range of ways in which publishers contribute to the SDG agenda. In each goal, there are reoccurring themes that are required as a basis in order to achieve the set targets. For example, there are clear links between improving literacy and ending extreme poverty. This executive summary will help make articulate these themes and also highlight areas where the industry can drive progress. The key findings are summarised below: 1. Content is king: What we publish remains core to progress the SDG agenda ...; 2. Equal opportunities for all: the power of diversity and inclusion ...; 3. Building smarter generations: Education remains a key focus ...; 4. Stopping climate change: Publishers are getting serious about their footprints ...; 5. Let’s work together: Partnership and collaboration remain important." (executive summary)

https://www.internationalpublishers.org/state-of-publishing-reports/publishers-and-the-united-nations-sustainable-development-goal s


"In order for climate information services to be effective in building resilience and supporting food and income security, they need to be designed and implemented in a way that is inclusive and accessible, reaching the last mile; relevant; actionable; holistic; accountable; part of a cohesive system; and which promotes sustainable and responsible practices." (p.9)

https://infoshub.practicalaction.org/bitstream/handle/11283/622661/Climate%20Informatio n%20Services%20Toolkit.pdf?sequence=1 &isAllowed=y


"In a review of the academic and practitioner literature on behaviour change we find that one system offers the best response to the challenges we have identified: The Behaviour Change Wheel (BCW), developed by Professor Susan Michie and colleagues. It is comprehensive, theory-based, evidence-backed and links the problem to intervention design. At the heart of the BCW is the system of behaviour called "COM-B". This means behaviour change is dependent on: Capability, Opportunity and Motivation: 1. Capability involves psychological dimensions (e.g. the knowledge and skill to perform an action) as well as physical dimensions (strength and stamina); 2. Opportunity includes both social (e.g. norms) and physical (e.g. resources) enablers; 3. Motivation includes "reflective" (e.g. conscious decision-making) and "automatic" (e.g. emotion and habit) processes. Beneath these are fourteen dimensions or "domains", including knowledge, skills, memory, emotion and social influences, among others. The COM-B system is linked to a further layer of nine intervention functions including education, persuasion, training and modelling. Finally, these intervention functions are mapped against policy categories, including communication, marketing and guidelines." (p.5)


https://doi.org/10.5771/9783748905349

155. Christopher Grady, Alice Iannantuoni, Matthew S. Winters: Influencing the means but not the ends: the role of entertainment-education interventions in development. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Department of Political Science, 2019, 40 p.

"As new information technologies facilitate the production and dissemination of broadcast media, entertainment-education interventions are increasingly used in attempts to influence audiences on issues such as political participation, support for democracy, violence against women, and tolerance of ethnic, religious, and sexual minorities. What factors make these programs effective in enacting behavior change in their audiences? Insights from social learning theory, which motivate entertainment-education media, highlight that individuals (i) learn about behaviors by observing examples of behavior in their environment and (ii) adopt the behaviors that they believe will help them achieve their goals. We review the existing entertainment-education literature in light of this foundational theory and find that exposure to broadcast media can change behavior by linking desired behaviors to pre-existing goals. Conversely and as expected, the literature does not provide much evidence that media leads to behavior change by persuading individuals to adopt new goals. We conclude the review with a discussion of the prospects for successful broadcast media interventions in two domains: public health, a realm where most interventions focus on linking behavior with existing goals, and countering violent extremism (CVE), where most interventions focus on changing goals." (abstract)

https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.30097.17766


Freire’s vision of development and social change: Past experiences, present challenges and perspectives for the future / Ana Cristina Suzina, Thomas Tuftte -- Paulo Freire’s role and influence on the praxis of popular communication in Brazil / Cecília MK Peruzzo -- Why Paulo Freire is a threat for right-wing populism: Lessons for communication of hope / Silvio Waisbond -- Talking with the right-wing: Pernicious polarization in Brazil and the philosophy of Paulo Freire / Fanny Vrydagh, César Jiménez-Martínez -- Grammars of contestation and pluralism: Paulo Freire’s action in Brazil’s periphery and the rise of right-wing discourse on YouTube / Helton Levy -- Communities of affect: A Freirean utopia? / Raquel Paiva

ASIA & PACIFIC


“This article examines advocacy journalism coverage of human development issues versus other issues in the contents of mainstream Pakistani newspapers and investigates the factors behind the inadequate space given to them. The study further explores the association between editorial and readers’ priorities. The quantitative content analysis method is used to measure and compare the frequency of sample content in five categories coupled with qualitative in-depth interviews with veteran journalists/academics to explain the factors that influence the editorial content. Rather than use precious space to comment on social hardship and ultimately improve the country’s HDI value, editorial content is dominated by the discourse produced by the communication bureaucracies of powerful national and international establishments. Issues-based policies of the state and political actors that do not concern human development, and warmongering and actual conflicts with India and Afghanistan, are given considerably greater coverage. Moreover, readers’ reactions to editorial content through Facebook Likes indicate a clear difference between editorial and readers’ priorities.” (abstract)

https://doi.org/10.1111/dpr.12443


“This research briefing presents three case studies that demonstrate how BBC Media Action used insights from formative qualitative research to create public service announcements (PSAs) in 12 districts of midland far-western Nepal. BBC Media Action worked with local radio stations to target specific listener groups to influence individual, community and societal behaviour in relation to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), including menstrual hygiene and nutrition.” (introduction)


Digitalisation & ICT for Development


“This thesis describes the search for and the design of a field-based approach to ICT4D. Ten years of field and action research in Mali, Burkina Faso, and Ghana have led to a practical approach that guides design and development of information systems. It fosters knowledge exchange between people from different (global, local, indigenous, academic, non-academic) knowledge domains. It brings users, local stakeholders, developers, researchers together to solve complex problems, according to the users’ own objectives. Field experience shows that digital development can be a meaningful, collaborative, networked process of knowledge sharing, driven by local initiatives, realizing change for the better in a complex world.” (back cover)


“Each section of this guide will explore another dimension of digital security—assets, attackers, risks and likelihood—and address these key questions: What do I want to protect? Who are my attackers? Is my attacker able to succeed? How likely is it that my attacker will succeed? Threat modeling consists of two types of assessments: Firstly, an analysis of the project’s environment (questions one and two). Secondly, an estimation of the likelihood that potential attacks will really happen (questions three and four). To prepare for threat modeling, we have added a “question zero” for project managers: Who are we and what do we do? This helps to establish a clear understanding of the entire project, with all of its workflows and challenges that employees face in their day-to-day work environment. A threat model is the basis for a digital security concept that should be developed along with IT experts so that your concept is both technically sound and practically enforceable. Having a clearly defined list of assets and their vulnerability empowers employees to protect them with appropriate countermeasures, and educates them on risks. This will increase the efficacy of a security concept in practice.” (executive summary)


Public regulation is needed to impose transparency requirements on online service providers. 1. Transparency requirements should relate to all platforms’ core functions in the public information ecosystem: content moderation, content ranking, content targeting, and social influence building. 2. Regulators in charge of enforcing transparency requirements should have strong democratic oversight and audit processes. 3. Sanctions for non-compliance could include large fines, mandatory publicity in the form of banners, liability of the CEO, and administrative sanctions such as closing access to a country’s market. A new model of meta-regulation with regards to content moderation is required. 4. Platforms should follow a set of Human Rights Principles for Content Moderation based on international human rights law: legality, necessity and proportionality, legitimacy, equality and non discrimination. 5. Platforms should assume the same kinds of obligation in terms of pluralism that broadcasters have in the different juridictions where they operate. An example would be the voluntary fairness doctrine. 6. Platforms should expand the number of moderators and spend a minimal percentage of their income to improve quality of content review, and particularly, in at-risk countries. New approaches to the design of platforms have to be initiated. 7. Safety and quality standards of digital architecture and software engineering should be enforced by a Digital Standards Enforcement Agency. The Forum on Information and Democracy could launch a


"This guide has explored some of the key considerations that should inform the conceptualization and implementation of Machine Learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) components within a development project. New, automated decision systems can offer considerable and rapid efficiency gains, but we must always remember that they embed numerous and ongoing human decisions. These may be intentional or unintentional, benevolent or malicious, general or highly context specific. As with physical infrastructure such as roads and bridges, digital infrastructure can all too easily encode unexamined bias – sometimes in ways that can undermine development gains. As outlined in this guide, a wide variety of decisions need to be made at different stages of the project lifecycle: from which stakeholders should be involved and how, to measuring model accuracy and success, to determining overall whether ML is an appropriate tool to use for your development context. There is no one-size-fits-all answer to these questions. But whatever the specific ML/AI technologies and applications you consider, broad guidance is offered in the four thematic areas covered throughout this guide: Responsible, equitable, and inclusive design; Strategic partnerships and human capital; Adaptive management; Enabling environment for ML/AI. These focal points should help you and your project team make the best possible choices at each stage of the project life cycle."

(Conclusion)


"[Este libro] presenta ocho capítulos que se muestran críticos frente a las posibilidades y promesas de la cultura digital, denunciando que la red ha reproducido las formas de desigualdad del mundo análogo. Los autores proponen una reflexión crítica frente a ciertos discursos que se presentan como democráticos y subversivos en la sociedad del e-conocimiento, pero que esconden en su funcionamiento retazos de la tiranía monopolizadora neocapitalista que ha encontrado en el ciberespacio un nuevo lugar de colonización y explotación. Muestran una visión crítica, política e ideológica desde el ámbito latinoamericano, una visión un tanto tecnopesimista en ocasiones, pero muy necesaria en el siglo xxi.” (prólogo, p.10)


"The concept of ‘the commons’ has been used as a framework to understand resources shared by a community rather than a private entity, and it has also inspired social movements working against the enclosure of public goods and resources. One such resource is free (libre) and open source software (FOSS). FOSS emerged as an alternative to proprietary software in the 1980s. However, both the products and production processes of FOSS have become incorporated into capitalist production. For example, Red Hat, Inc. is a large publicly traded company whose business model relies entirely on free software, and IBM, Intel, Cisco, Samsung, Google are some of the largest contributors to Linux, the open-source operating system. This book explores the ways in which FOSS has been incorporated into digital capitalism. Just as the commons have been used as a motivational frame for radical social movements, it has also served the interests of free-marketeers, corporate libertarians, and states to expand their reach by dragging the shared resources of social life onto digital platforms so they can be integrated into the global capitalist system. The book concludes by asserting the need for a critical political economic understanding of the commons that foregrounds (digital) labour, class struggle, and uneven power distribution within the digital commons as well as between FOSS communities and their corporate sponsors.” (back cover)

https://doi.org/10.16997/book39

“In this book, we have investigated the evolving intergenerational media practices over three years to reflect on the quotidian (and often invisible) forms of care at a distance enacted as part of contemporary Digital Kinship. As we have explored, within different cultural contexts we are seeing diverging forms of intergenerational perceptions and practices around media and care. Over the three years, we witnessed the growth of self-tracking health apps which are being taken up in diverse intergenerational ways. As we note, understanding intergenerational care at a distance is about complicating care beyond medical notions of health and social services.” (conclusion, p.187) https://doi.org/10.5117/9789462989504


“The purpose of the Guide is to provide practical and actionable recommendations for effective teleworking that are applicable to a broad range of actors: to support policymakers in updating existing policies; and to provide a flexible framework through which both private enterprises and public sector organizations can develop or update their own teleworking policies and practices. The Guide also includes a number of case examples regarding how employers and policymakers have been handling teleworking during the COVID-19 pandemic and addresses the lessons learned from the recent months that are relevant for the future of teleworking arrangements beyond the pandemic; and a list of available tools and resources.” (introduction) https://www.ilo.org/travail/info/publications/WCMS_781232/lang--en/index.htm


“Making Open Development Inclusive: Lessons from IDRC Research focuses on the connection between openness and inclusion in global development. It brings together the latest research that cuts across a wide variety of political, economic, and social arenas - from governance to education to entrepreneurship and more. The chapters draw on empirical evidence from a wide and diverse range of applications of openness, uncovering the many critical and underlying elements that shape and structure how particular openness initiatives and/or activities play out - and critically - who gets to participate, and who benefits [or not] from openness, while exploring the frontiers where openness intersects with deeper challenges of development, technology, and innovation.” (publisher)


“Colombia is, in some ways, a microcosm of the digital world in 2020—highly connected urban centers with a growing technology industry, and vast, underserved rural areas with an immense need for investment and potential for innovation. In the coming years, a key challenge will be to extend the reach and quality of Colombia’s digital ecosystem without compromising inclusiveness, security, or democratic values. Against this backdrop, USAID’s Digital Strategy was launched in April 2020. It aims to achieve and sustain open, secure, and inclusive digital ecosystems that contribute to measurable development and humanitarian-assistance outcomes and increase self-reliance in USAID’s partner countries. A critical product of the Digital Strategy is the Digital Ecosystem Country Assessment (DECA). The DECA is a decision-making tool to help USAID Missions, their partners, and other relevant stakeholders identify the opportunities, maximize the benefits, and manage the risks associated with digital technology. The goal is to help USAID’s partner countries along their journey to self-reliance through a better understanding of each country’s digital ecosystem. The DECA pilot phase began September 2019 through August 2020 and USAID/Colombia was the flagship pilot.” (executive summary) https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/DECA_Report_COLOMBIA_EXTERNAL_150CT20.pdf

Disaster & Humanitarian Crisis Communication


“This framework lays out the multiple elements needed to successfully build and assess the performance of a national Communications and Community Engagement (CCE) Platform. These Platforms enable a broad range of government and disaster response organisations to implement coordinated communication and engagement strategies based on the belief that “information saves lives during a crisis”. (p.1) http://www.cdcnetwork.org/tools-and-resources/c202012231014-5ncxi


“This module introduces disaster risk management (DRM) and provides an overview of how information and communication technologies (ICTs) can be used for DRM. A large number of examples and case studies on the applications of ICTs in DRM have been included in the module. The main objective of the module is to introduce the basic concepts of DRM and the applications of ICTs in disaster mitigation and prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.” (p.ii) https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Academy%20Module%20on%20ICT%20for%20DRM.pdf


“In the 1991 cyclones that hit Bangladesh, 80 per cent of the 140 000 victims were women. In the deadly heat waves that hit France in 2003, most fatalities were elderly women. During the 2005 Hurricane Katrina emergency in New Orleans, most of the victims were Afro-American women and their children. And yet again, with the COVID-19 pandemic, women are bearing the brunt; not only because they represent an estimated 70 per cent of frontline healthcare workers and undertake most of the care work in the home, but because their over-representation in the informal economy and lower pay rates mean they are significantly harder hit by the economic downturn. In such times of crises, access to accurate information is life-saving and life-changing for women, their families and their communities. Their perspectives and experiences, as well as their ability to organize, lobby and inform, can dramatically improve disaster risk management. That is why we need more innovative and culturally sensitive approaches to empowering women and girls through digital networks, platforms and technologies. With many years of experience in delivering communications in times of disasters, ITU and the other partners of the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) can attest to the importance and impact of such empowerment. That is why we are working to involve more women in the development of national disaster management strategies and strategic consultations on disaster preparedness and response, including for early warning systems.” (foreword) https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Emergency-Telecommunications/Documents/events/2020/Women-ICT-ET/Full-report.pdf


“This document is intended to be used as a high-level guide for advancing risk communication best practices. It synthesizes academic research and available guidance on the topic of hazards and disaster risk communication. It draws from an array of evidence-based recommendations for effectively communicating risk across the disaster lifecycle and synthesizes them into three overarching principles: Communicate Through Familiar and Trusted Messengers (pages 5-11); Provide Clear, Actionable Information (pages 12-17); Tailor Message and Information Pathways for Target Audiences (pages 18-23). Additionally, this guide integrates key insights that can be applied to communicating involving socially vulnerable populations. Social vulnerability influences the capacity to anticipate, cope with, resist, and recover from the impact of a disaster. Socially vulnerable populations are thus more likely to experience disproportionate negative impacts from disasters including emotional distress, loss of property, temporary or permanent displacement, illness, and death. Rather than generate a different set of rules for engaging these groups, this document aims to highlight how general, widely accepted risk communication principles can be thoughtfully applied to populations that are often marginalized, overlooked, or difficult to reach.” (overview) https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/getfile/collection/p16021coll11/id/4736


“This document is intended to be used as a resource bibliography for in-depth reading about risk communication best practices. It summarizes academic research and practical guidance on the topic of hazards and disaster risk communication, with a particular focus
on socially vulnerable populations. It is organized around three primary sections, including: 1) General Risk Communication Guidance; 2) Risk Communication and Social Vulnerability; 3) Risk Communication Across the Disaster Lifecycle. This bibliography identifies widely accepted risk communication principles that apply across the disaster lifecycle; however, the focus on social vulnerability sets it apart from other published resources on the topic of risk communication. It highlights materials that demonstrate how risk communication insights apply to a diverse array of socially vulnerable groups—defined here as those who face disproportionate disaster risk due to a variety of historical, social, economic, and political conditions.” (overview)
https://issuemetadata.oclc.org/utils/efile/ocalp-ris/p1807211111/4737

“Even the most sophisticated forecasting models and advanced early warning systems can be rendered ineffective if the information is not communicated clearly, on time, and in a way that allows the end-user to consider options and act appropriately. These challenges not only apply to fast onset hazards such as cyclones and tsunamis, but also to slower onset hazards such as the current COVID-19 pandemic. Around the world, governments’ responses to the current pandemic provide examples of how complex and difficult successful risk communication is. This paper discusses the importance of risk communication as a critical component of early warning systems and explores the constant challenges that vulnerable communities face, how early warning systems sit within the wider Sendai Framework, and what governments have learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, and discusses how we can communicate more effectively in the future to reduce harm.” (abstract)
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pdisas.2020.100139

“Twitter is a major tool for communication during emergencies and disasters. This study aimed to investigate Twitter use during natural hazards and pandemics. The included studies reported the role of Twitter in disasters triggered by natural hazards. Electronic databases were used for a comprehensive literature search to identify the records that match the mentioned inclusion criteria published through May 2020. Forty-five articles met the selection criteria and were included in the review. These indicated ten functions of Twitter in disasters, including early warning, dissemination of information, advocacy, assessment, risk communication, public sentiment, geographical analysis, charity, collaboration with influencers and building trust. Preventing the spread of misinformation is one of the most important issues in times of disaster, especially pandemics. Sharing accurate, transparent and prompt information from emergency organizations and governments can help. Moreover, analyzing Twitter data can be a good way to understand the mental state of the community, estimate the number of injured people, estimate the points affected by disasters and model the prevalence of epidemics. Therefore, various groups such as politicians, government, nongovernmental organizations, aid workers and the health system can use this information to plan and implement interventions.” (abstract)
https://doi.org/10.33399/journalmedia1010005

Economics & Management of Media

“This media viability handbook is unique in that it has been written by media startups themselves and presents the learnings of 21 digital pioneers including the Philippines’ Rappler, Egypt’s Mada Masr and Animal Politico in Mexico. The pages are filled with tips and information these media startups from 18 different countries wished they had when they first started out. It includes lessons learned, advice for successful growth and perhaps most importantly, how to sustain a startup’s success. The handbook presents a three-step approach: the start phase, growth phase and the media viability phase. It highlights an approach that focuses not only on revenue streams — an area that many startups put too much emphasis on — but aspects of the business such as human resources and audience engagement, which are crucial for achieving media viability. Each chapter of the handbook explores one of the three steps in depth. In the first chapter, we hear from six startups in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). They share their experiences of turning an idea into a reality and share the knowledge they learned during the start phase focusing on revenue streams, audience engagement, collaboration and donors’ motives. In chapter two, seven startups from the Asia region dive into structure and growth. There is a particular focus on diversifying revenue streams, staffing and internal organization, identifying a core mission and capitalizing on your strengths. Chapter three features eight startups from Latin American countries who impart their knowledge on sustaining the success they have achieved. It rounds up the important lessons that digital media entrepreneurs should carry with them at all times. Community building, producing a quality product and involving the whole team in decision making processes are key.” (publisher)
https://www.dw.com/downloads/5488526/1/027184328-1buz6

“Diversification with age: The media in this research are in a constant process of diversifying their revenue streams. Generally speaking, the longer a medium exists, the more income streams a medium has. This shows that diversification of income models...
takes time and patience. Donor funding remains important: Donor funding is a very important source of income, even within diversified income models. Media that do not receive any donor funding are generally either start-ups (less than two years old) or solid, long standing media houses (founded more than 20 years ago) that have a print edition or also broadcast on television. Most media generate advertisement income: Advertisement income is also still a very important source of income; a large majority of the media generate some income through advertisement. Even though digital advertising generates much less revenue than print advertisement once did, advertisement income is still a welcome contribution to the annual budget of media. Reader revenue in diversified models: Reader revenue is an important upcoming revenue streams in many contexts. However, it hardly ever is the first source of revenue, and generally becomes part of already diversified income models (three revenue streams or more). Media in challenging contexts are fragile: Across all the challenging contexts, media struggle to sustain themselves financially. In low income countries, and countries with a very bad press reputation, readership is still a welcome contribution to the annual budget of media. Reader revenue in diversified models is also still a very important source of income; a large majority of solid, long standing media houses (founded more than 20 years ago) that have a print version are still a notable source of income, even within diversified income models. Media independence and sustainability.


https://www.researchgate.net/sites/external/sites/70845746_Comunicacao_Media_e_Industrias_Creativas_na_Era_Digital

Education Media & ITCs

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000375116


*There is no one-size-fits-all way in which governments should promote and implement initiatives that use digital technologies to improve the learning outcomes of the most marginalised, and governments always need to take into consideration their local contexts and priorities. However, in very general terms, the following order of initial priorities and actions is often appropriate: 1. Creating a long-term cross-party vision for ensuring that digital technologies are used to enhance learning by the poorest and most marginalised; 2. Establishing an integrated and holistic cross-government team to deliver that vision; 3. Beginning by ensuring that all teacher training colleges have as high-quality digital infrastructures as affordable, and that pre-service and in-service training programmes are implemented to ensure that teachers are trained in appropriate and relevant pedagogies; 4. Prioritising the specific educational challenges for which digital technologies can have the most significant impact for the most marginalised in your country (this could, for example, be high numbers of refugees, very dispersive island communities, or numerous minority ethnic groups for whom learning content in the main language is inappropriate); 5. Identifying and implementing technology-relevant (in terms of what is both feasible and affordable) approaches to resolve these challenges, remembering that low-tech options (such as radio or TV) and Open Educational Resources can often deliver very cost-effective and resilient options, and that multi-sector partnerships with the private sector...
and civil society can be valuable in ensuring appropriateness and sustainability. 6. At all times ensuring that security, safety and privacy receive the highest priority in using digital technology for delivering education and training, especially for children and vulnerable adults.” (p.12-13) https://www.ictworks.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Education-for-the-most-marginalised-UNESCO.pdf

*The Guidelines provide practical directions for the use of distance education tools and practices to support teaching and learning and offer suggestions on the use of appropriate technology to address the social and pedagogical issues of learning in a crisis situation. The purpose is to provide a road map for decision makers in governments and institutions to invest in the systematic integration of good distance education practices in their specific contexts, keeping in view the challenges of equity and inclusion. Parents and students can benefit from the Guidelines by adopting appropriate practices that will facilitate the learning process.” (purpose of the guidelines, p.3)
http://oasis.col.org/handle/11598/3576


AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN

*On average across 34 countries, one in five adults (20%) have access to both a smartphone and a computer, while 43% only have access to a basic cell phone. In 15 out of 34 countries, at least half of adults have access to a smartphone or a computer or both. About three in 10 respondents (31%) use their cell phones and the Internet at least several times a week. This form of basic digital literacy is widespread (at least 50% of adults) in Mozambique, Gabon, Tunisia, Sudan, South Africa, and Morocco; while 10% or less in Mali, Niger, and Madagascar. One-fifth of adults (20%) are well prepared to participate in or assist members of their household with a transition to an online learning environment. In contrast, 55% are likely to be ill prepared for remote learning, while 25% of respondents form a middle category representing those who could participate in e-learning given sufficient resources such as devices and/or training. Citizens’ readiness to engage in remote learning is primarily shaped by their level of formal education and access to electricity, rather than by their overall level of wealth or geographic location.* (key findings, p.3)

*As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to spread across Africa, educators, policy makers, parents, and pupils face uncertainty about the path forward. In Kenya, the government has halted all in-person teaching at the primary and secondary levels and moved to remote teaching. Survey findings show, however, how unequal access to the necessary technology is in Kenya. While regular Internet use has grown fourfold in the past decade, half of Kenyans remain offline. This is especially common in poor, rural, and less educated families, who face the prospect of being left even further behind. Radio caters to the broadest audience in Kenya, though teaching possibilities are no doubt more limited than online. To ensure inclusion and participation in online learning in the medium and longer term, the government will need to activate plans and investments capable of spreading e-learning infrastructure that facilitates access for all students.” (conclusion)

*This book demonstrates how the authors used radio and mobile technologies to improve educational outcomes for over 20,000 displaced and out-of-school children in northeast Nigeria at the height of the Boko Haram insurgency. Interactive Radio Instruction (IRI) programs typically interact with a functional classroom teacher. However, the transactional radio instruction strategy presented provides high-quality, safe, and sensitive education in war-tom societies, where there are no schools or teachers. Summarizing the research and lessons learned from a USAID-funded Technology Enhanced Learning for All (TELA) project in Boko Haram-ravaged northeast Nigeria, the book describes in detail an education-in-emergency strategy based on a “whole of community” approach, with radio and mobile tablets at its core.” (publisher)
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-32389-1

*Afrobarometer findings show that radio and television are the most widely accessible platforms for students seeking to participate in MoE/GES e-learning programs, although rural and poor households are at a disadvantage when it comes to owning these devices. The data show relatively low rates of access to the Internet via mobile phone, ownership of computers, and regular use of the Internet, particularly among respondents in rural and poor households, highlighting the difficulties that many students will face in engaging with online learning programs. While most households are connected to the electric grid, more than four in 10 rural and poor households do not have a power supply that works most or all of the time. For both government and civil society, these findings indicate potential learning gaps, as not all students will be able to access e-learning programs from all platforms. This points to the need for strategies to increase students’ participation, particularly targeting rural and poor families, by raising awareness of available televised programs and launching radio-based remote-learning programs as soon as possible. To ensure inclusion and participation in online platforms such as icampus, the government and schools should initiate longer-term plans and investments capable of spreading e-learning infrastructure, irrespective of settlement types and poverty levels, to facilitate access for all students.” (conclusion)
https://afrobarometer.org/publications/ad374-ghanas-e-learning-program-during-pandemic-presents-access-challenges-many

Freedom of Expression, Media Policies, Media Legislation

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


*This Handbook, which provides non-compulsory technical guidance to EU Delegations, aims to provide tools and hands-on examples to support them in implementing the the 2014 EU Human Rights Guidelines on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline and in taking actions to support the safety and security of journalists in their context. First, the Handbook presents a brief on the European and international policy framework regarding safety of journalists and clarifies relevant concepts. The second section focuses on the actions EU Delegations can carry out in their own local context – working in an emergency situation, or as tools for mid- and long-term policy and programming.” (purpose of this handbook, p.7)

*The EU Human Rights Guidelines on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline (the Guidelines) were approved by the Council of the European Union (EU) in 2014. The Guidelines provide a policy and operational foundation for EU Delegations, EU institutions and Member States working to support freedom of expression and media pluralism. The Guidelines also present good practice approaches to responding in strategic and
The article suggests that the Ethiopian government should draw guidance from the African Internet governance, and implementing the cyber norms already adopted – is a matter for

The writer argues that illegitimate limitations of the right fall short of the quadruple tests of the African Charter. Restrictions to freedom of expression on the internet include internet "censorship zones," where any peaceful dissent or criticism of the Vietnamese government is liable to be censored and where users seeking to post such content face the risk of being surrendered or otherwise barred from the platforms. (executive summary) https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/ASA4132432020ENGLISH.pdf

Africa, Sub-Saharan


"Canal de Moçambique is a Mozambican independent weekly newspaper that publishes investigative stories of public concern. Since its inception, Canal has relentlessly pursued investigations of corruption and injustice in public service and in political life such that, in the corridors of power, it has earned itself the reputation of being the opposition newspaper. This contributed to the Sunday tragedy of 23 August 2020, when an unidentified group attacked Canal’s media house. At around 8.00pm, the group broke into Canal’s offices, poured fuel on the floor, furniture and equipment, and dropped a Molotov cocktail. Until 23 August 2020, no media house had ever been attacked in this manner. The attack constitutes a turning point in the escalating crackdown on human rights including the rights to freedom of expression, information, and media freedom. For more than five years, journalists, researchers, opinion makers have been subjected to intimidation, harassment, abductions, beatings and extrajudicial killings."

This International Media Support report explores criminal justice and human rights mechanisms to protect journalists, media workers and human rights advocates in an effort to combat impunity in The Gambia. It is the culmination of an innovative approach to hold perpetrators of attacks, killings and disappearances of those exercising their right to freedom of expression to account and accentuates the importance of robust, collaborative support to protect journalists and the commitment to end impunity. The heart of this report recognizes that responding to threats and attacks against journalists means being prepared to scrutinize investigations and the laws that govern them. (back cover)


"In 2019, se reportaron 2.521 alertas relacionadas con violaciones a la libertad de expresión, libertad de prensa y acceso a la información a lo largo de 6 países. VDS reportó 724 alertas de los mismos países en 2018. Tanto de manera regional como local, la información nos habla sobre un rápido deterioro en la libertad de expresión, libertad de prensa y acceso a la información en el contexto de creciente represión y restricciones. Esta situación habla de la alta vulnerabilidad de estas libertades fundamentales en América Latina y como socaban de manera seria la paz, justicia y democracia en la región, bloqueando la Agenda 2030. En Honduras, Venezuela y Nicaragua el abuso sistemático de las instituciones públicas impone un estado (no) oficial de censura, incluyendo el encarcelamiento de periodistas, la creación de leyes para limitar la libertad de expresión y fuertes restricciones para acceder a recursos claves. En Bolivia, Ecuador, y Guatemala la dramática inestabilidad social y política resultante de las protestas masivas donde los derechos humanos básicos—incluyendo la seguridad y protección a periodistas y el acceso a información pública—fueron gravemente violentados. En Brasil y Argentina la violencia contra periodistas y medios de comunicación no se ha materializado en ataques sistemáticos, pero se manifestía en una violencia discursiva, acoso, intimidación y amenazas, las cuales, a la larga buscaban imponer miedo y auto censura. En Perú y Uruguay, a pesar de tener los niveles más bajos de violencia en contra de periodistas y medios de comunicación en la región, los retos para acceder a la información persisten a través de ataques y agresiones aislados y procesos judiciales ocasionales por calumnias y difamación." (resumen ejecutivo)


Asia & Pacific


“On 21 April 2020, Facebook announced a major shift in its content moderation policy in Viet Nam. Under this policy, it has increasingly complied with the Vietnamese authorities’ restrictive censorship of online expression deemed critical of the state.3 Facebook has disclosed that it agreed to “significantly increase” compliance with requests from the Vietnamese government to censor “anti-state” content in Viet Nam after concerted pressure from the Vietnamese authorities, including an enforced slowdown of Facebook services within the country. The Vietnamese government routinely deems peaceful and legitimate criticism of the government or information related to human rights abuses as “anti-state”, even though this type of expression is protected under international laws and standards. The decision by Facebook may have far-reaching global consequences, as other repressive governments around the world may now seek to apply a similar strategy by forcing Facebook and other technology companies to restrict online expression. As one industry observer noted: ‘How Google and Facebook deal with Viet Nam could offer clues to how they will protect user privacy and handle calls for censorship in other authoritarian regimes around the world.’ Facebook’s decision has marked a sea change in the social media landscape in Viet Nam. Once the great hope for the expansion of freedom of expression in the country, social media platforms are fast becoming human rights-free zones, where any peaceful dissent or criticism of the Vietnamese government is liable to be censored and where users seeking to post such content face the risk of being surrendered or otherwise barred from the platforms.”


"The Chinese state has demonstrated a propensity for controlling and shaping the information environment of the Chinese diaspora—including via WeChat. The meteoric growth of TikTok has now put the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) in a position from which it can shape the information environment on a largely non-Chinese-speaking platform—with the help of the highest valued start-up in the world and its opaque advanced AI-powered algorithm. Chinese party-state leverage over these companies is considerable, is exercised internally via CCP committees and is enforced by a suite of cybersecurity and intelligence laws. As Chinese companies, Tencent and ByteDance are not only required to participate in intelligence work, but they’re also legally mandated to promote CCP propaganda. China’s censorship and propaganda apparatus is a responsibility that’s pushed down to media and technology companies such as Tencent and ByteDance. As Chinese companies, they’re obliged to comply with strict
government regulations on what content is allowed to be published on their platforms, and they both invest heavily in automated systems for content filtering and human curation. Pursued by law firms on behalf of powerful individuals and organisations who seek to avoid public scrutiny, their aim is to drain the target's financial and psychological resources and chill critical voices to the detriment of public participation. Currently, no European country has enacted targeted rules that specifically shield against SLAPP suits. EU-wide rules providing for strong and consistent protection against SLAPP suits would mark a crucial step forward towards ending this abusive practice in European Member States and serve as a benchmark for countries in the rest of Europe and beyond. Together with other legislative and non-legislative measures, it would contribute to secure a safer environment for public watchdogs and public participation in the EU. (p.3)


This document sets out ECPMF’s strategic approach to tackle the existing and emerging challenges over the next five years. Starting in September 2019, the creation of this plan is the result of several stages of research, feedback from staff and board members as well as partners and beneficiaries across Europe. It clearly articulates ECPMF’s vision, mission and organisational values, as well as the three core strands of the organisation’s work to ‘Monitor’, ‘Support’ and ‘Engage’. Our short term 2020-21 targets reflect ECPMF’s current top-line project commitments, including through the newly launched Media Freedom Rapid Response (MFRR). These concrete activity based targets will be reviewed year on year, in line with ECPMF’s overarching key strategic priorities that we have mapped out for the organisation to achieve by 2024.” (introduction, p.4)


https://doi.org/10.48335/9789188855329


“This report was commissioned by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to examine women’s representation in COVID-19/coronavirus newsgathering and news coverage in India, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, the UK, and the US. It is rooted in a computational news content analysis of 11,913 publications and 1.9 million stories between 1st March and 15th April 2020 undertaken by Media Ecosystems Analysis Group; an in-depth qualitative portrayal analysis of 175 highly ranked COVID-19/coronavirus stories across the six countries; quantitative analysis of eight public-facing bespoke Google surveys, as well as multi-country secondary surveys; a pronoun content analysis of COVID-19 headlines; story frames analyses using Google’s news search engine, the Internet TV News Archive in 2020 and the GDELT Project global online news archive for 2017 to 2020; and interrogation of a number of global statistical databases ... The report has examined the news coverage of the COVID-19/coronavirus story through the lenses of three indicators of gender equality: women as sources of news expertise; news stories leading with women protagonists; and coverage of gender equality issues. The insights from the report have led to the creation of 21 recommendations which aim to support news providers who wish to amplify the substantially muted voices of women in news coverage of the COVID19/coronavirus story. The report has uncovered a substantial bias towards men’s perspectives in the newsgathering and news coverage of this pandemic across both the global north (the UK and US) and the global south (India, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa). This bias operates against a backdrop of women’s effective political invisibility within the COVID-19-related decision-making process in the countries analyzed and the unique socioeconomic, health and psychological challenges that women face globally. Every individual woman’s voice in the news on COVID19 is drowned out by the voices of at least three, four, or five men. The women who are given a platform in the COVID-19/coronavirus news stories are rarely portrayed as authoritative experts or as empowered individuals but more frequently as sources of personal opinion or as victims/people affected by the disease.” (executive summary)


“This report presents a snapshot of the first substantial findings from a global survey about online violence against women journalists conducted by UNESCO and the International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) in late 2020. Over 900 validated participants from 125 countries completed the survey in Arabic, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish. The findings shared here reflect the input of the 714 respondents identifying as women. 73% of women respondents said they had experienced online violence. Threats of attack (57%), according to the women respondents.” (introduction)


This report ... presents a bespoke analysis of how women around the world consume and perceive news, based on data on audience behaviour from 11 countries featured in the 2020 Reuters Institute Digital News Report: Kenya, South Africa, South Korea, Hong Kong, Japan, Mexico, Brazil, Finland, Germany, United Kingdom, and United States. We have selected these 11 to represent as wide a geographical base as possible, and cover some of the richest and poorest countries in the report ... As the country profiles show, a growing set of women-led protest movements against femicide, sexual assault, and online harassment around the world have created a new debate around how the news portrays women, and new conversations about who is in the newsroom deciding the agenda and framing the news. While news reporting has sometimes played an important role in these debates, it is also clear that many of them are driven by feminists who use social media as activist tools to speak out and organise against sexism and misogyny, sometimes in the news media too ... Key Findings: Men are more likely than women to say that they are ‘extremely’ or ‘very’ interested in political news across all markets; Women are more likely than men to express high levels of interest in news about health and education; Women are more likely than men to report that they use TV news programmes or bulletins; Facebook is still an important source of news for both men and women, but YouTube and Twitter are more popular with men; Women will talk about news faces to face with friends and family more than men. They are less likely to comment on news on news websites or on social media; Women’s levels of trust in news, and concern over ‘fake news’ online, are broadly similar to men.”

https://www.reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/women-and-news-overview-audience-behaviour-11-countries


“This guide aims to equip media organisations and professionals with the necessary tools and insights to increase gender balance in their content. It should help you to: Understand the importance of gender balance in content; Identify the different ways in which the media gender stereotypes; Understand how to avoid gender stereotyping; Develop organisational strategies to improve gender balance in content; Identify suitable metrics and tools to track their progress; Learn from successful initiatives that have been implemented by other news organisations.” (p.3)


221. Guidelines on responsible representation and reporting of violence against women and violence against children. UNESCO Regional Office for South Asia; UNFPA Asia Pacific Regional Office; UN Women Asia Pacific Regional Office, 2020, 35 p.

“These guidelines are meant to promote responsible, ethical and safe representation and reporting of violence against women and violence against children. These guidelines highlight many basic, sometimes common sense approaches that are all too often ignored. Real-life situations may be even more complex than the circumstances presented here. Hence, these guidelines should raise awareness about the sensitivity of reporting on and communicating about violence against women and violence against children. The desired result is better informed media and communications practitioners; more empowering messages, visuals and communications content; and a way of working with survivors as subjects who have agency while doing no harm and benefitting all involved.” (summary, p.24)

https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/14_dec_guidelines_on_responsible_representation_and_reporting-final.pdf


“We hope this toolkit will support you in creating exciting and memorable content for community radio programmes wherever you are. This toolkit contains the messages and facts from the global campaign. It has not been tailored for any specific region, country or area. We count on you to consider how to make this campaign most relevant to your audiences – drawing on local data and voices from your communities. The toolkit suggests several types of shows that community radio stations can create. If you want to include specific facts and statistics about your country, area or community, please work with organizations in your local network that can help.” (about this toolkit, p.9)

https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48233/pf0000374105

“Twitter is still not doing enough to protect women from online violence and abuse. Since the release of Toxic Twitter in 2018, Amnesty International has continued to highlight the scale of abuse women face on Twitter, including in Argentina, India, the UK and the US. Meanwhile, women have continued to speak out about the abuse they experience on Twitter, and the company’s failure to adequately respond. The persistent abuse women face on the platform undermines their right to express themselves equally, freely and without fear. This abuse is highly intersectional, women from ethnic or religious minorities, marginalized castes, lesbian, bisexual or transgender women - as well as non-binary individuals – and women with disabilities are targets for abuse. Although the company has made some welcome progress, the Twitter Scorecard shows how much remains to be done. The purpose of the Scorecard is not only to track Twitter’s progress, but also to provide concrete recommendations on steps that Twitter should take to address this issue. Of the ten recommendations below, Twitter has, to date, only fully implemented a single one. Using this Scorecard, we will continue to track Twitter’s progress on this critical issue going forward.” (conclusion)

https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/AMR5129932020ENGLISH.PDF


“Based on interviews with 18 managers (8 female, 10 male) of media outlets in 12 countries, the research findings show that there is a wide range of motivations for media managers to promote gender equality in the workplace. The main argument used is the fact that the managers believe in gender equality and want to set an example to promote gender equality in society. Furthermore, business motives play a role, as well as personal reasons. The argument of the ‘business case for gender equality’, arguing that promoting gender equality in the workplace is good for business is regularly used to convince media outlets of the importance of gender equality in their organisation. This research shows that in encouraging managers of media outlets to promote gender equality, the business argument might work, but other angles should be used as well … Success factors to promote gender equality identified in this research include: Commitment and clear communication by management; Employing a flexible approach, adapting to the local context and culture; Institutionalizing the efforts through for example a gender policy; Communication by management; Employing a flexible approach, adapting to the local context and culture.” (conclusion)


“All the international and legal frameworks outlined above demonstrate concrete entry points for collaboration between women’s rights organisation and media for the elimination of gender-based violence. Media can challenge stereotypes and patriarchal narratives, policy-makers care to admit it or not, the Internet is an inseparable part of the society in which we live, and online GBV demands a resolute hand. Unfortunately, the gaps in legal frameworks, not to mention deficient law enforcement, are forcing women to self-censor online or even wholly abandon platforms that could be used for legitimate expression and the exercise of other fundamental rights. Unless governments take urgent, comprehensive action, the inadequate protection of women’s rights online will continue to erode any other legislative attempts to achieve equality across different spheres of life.” (conclusion)

https://bit.ly/3dl1ybg

AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN


“There is evidence that [the radio drama series] ‘Life in Lulu’ had a strong impact on women’s attitudes and inspired female listeners to resolve conflicts non-violently and encourage others to do the same. This seems to be driven by having characters that are engaging to women and storylines that challenge traditional gender roles and to more balanced power dynamics between men and women. However, the drama had less impact on shifting the attitudes of men in relation to the role of women in decision-making and conflict resolution. Gender norms related to decision-making within and outside the home are particularly ‘sticky’ and difficult to change.” (conclusion)


“Findings from the survey revealed that the Report Women FRLP has achieved its goal exceptionally. It equipped the fellows with knowledge and capability for leadership with evidence of increased visibility for the fellows as leaders in their newsrooms. It opened opportunities for personal and professional development and changed news organisations’ perception about female leadership and the representation of the voice of women as leaders in news reports. It accrued over 1,200 direct and indirect beneficiaries. WSCIJ was convinced about the capacity of the Report women programme to be a game-changer when we started in 2014. This report proves that increased participation of female reporters who are well-trained as leaders with passion and knowledge for reporting girls and women issues correctly can engender a socially just world if we all commit to sustaining the engagement.” (executive summary)


“The highest levels of regulation, from international treaties to constitutions, are unambiguous about creating an environment in which women thrive. However, this egaliitarian space must be progressively realized, and one aspect of this work is eliminating discrimination, including in relation to gender-based violence (GBV). Whether authorities care to admit it or not, the Internet is an inseparable part of the society in which we live, and online GBV demands a resolute hand. Unfortunately, the gaps in legal frameworks, not to mention deficient law enforcement, are forcing women to self-censor online or even wholly abandon platforms that could be used for legitimate expression and the exercise of other fundamental rights. Unless governments take urgent, comprehensive action, the inadequate protection of women’s rights online will continue to erode any other legislative attempts to achieve equality across different spheres of life.” (conclusion)

https://bit.ly/3dl1ybg

ASIA & PACIFIC


“Brazil markets itself as a racially mixed utopia. The United States prefers the term melting pot. Both nations have long used the image of the mulatta to push skewed cultural narratives. Highlighting the prevalence of mixed-race women of African and European descent, the two countries claim to have perfected racial representation - all the while ignoring the racialization, hypersexualization, and white supremacy that the mulatta narrative creates. Jasmine Mitchell investigates the development and exploitation of the mulatta figure in Brazilian and US popular culture. Drawing on a wide range of case studies, she analyzes policy debates and reveals the use of mixed-black female celebrities as subjects of racial and gendered discussions. Mitchell also unveils the ways the media moralizes about the mulatta figure and uses her as an example of an “acceptable” version of blackness that at once dreams of erasing undesirable blackness while maintaining the qualities that serve as outlets for interracial desire.” (publisher)


“Justice4Her is a cross-sector, multi-stakeholder project of RNW Media and Qianqian Law Firm that seeks to strengthen the rule of law and reduce gender-based violence (GBV) towards women migrant workers in China. The project launched in 2016 and targets women migrant workers in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangdong Province and was scaled further with co-funding from the European Commission in 2018. Justice4Her provides legal support through a digital interactive platform and disseminates information on GBV to millions through online channels (social media platforms, blogs, email, WeChat groups) and integrates this online work with offline activities. The project has increased mainstream media coverage in China of how GBV affects young women migrants and carried out viral online campaigns to raise public awareness and to challenge tolerance and acceptance of GBV. While advocating for the improvement of anti-domestic violence laws in China, Justice4Her provides pro bono legal aid to victims of GBV in partnership with Beijing Qianqian law firm, a local law firm, both in the form of consultations via mail and support in bringing their cases to court and representing them. The project has also trained pro bono lawyers to better represent victims, media professionals to encourage more gender sensitive reporting on cases of GBV and NGOs on how conduct successful
Online spaces are being systematically weaponised to exclude women leaders and to undermine the role of women in public life. Attacks on women which use hateful language, rumour and gendered stereotypes combine personal attacks with political motivations, making online spaces dangerous places for women to speak out. And left unchecked, this phenomenon of gendered disinformation, spread by state and non-state actors, poses a serious threat to women’s equal political participation. In this research, we investigated state-aligned gendered disinformation in two countries, Poland and the Philippines, through an analysis of Twitter data. We analysed tweets in Polish and, from the Philippines, in English. (executive summary)
40. Denghua Zhang, Amanda H. A. Watson: "The Chinese government’s media activities in the Pacific fall into five categories. First, China has expanded its official media to Pacific Island countries (PICs). The China Central Television (CCTV) has established branches in Fiji, Samoa, and Tonga, among others. The China Global Television Network (CGTN) has also opened an office in Fiji. China’s soft power strategy in the Pacific is designed to increase its influence and influence in the region."

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their disinformation narratives to suit different target audiences because there is no need for consistency, as there would be with attributed government communications. Second, it provides plausible deniability for Kremlin officials when proxy sites peddle blatant and dangerous disinformation, allowing them to deflect criticism while still introducing pernicious information. Third, it creates a media multiplier effect among the different pillars of the ecosystem that boost their reach and resonance. The media multiplier effect can, at times, create disinformation storms with potentially dangerous effects for those Russia perceives as adversaries at the international, national, and local level. In the past, Russia has leveraged this dynamic to shield itself from criticism for its involvement and malign activity. This approach also allows Russia to be opportunistic, such as with COVID-19, where it has used the global pandemic as a hook to push longstanding disinformation and propaganda narratives. This report provides a visual representation of the ecosystem described above, as well as an example of the media multiplier effect it enables. This serves to demonstrate how the different pillars of the ecosystem play distinct roles and feed off of and bolster each other. The report also includes brief profiles of select proxy sites and organizations that occupy an intermediate role between the pillars of the ecosystem with clear links to Russia and those that are meant to be fully deniable.” (p.5-7) https://www.state.gov/russias-pillars-of-disinformation-and-propaganda-report/
policy changes and positively impacted the lives of marginalized groups. Individual stories can have a societal impact, either in the form of provoking power-holders into action or by bringing issues into the public sphere that would otherwise not be talked about." (forword, p.xiii)


EUROPE


https://www.transcript-verlag.de/978-3-8376-5025-9

MIDDLE EAST / WESTERN ASIA & NORTH AFRICA

253. Rasha Allam, Saloma El Ghetozy: Journalism and media education in times of conflict: three cases from the Arab region. In: Arab media & society, nr. 29, 2020, p.43-54

"This paper examines the journalism and media education programs in three countries in the Arab region (Libya, Syria, Yemen) that have been or are still in the throes of civil wars and/or polarization along conflicting political ideologies and control of different geographical zones. Based on an online questionnaire distributed among academics affiliated with universities in these three states, results show that the three countries suffer from an extreme lack of proper journalism and media education programs. However, online and blended education can serve as a bridge for these countries to overcome their constraints and challenges, and develop new models for their journalism and media education programs." (abstract)


Media Assistance

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


"[This book] examines the way in which foreign aid has shaped professional ideologies of journalism as part of systematic and orchestrated efforts since the beginning of the twentieth century to shape journalism as a political institution of the Global South. Foreign aid pushed for cultural convergence around a set of ideologies as a way of exporting ideology and expanding markets, reflecting the market society along with the expansion of U.S. power and culture across the globe. Jairo Lugo-Ocando argues that these policies were not confined to the Cold War and were not a purely modern phenomenon; today’s journalism grammar was not invented in one place and spread to the rest, but was instead a forced colonial and post-colonial nation-building exercise that reflected both imposition and contestation to these attempts. As a result, Lugo-Ocando claims, journalism grammar and ideology differ between societies in the Global South, regardless of claims of universality." (publisher)


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**Evaluation report.**

260. Dillon Case, Kevin Bleyer: *Are punchlines the new front lines of media development?* Washington, DC: Center for International Media Assistance (CIMA), 2020

"Satirical comedy is uniquely effective in its ability to bolster media development objectives. Through its ability to attract audiences and provide news commentary in an entertaining way, it can be used as an important tool to promote freedom of expression, foster accountability and transparency, counter disinformation, strengthen media literacy, and support more sustainable business models for media outlets. Donor funded satire news and current affairs programs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Kenya, North Macedonia, Nigeria, Serbia, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe demonstrate the format’s ability to advance these objectives, and make the case for greater integration of satire in international media assistance programs." (key findings)

https://www.cima.ned.org/publication/are-punchlines-the-new-front-lines-of-media-development/


"An innovative new set of citizen engagement practices—collectively known as deliberative democracy—offers important lessons that, when applied to the media development efforts, can help improve media assistance efforts and strengthen independent media environments around the world ... Through a series of five illustrative case studies, the report demonstrates how deliberative democracy practices can be employed in both media development and democracy assistance efforts, particularly in the Global South. Such initiatives produce recommendations that take into account a plurality of voices while building trust between citizens and decision-makers by demonstrating to participants that their issues will be heard and addressed. Ultimately, this process can enable media development funders and practitioners to identify priorities and design locally relevant projects that have a higher likelihood for long-term impact." (executive summary)


**AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN**


"This thesis examines the impact on the Media Assistance sector of the arrival of digital technologies into the 'information ecosystems' in which it operates. Whereas historically in Media Assistance, broadcast media and the press have been the preferred (or available) media for achieving development objectives, digital technologies such as mobile phones and social media are radically altering the landscape of Media Assistance. In Africa, where mobile phones are heralded as a "gift to development", donors have been exploring the potential of these tools to achieve their development objective. As a consequence, the amount of ICTs for Development (ICT4D) has flourished. At a time when the narrative in the western media has been of an "Africa Rising" and of techno-determinism, this research asks whether these digital technologies are indeed being used to achieve Media Assistance objectives in practice. If they are being integrated into media development programmes – or even replacing media development programmes - to what level of success? To answer this question, the thesis focuses on two countries in East Africa – Kenya and Tanzania – and interviews 40 stakeholders working in media assistance in these countries. The research finds that in fact many projects continue to use traditional methods. This is due to issues such as the digital divide, technical literacy, and continuing preference for traditional media by wider populations in these countries. Furthermore, the study notes that the virtual public sphere facilitated by the internet is not accessible to all, nor is it an ideal public sphere. Finally, citizens of these countries, the research finds, do not necessarily use these technologies for participation or accountability ends. Thus, despite widespread diffusion of technologies such as mobile phones in both these countries, there is still an important role for traditional media development approaches to achieve donor objectives in the new information ecosystem." (abstract)

https://doi.org/10.21427/v56m-9m34

263. Stefan Silvestrini, Furaha Hakizimana: *Central project evaluation: further education and training for media professionals in Africa – DW Akademie, Kenya and Rwanda.*


"The factors that led to the overall unsatisfactory assessment of the project can be summarised as follows: • The project was not anchored in any overarching reference framework. Accordingly, neither its contributions to the strategic objectives of the German development cooperation nor to any other national or international development agenda were specified. While this has nothing to do with the actual quality of the project, as already outlined in the introduction, it leaves the question of whether the OECD/DAC criteria were suitable to evaluate it. • The organisational setup of the project was inefficient. Having two intermediary organisations with separate overheads, trying unsuccessfully to change a national implementing partner, and finally needing to involve GIZ staff on the ground increased the costs and resulted in an inefficient use of financial resources. • During the planning of the project, fundamental rules for German development cooperation projects were disregarded: there were no preceding government consultations; implementing partners were chosen without considering alternatives (particularly at political level); neither a risk assessment nor stakeholder mapping took place; and the instruments to be applied were defined beforehand. This procedure appears unusual for GIZ. • The lack of results at impact level can partly be attributed to the fact that the project did not have a political partner. The professionalisation of an industry/economy requires support from political decision-makers as they have the ability to establish and enforce an appropriate regulatory framework. For instance, the introduction of a tax incentive for film productions could only be achieved through collaboration with the ministries for finance and culture."

(Conclusions, p.45)

https://publikationen.giz.de/qlink/ID=24719700

**ASIA & PACIFIC**


"The Initiative for Media Freedom (IMF) is a five-year program implemented by Internews and funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) with the support of the American people. Internews and its partners work collaboratively to enhance democratic governance that provides economic, political, and social inclusion and advances social stability. Objective One: Improve the environment for a free press; Objective Two: Bolster capacity of media and other organizations to address disinformation; Objective Three: Strengthen self-regulation of the media." (p.2)

https://internews.org/resource/philippines-initiative-media-freedom

**EUROPE**


"The study shows that the data giant’s rise to become a patron of the media began in France, where, responding to political pressure, it set up a 600-million-euro fund to support press publishers’ innovation projects in 2013. The French fund was the blueprint for the Digital News Initiative (DNI) that Google launched throughout Europe in 2015 and whose core element was the 150-million-euros Digital News Innovation Fund that the company used to promote innovation projects from 2015 to 2019. Examining the political context of these funding programmes reveals that Google’s initiatives consistently came about in response to growing political pressure, which the company’s managers describe as a “wake-up call” to the corporation. One key issue is the debate surrounding the introduction of a “Google tax” and an ancillary copyright law. Using publicly accessible sources, newspaper articles, press releases, and discussions with industry representatives and Google, the present study sets out how the French Fund and the European DNI became a global undertaking from 2018: the 300-million-dollar Google News Initiative (GNI) - the typical beneficiary of a DNI grant was an established, for-profit, western European publisher. Non-profit media and journalism start-ups were not the focus of funding. Across Europe, some three quarters of the funding millions went to commercial media organisations, the largest share – 2.15 million euros – to Germany. Only four of the 28 large projects to receive funding of more than 300,000 euros in Germany were at regional publishers. At the other end of the spectrum are major publishing empires such as Dieter von Holtzbrinck Medien, Funke Mediengruppe, and Gruner + Jahr, each of whom received between 3 and 10 million euros. More precise figures cannot be provided, since neither Google nor the majority of recipients espouse transparency regarding specific funding amounts."

(Conclusion, p.89-90)


"The paper offers an analysis of media assistance, as a specific form of foreign aid, that Poland offers to strengthen media development in Belarus and Ukraine. It shows if Poland tailors media assistance according to the local context and existing challenges for democratic changes of recipient countries’ media systems. The study builds on the literature concerning the media, development and democratization, in particular looking at..."


"In recognition of the need to improve the media’s practitioner’s to report on migration issues, this guide aims to be a resource for journalists to run interactive workshops, principally aimed at other journalists reporting on migration. The training will give participants an understanding of the regional and international context of migration, explain the terminology of migration, consider existing media coverage of migration, especially its ethical aspects. The guide also seeks to dispel key commonly held myths on migration, and present a primer on the international legal framework governing migration. The guide comprehensively covers all aspects needed to be considered by a journalist, from course content and practical exercises, best practices in pedagogy, as well as to such practical issues such as the selection of candidates, venues and equipment needed." (abstract)


"Need for evidence: Information and awareness-raising campaigns for (potential) migrants in third countries constitute a central element of current migration strategies, both at the European and national level. However, little is known about the impact of these campaigns and how they influence migratory behaviour. Information and behaviour change: In light of these limitations, we can learn from findings of rigorous evaluations in other fields, such as behavioural economics, and apply those to how information and awareness-raising can influence behaviour. Therefore, information and awareness-raising campaigns must be built on a contextual understanding of how people form beliefs and expectations and how these are transformed into decisions. Randomized evaluations: Researchers, donors, EU Institutions and Member States are increasingly aware of the importance of creating rigorous evidence and using this evidence to inform policy decisions. To isolate the impact of information and awareness-raising campaigns on migratory behaviour, randomised evaluations are being implemented by some selected researchers and institutions. Lessons learned: Evaluations presented during the conference indicate that peer-to-peer information campaigns have the potential to raise awareness about the risks and opportunities associated with migration. Another example shows that information on the chances of obtaining a legal status in Europe impacts the inclination to migrate. Rigorous evaluations also shed light on how information campaigns compare against other policy interventions, such as providing economic opportunities at the local level. Most evaluations find that migrants and potential migrants respond to reliable and trustworthy information. Social networks: Beside rigorous evidence, which is still rare, qualitative evaluations suggest that campaigns should be built on trust: this can be achieved by using personal or peer-to-peer communication channels, a positive narrative, and messages of legal alternatives rather than deterrence. Finally, in order to create contextappropriate messages and to identify the right target group, diaspora communities and local experts are important stakeholders in the design and implementation of campaigns." (main take-aways, p.2)

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


has created opportunity for promotion of languages and cultures, as practiced by
establishment of community radio stations, centered on local community development,
data from two community radio stations and their surrounding populations. Using the
media, 2020 languages and cultures in Malawi.
In: Journal of radio & audio
https://doi.org/10.1080/19376529.2020.1751633

Victor Chikaipa, Anthony Mavuto Gunde: The role of
community radio in promotion of indigenous minority languages and cultures in Malawi. In: Journal of radio & audio media, 2020

This article analyzes the role of community radio broadcasting in promoting indigenous minority languages and cultures in selected parts of Malawi. The study collected empirical data from two community radio stations and their surrounding populations. Using the theories of ethnolinguistic vitality and globalization, the study reveals that new establishment of community radio stations, centered on local community development, has created opportunities for promotion of languages and cultures, as practiced by minorities in local areas surrounding the radio stations. Thus, the use of minority languages simplifies the understanding of information and encourages the participation of speakers who might otherwise be excluded due to language difficulties. (abstract) https://doi.org/10.1080/19376529.2020.1751633


Studies have shown that many irregular migrants embark on journeys without accurate or complete information about migration. In response, IOM and other organizations run information campaigns intended to inform potential migrants of the dangers associated with irregular migration and to facilitate informed decisions. The use of online and social media platforms for these campaigns has become increasingly popular in recent years, due to their potential for quickly reaching millions of people at low cost. While the evidence base for offline information campaigns has been gradually improving, it remains unclear how online communication campaigns affect potential migrants, and methodologies to do this remain underdeveloped. This report therefore presents results from a pilot impact assessment of an online campaign based on Facebook posts in Guinea, Nigeria and Senegal during September 2019 and February 2020. Conclusion: Facebook ad campaigns can reach many people quickly. However, large audience sizes and relatively cheap costs come with a trade-off. The impact of an information campaign on potential migrants’ perceptions, attitudes, knowledge and behaviour remains largely unknown because many Facebook users that engage with the campaign do not fit the intended target group. Our findings suggest that Facebook campaign implementers have more control and information about who attends activities or who is exposed to campaign content. The engagement of users with campaign posts varies largely by audience and post characteristics. Campaign and social media teams are well advised to conduct pilot tests before scaling up activities. Pilot tests can inform a customized approach for each online activity on Facebook, and thereby maximize impact. In addition to A/B tests, lift tests may offer a useful opportunity to test the impact of Facebook ads. Compared to impact assessments of offline information campaigns, measuring the impact of Facebook ads on potential migrants presents several unique challenges, including: Many potential migrants are not on Facebook or do not use ad content to seek information about migration. Internet connectivity is also limited in many West African countries. While Facebook allows users to narrow down target groups, it is not clear whether those Facebook users that are exposed to the content fit the profile of potential migrants. Whether the intended target group is reached can be affirmed only through surveys, which have a low response rate; It is not possible to interview the same Facebook users several times to track changes in their perceptions. Engagement metrics like post reactions, link clicks or video plays can be useful indicators. However, these low-engagement metrics do not offer clear evidence of the short- or long-term effects on Facebook users. (executive summary)


Hemos constatado que existe una gran diversidad de proyectos organizados por comunicadores locales, muchas veces en alianza con otros actores de la sociedad civil, que están interesados en desarrollar ofertas de información desde y para la Amazonía. En términos generales, las iniciativas más prometedoras para fomentar la discusión democrática en la región son aquellas que toman en consideración los siguientes criterios: están enlazadas con procesos sociales de base en los respectivos lugares; fortalecen la diversidad cultural y valoran la identidad de las personas y los colectivos; buscan soluciones tecnológicas adaptadas a las condiciones de cada lugar; buscan la formación de alianzas. El objetivo de este estudio se centraba por un lado en señalar las dificultades para comunicar en la Amazonía, pero también en definir propuestas de cambio. En los diferentes foros realizados en el marco de esta investigación, así como en las visitas de campo, se pudieron conocer proyectos que se proponen mejorar la participación de los habitantes de la región en redes de comunicación, información y diálogo. Algunos de estos proyectos llevan a sus espaldas años de experiencia, otros todavía están en desarrollo. Estas propuestas se pueden sistematizar de acuerdo con su contribución a la formulación de soluciones a los conflictos socioambientales desde el campo de la comunicación. En esto hemos identificado cuatro áreas: diversidad cultural y biodiversidad; participación y desarrollo sostenible; gestión autónoma de la comunicación; visibilizar los conflictos socioambientales trabajando en alianza. (conclusiones, p.51) https://p.dw.com/p/3Liqo


ASIA & PACIFIC


Our inclusion survey, conducted with 35 private media outlets operating in Yangon and in seven ethnic states and five regions, provides up-to-date inclusion and gender data about the sector. Among the findings: while many women work in media (they represent 33% of the combined staff of the 35 outlets surveyed), they are underrepresented in key roles, including senior leadership and frontline journalistic jobs. Medium-sized ethnic media outlets employ the largest percentage of women, followed by small-sized national media. Small and medium-sized media in Myanmar’s regions employ the smallest percentage of women. The percentage of women employed generally decreases as the roles increase in seniority. In terms of remuneration: outlets led by men generally pay men more than women, whereas outlets with mixed - men, women and/or non-binary - leadership tend to have more gender-balanced salaries. The primary justification offered for higher pay levels for men is that men often have more experience than their women or non-binary counterparts. The survey also confirms that levels of diversity among staff with regards to gender remains largely unknown because many Facebook users that engage with the campaign do not fit the profile of potential migrants. Whether the intended target group is reached can be affirmed only through surveys, which have a low response rate; It is not possible to interview the same Facebook users several times to track changes in their perceptions. Engagement metrics like post reactions, link clicks or video plays can be useful indicators. However, these low-engagement metrics do not offer clear evidence of the short- or long-term effects on Facebook users. (executive summary)

This report analyses the Chin media sector. It is based on research conducted by MDIF from late 2018 through December 2019, as well as a qualitative and quantitative survey conducted by Myanmar Survey Research (MSR) in May 2019. The report provides data on the Chin media operations themselves, as well as the news and information needs and preferences of their actual and potential audiences in Chin State and Sagaing Region.

What we have found is that, in many respects, Chin media face very similar problems to their counterparts elsewhere in Myanmar. They have often been set up by individuals who are deeply committed to serving the information needs of their communities, and they are often an important source of information for their audiences. We also have found that Chin media are dealing with challenges managing the digital transition that are similar to both their national and local media counterparts, and that more than half of them are also simultaneously continuing to produce print publications that remain a valuable news source for local communities. And, like local media all over the country, MDIF’s research has confirmed that Chin media are facing a major struggle to survive financially, often having to rely on local donors and personal savings as well as more traditional revenue sources such as advertising and print copy sales. (introduction) https://minorityrights.org/publications/campaign-toolkit-counter-hate/


The study examines content produced and distributed to ethnic minorities in Mon, Kayin and Kayah and looks into the news and media habits and understandings of the same groups. It consists of two different research efforts: a content analysis and a qualitative audience study. The content analysis found that media targeted at ethnic minorities - here represented by three ELTV contributors: Mon News Agency (MINA), Karen Information Center (KIC) and Kanthayawaddy Times - consistently involve their target groups in news coverage compared to national averages. Representatives from ethnic minorities were used as sources in eight out 15 stories analyzed. Yet, ethnic minorities are often portrayed as victims and therefore rarely framed from an empowered position. Furthermore, the audience study showed that some minorities felt less represented by the media than others, resulting in limited trust in the media. (executive summary) https://www.mediasupport.org/publication/ethnic-media-study/

EUROPE


How journalism should improve the way it supports and mentors black journalists -- Improving diversity in journalism through recruitment processes -- Opening doors with the London Met Journalism Diversity Network -- The power to shape the debate -- The courage of conviction -- Representing the voice of learning disability -- Respect, trust and building relationships: how to report inclusively -- Funding diversity: initiatives from across the industry -- Resources to help improve diversity and inclusiveness https://www.media-diversity.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Diversity-in-journalism.pdf


In Chapter 1, the international and European legal frameworks are outlined with a focus on the existing definitions of hate speech and current freedom of expression safeguards, the challenges posed by online hate speech, the role of IT companies in addressing these issues, and possible ways to respond to it. In Chapter 2, strategies to counter hate speech are explored and guidance on how to plan, design and run an online campaign is provided, with a section focusing on safety measures to ensure personal security and wellbeing. Chapter 3 of the toolkit provides information and tips concerning the organization and development of a training event, covering various aspects from logistics to evaluation. Chapter 4 includes references to useful resources as well as tools developed by the Minority Rights Group Europe (MRGE) that offer a starting point for developing an online campaign or delivering a training session on countering hate speech online. (introduction) https://minorityrights.org/publications/campaign-toolkit-counter-hate/


Production Skills & Processes


In the first section, a set of tools for content production, recording and transmission is introduced. Beyond simply providing a list of software already used by radios—such as audio editing and broadcast automation software—this manual’s aim is to develop a comprehensive proposal for decentralized and collaborative forms of working. Nearly all of the software presented here is free software, because only free software guarantees radio's autonomy, privacy and security, and allows them to freely adapt it to the needs of specific contexts. Moreover, while (financially) supporting developers is recommended, most of the software programs presented here are available for free. In the manual’s second part, we then go on to discuss ten strategies that radios can use in their communication practices to guarantee freedom of opinion and access to information and that should allow them to establish a relevant position in the post-pandemic media panorama. These strategies were identified and systematized based on experiences that have already been creatively making inroads into radio communication, allowing us to tackle numerous challenges related to the dissemination of information. The lessons learned are invaluable and we aim to build upon them. (introduction) https://www.dw.com/downloads/55782367/dwa-radios-in-the-post-pandemic-worldenwebhigh.pdf


La primera parte presenta una serie de herramientas disponibles para producir, grabar y transmitir. No se trata de un compilado de software ya conocido por las radios –como editores de audio o automatizadores– sino de una propuesta integral de trabajo colaborativo descentralizado. Son, prácticamente en su totalidad, tecnologías libres ya que son las únicas que pueden garantizar la autonomía de las radios, su privacidad y seguridad, y la capacidad de adaptarlas a las necesidades de cada contexto. Además, muchas de ellas son gratuitas, aunque es recomendable apoyar a las personas que las desarrollan. La segunda parte plantea diez estrategias que las radios pueden incorporar a su práctica comunicativa para garantizar la libertad de opinión y el acceso a la información, y que les permitirán posicionarse en un lugar de relevancia en el panorama informativo pospandemia. Estas estrategias fueron identificadas y sistematizadas a partir de experiencias que ya están incursionando en maneras creativas de abordar diversos desafíos informativos y cuyos aprendizajes hemos puesto en valor. (presentación) https://www.dw.com/downloads/55748864/dwa-radios-in-the-post-pandemic-worldenwebhigh.pdf


“The 360-degree technique frees us from the limitations imposed by a traditional camera, which includes some visual elements while excluding others. It places the camera in the viewer’s hands, allowing them to choose their own angle as the story is told visually. In this handbook we provide a timeline summarising the most important stages in the production of stories filmed in 360 degrees. We have also included some advice from our AJ Contrast experts, drawing on their long and multi-award-winning experience with 360-degree film.” (p.2) https://institute.aljazeera.net/sites/default/files/2020/Producing%20Stories%20Using%20360-Degree%20Video.pdf


"This book develops a nuanced decolonial critique that calls for the decolonization of media and communication studies in Africa and the Global South. Last Moyo argues that the academic project in African Media Studies and other non-Western regions continues to be shaped by Western modernity's histories of imperialism, colonialism, and the ideologies of Eurocentrism and neoliberalism. While Africa and the Global South dismantled the physical empire of colonialism after independence, the metaphysical empire of epistemic and academic colonialism is still intact and entrenched in the postcolonial university's academic programmes like media and communication studies. To address these problems, Moyo argues for the development of a Southern theory that is not only premised on the decolonization imperative, but also informed by the cultures, geographies, and histories of the Global South. The author recasts media studies within a radical cultural and epistemic turn that locates future projects of theory building within a decolonial multiculturalism that is informed by trans-cultural and trans-epistemic dialogue between Southern and Northern epistemologies." (publisher) https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-52832-4

**AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN**


299. Deborah Blum, Joshua Hatch, Nicholas Jackson (eds.): *KJS science editing handbook*. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Knight Science Journalism Fellowship; Kavli Foundation; Howard Hughes Medical Institute, 2020, 250 p.

"This handbook aims to draw lessons from those who specialize in science writing and editing — to provide their insights, knowledge, tips, and resources to all editors. The goal is to help ensure that science journalism meets the highest standards of quality no matter what the publication or the audience. The handbook is designed to empower editors to ask the right questions, enable them to spot faulty reporting or flawed science, and to provide information on best practices in reporting on science and the many subjects, now more critical than ever, that it touches, whether the environment or a pandemic. The book provides practical tips for editors. But it also seeks to recognize the unique challenges and decisions they face. Many of the lessons are illustrated by example — when science journalism shone as well as when it was left wanting. *" (introduction) https://kjshandbook.org/


"This collection charts the emergence of modern science communication across the world. This is the first volume to map investment around the globe in science centres, university courses and research, publications and conferences as well as tell the national stories of science communication. How did it all begin? How has development varied from one country to another? What motivated governments, institutions and people to see science communication as an answer to questions of the social place of science? Communicating Science describes the pathways followed by 39 different countries. All continents and many cultures are represented. For some countries, this is the first time their science communication story has been told." (publisher) http://doi.org/10.22459/CS.2020
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