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Audience Research & Media Use
AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN

EUROPE
"The Internews annual media consumption survey shows more Ukrainians searching for news online and fewer getting their news from television. Trust in Ukrainian online media is also up, matching the trend in greater consumption. The survey also shows that Ukrainians are consuming Russian media far less than they did last year, and that trust in Russian media continues to decline." (Internews website)
https://www.internews.org/sites/default/files/resources/Media_Consumption_Survey_2016_09_Eng_Internews.pdf

"Only 8% of respondents stated that the media in Moldova exhibit, to a very large extent, a responsible behavior toward their audiences. The majority of respondents or 56% stated they were dissatisfied with the lack of responsibility of the national media. One in ten respondents considered him/herself very informed; another five in ten respondents are quite satisfied in terms of perceived level of information. Television is still the main source of social and political news in Moldova, with 65% of respondents citing it as the preferred source, followed by the Internet (websites) (24%), and the social networking sites and radio stations with 5% each. According to the study "Measuring the perceptions of sociopolitical news by the media audience in the Republic of Moldova", realized in October 2015, information sources have their specific audiences. Television is preferred mostly by occupationally inactive people, aged over 45 years, with secondary and low levels of education. Young people, with higher levels of education, who are occupationally active, and live in municipalities show preference for getting information online." (p.5)
http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA0I9MDJN.pdf

"This study explored, by comparative thematic analysis, the conceptualization of trust in news media in Serbia, Macedonia, and Croatia - three countries of Eastern Europe where past oppressive regimes might have left a heritage of distrust in all institutions. The analysis of 61 in-depth interviews showed the coexistence of three connotations of trust: trust as faith in news media as expert systems, trust in journalistic selectivity (found in all three countries), and trust as confidence in news media (found only in the Serbian sample). The analysis of the interviews also indicated a possible new dimension of journalistic selectivity and showed that, when looking for the truth in media messages, Serbians, Macedonians, and Croatians relied more on themselves than on the trustworthiness of their news media systems. The implications of these results on the measurement of trust in news media and on the relationship of Eastern Europeans toward their news media systems are discussed in light of sociological theories of trust, as well as specific historical, social, and cultural circumstances in the region. (abstract)

MIDDLE EAST / WESTERN ASIA & NORTHERN AFRICA
"During her studies at the University for Graphics and Book Art in Leipzig, Dona Abboud had mostly only contact via Facebook with her family and friends in Syria. The book presents 10 Syrian men and women with almost 2000 photos of their Facebook pages, supplemented by interviews and short biographies. It provides insight into the personal life of people from two universes that are clashing in Syria: the secular nationalists and the Salafist rebels. The book is trilingual, Arabic, English and German." (CAMECO-CD)


Our study focuses on Sesame Street and sets out to examine how Sesame Workshop, as a non-profit organization, manages its funding in order to stay relevant and make itself relevant in a predominantly commercial children’s television landscape dominated by transnational ownership structures. The analysis includes an investigation of Sesame Workshop’s mission statements, organizational structure, annual financial reports, promotional material and other written sources from the 1970s to the 2010s. We focus on the Workshop’s own arguments and reasons for why their ‘non-profit’ status was, and still is, better at taking care of children’s interests than the for-profit competition. These understandings up to the present time, are in the context of commercial logic guiding the workshop’s business model, and analysed within the economic and political context of children’s television in the United States and the Workshop’s key international target markets. Our theoretical framework draws upon insights from work on political economy and children’s media and comparative media systems.” (abstract)


‘Funding original children’s television has never been easy because this is rarely a commercially attractive proposition unless you target a global audience and tap into ancillary revenues from licenced merchandise. As a case of market failure, policy makers who wish to ensure the production of a diverse range of quality content for children have therefore pursued a range of interventions to ensure sustainable levels of local content in this region’. This strong commitment to support children’s content in the US seems to stem from the ‘notion that it is in the public interest to ensure the availability of media programs that are pedagogically sound, provide an educational context for learning and development, and help children to develop media literacy skills’ (Gerhard, 2005). The challenge for media policy makers in the region remains how to ensure the provision of diverse children’s content and to make it relevant in the context of media, in which the public service media is increasingly competing with, and making use of, content that is produced elsewhere. "(abstract)


"Media and Information Literacy: Reinforcing Human Rights, Countering Radicalization and Extremism" was chosen as the theme of the 2016 MILID Yearbook. The book is divided into five sections: 1. Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development; 2. Hate speech and Incitement; 3. Radicalization and Extremism; 4. Human Rights and Gender Mainstreaming; 5. Interdisciplinary Approaches. The articles included in this section are linked to one of the sub-themes above in the context of media and information literacy. Special attention has been given to the intercultural dimensions of these areas. Papers involve an effort to engage the reader to understand media and information literacy beyond their home country or professional area of competence." (p.16) http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002423/00242371.pdf

"The concept of "mobile youth culture" is frequently used in the field of adolescent mobile phone research to refer to the distinctive ways in which youths around the world embed the mobile phone in their everyday lives. Little attention, however, has been devoted to its theoretical foundations. Drawing from youth culture theory and new (mobile) media theories, this article conceptually develops mobile youth culture by (a) describing the commonalities in adolescent mobile phone use that constitute the culture, and by (b) discussing the origins of these commonalities through an analysis of the network, the social and personal logics inherent in mobile communication technology, and the way these are appropriated by youths to accommodate their transition to adulthood. The article concludes by pointing out the shortcomings of the concept: The limited attention for the heterogeneity in adolescent media use, the integration of mobile media technologies into young people's media repertoires, the cross-generational implications of mobile media use, and the impact of local context and culture." (abstract)


http://www.andi.org.br/publicacoes/castigos-fisicos-e-humilhantes-guia-de-referencia-para-cobertura-jornalistica"


"Media and Information Literacy (MIL), defined as the ability to access, analyze, and create media, is a prerequisite for citizens to realize their rights to freedom of information and expression. A rights-based approach is pursued to define MIL in general, and Digital Media and Information Literacy (DMIL) in particular. Different projects initiated by DW Akademie are drawn on to show the importance of the aspects of creation and engagement. They illustrate that various stakeholders need to be involved so that citizens can critically access, use, and participate in the flow of information on a broad scale." (p.1)

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


"The present report summarizes the results of a media use study that was conducted in autumn 2014 in the Ugandan districts of Kampaala, Mbale, Lira, Pader and Gulu. The study consists of a quantitative survey of more than 650 survey respondents, as well as six focus group discussions with a total of 45 participants. The target population was children and young people between 13 and 24 years of age. The results show that radio is still the most important medium in Uganda today. 94.6% of the participating young people from the aforementioned districts have access to a radio. There are, however, signs of a change in trend. Three quarters of the respondents also have access to a TV set, meaning television is no longer a minority media form in Uganda." (executive summary)


"In 2014, South Africa’s democracy turned 20. Just like the young democracy is learning to find its feet, young citizens are negotiating the unknown territory of full citizenship rights while confronting a ‘totally different world than that of their parents’. Whether their parents were black and not entitled to full citizenship or whether their parents were white and therefore implicated in a system that withheld full citizenship from the majority of the population, young people do not have a template to draw on for meaning and form of citizenship in a new and liberated South Africa. This article examines political participation amongst young South Africans and their negotiated participation in both political and civic activities within the context of media use and consumption. Their paradoxical relationship with both politics and the media is detailed in an attempt to understand how to deepen a culture of meaningful citizenship amongst South African youth." (abstract)

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AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN

19. Estudio de niños, niñas y adolescentes sobre el consumo de radio, televisión y otros medios de comunicación. Lima: Consejo Consultivo de Radio y Televisión (CONCORTV), 2016, [54 p.]

subjects: television use: children; television use: youth; radio use: children; radio use: youth - Peru - audience surveys [case studies]


"En 2015 los medios de comunicación registraron 286 femicidios. Entre ellos, 86 de las víctimas tenían entre 19 y 30 años y 39 eran adolescentes de entre 13 y 18 años. Resulta interesante analizar la contradicción entre la hipersexualización de niñas y adolescentes en el discurso y las imágenes habituales de los medios, el modelo de mujer que se les impone y el tratamiento posterior que reciben al ser víctimas de agresiones en las que suelen surgir diversos estereotipos. Con frecuencia el modo en que iban vestidas, por ejemplo, se puede transformar en un justificativo de lo que les ocurrió. Esto fue el disparador por el que decidimos centrarnos en este monitoreo en las adolescentes ...

Parafraseando un reclamo feminista, los medios insisten en enseñarlas a las mujeres cómo deben comportarse y vestirse si no quieren ser violadas o atacadas de alguna otra forma, en lugar de condenar los comportamientos de los varones violentos y enseñarles a éstos que la violencia contra las mujeres no tiene lugar en nuestra sociedad." (conclusiones, p.48)
subjects: crime & violence reporting; print media coverage of women / gender issues - Argentina - media monitoring (case studies)


"En Argentina hay más de 13 millones de niños, niñas y adolescentes (NyA). 6 de cada 10 se comunican usando celular y 8 de cada 10 usan Internet. La tecnología atraviesa su existencia, impacta en sus modos de conocer, aprender, expresarse, divertirse y comunicarse. Para los chicos y chicas, los medios digitales son un modo habitual de comunicación y de interacción con el mundo. Construyen su identidad interactuando tanto en la vida “real” como en la virtual. Actividades como chatear, jugar en línea, buscar y compartir información y contenidos, son acciones cotidianas en sus vidas y, en definitiva, del ejercicio de su ciudadanía digital. Así, este estudio busca recabar información que permita obtener un estado de situación actualizado sobre el vinculo de los adolescentes con la tecnología, y generar evidencia para la toma de decisiones en las políticas del sector, especialmente las vinculadas con la ciudadanía digital de NyA; la alfabetización digital y mediática y la concientización sobre el valor de un Internet sin riesgos y al servicio de prácticas positivas." (p.6)
subjects: internet & social media use: children - Argentina


"Los programas de interés general dedicaron un 27.2% de su programación a la presentación de temas que involucren a niños, niñas y adolescentes. Sin embargo, esta presencia notablemente alta en los ciclos del género no implica necesariamente un tratamiento positivo, una participación activa y un rol como sujetos de derecho, tal como se propone desde la Convención de los Derechos del Niño –Ley 23.849– y desde la Ley 26.061. En efecto, al profundizar en las modalidades en que son abordados los segmentos, se advierte que durante la mitad de ese tiempo de programación NNyA son representados/as de manera negativa. (conclusiones, p.71)
subjects: television coverage of children; media coverage of youth; television magazines - Argentina - media monitoring (case studies)


subjects: children’s films - Argentina - filmographies; interviews / surveys

"Audience measurement techniques currently fail to provide a clear picture of trends in children’s television viewing because of the diversification in devices on which television content can be viewed. It is argued that understanding how children engage with television content is undermined by commonplace but problematic comparisons of time spent on television viewing and on Internet use, in which it is widely believed that children are deserting ‘television’ for ‘the Internet’. Although it is already well known that television content can be viewed on Internet-enabled devices such as tablets, smartphones and laptop computers while Internet content and services can be accessed via Internet-enabled television sets, such viewing cannot be measured satisfactorily at present. While no doubt measurement techniques will continue to improve in accuracy, this article suggests that such measurement difficulties matter at a time when children’s public service broadcasting provision is falling and further threatened." (abstract)


"Free-to-air channels for Arabic-speaking children expanded alongside the emergence of a few Arab national regulatory agencies with varying degrees of independence from government and powers that could potentially influence children’s channels. Even so, the rationales that inform production and acquisition of children’s screen content in the region remain far from transparent, beyond rhetoric about protecting children from material that ‘breaches cultural boundaries and values’. Drawing on theoretical literature that highlights regulation’s effect on policy, and links the principles of provision, protection and participation, the article compares regulatory discourses and practices revealed in the documents and speeches of Arab regulators, broadcasters and independent production companies. It finds that, with some exceptions, only the latter advocate measures that look beyond a narrow interpretation of ‘protection’. A dominant consensus around the narrow vision seems to stand in the way of developing more stimulating approaches to regulation." (abstract)


http://www.nordicom.gu.se/sites/default/files/publikationer-hela_/pdf/opportunities_for_media_and_information_literacy_in_the_middle_east_and_north_africa.pdf

Christian & Religious Communication

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


subjects: media education; Catholic Church - Brazil


"Con mirada contemplativa, el espectador de cine e internet es capaz de encontrar 'al otro' en la pantalla. Hoy es necesario conmoverse, detenerse ante el príncipe y poner los ojos en la periferias visuales. No importa de qué lado de la pantalla estemos. Cinéfilo y jesuita, el autor de este libro creció recorriendo interminables pasillos con carteles que anuncianaban estrenos. Hoy nos propone otra manera de navegar por el mar de la imagen: que la pantalla sea un punto de encuentro cultural. Contemplarla para mirar, sentir y meditar." (contraparte)

subjects: film and spirituality; Catholic Church and cinema

29. Marek Lis (ed.): SIGNIS and cinema: looking for God behind the screen. Opole (PL): Universytet Opolski, Wydzial Teologiczny; Brussels: Signis Europe, 2016, 85 p. (Z dziedziny kultury chrzescijanki na Słasku; 90)


30. School of Church Communications Pontifical University of the Holy Cross: Church, Communication and Culture. Routledge, 2016-

"Church, Communication and Culture (C5CC) is an open access academic journal of the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross’ School of Church Communications. Published by Taylor & Francis (Routledge), the Journal is dedicated to deepening knowledge and understanding about the dialogue between religion, communication and culture in the public arena. Based on comprehensive data analysis and theoretical inquiry, it offers an international forum where researchers and practitioners can advance quality communication research on the Catholic Church and other religious communities." (mission statement)

http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/chru20/20/1?nav=tocList

AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN


"Este artigo é o relato de um exercício realizado para o desenvolvimento de categorias de análise do uso de mídias por coletivos e movimentos sociais no Brasil. Parte-se do pressuposto que os conceitos teóricos do campo da comunicação popular, alternativa e comunitária, construídos principalmente entre as décadas de 1960 e 1990, vêm sendo desafiados por práticas novas ou adaptadas, influenciadas, entre outros elementos, pela introdução de recursos digitais. A pergunta que se faz é como esse fenômeno interfere no desenvolvimento de práticas midiáticas levadas a cabo por esses coletivos, especialmente no que se refere ao potencial de participação das comunidades a elas associadas. O exercício tomou como base os relatos de experiências apresentados durante o 8º Mutirão Brasileiro de Comunicação (MBC), realizado no Natal (RN), no final de outubro de 2012. Além de testar o modelo de análise, os resultados apresentam um quadro de tendências sobre o uso de mídias, sobretudo por coletivos católicos no Brasil. A primeira seção do artigo explica a fundamentação das categorias de análise. A segunda, descreve a amostra utilizada. Na seção final, discutem-se os resultados obtidos, incluindo as tendências observadas nos casos analisados e os limites da proposta metodológica." (resumo)

https://www.academia.edu/28341406/Mais_conectados_mais_comuns_Recursos_digitais_nas_experiencias_midiaticas_apresentadas_no_8o_Mutir%C3%A3o_Brasileiro_de_Comunica%C3%A7%C3%A3o

ASIA & PACIFIC


This report outlines the international human rights standards and processes related the protection of freedom of expression and religious belief, and discusses regional trends and challenges. The nine country case studies include the stories of many people across the region struggling to defend freedom of expression and promote an understanding of free expression that this is consistent with the expression of religious views. Some of the stories are horrifying – people are being killed for what they believe and say while the region struggling to defend freedom of expression and promote an understanding of religious liberty. It also provides an overview of the relevant laws and standards which impinge on people’s rights in each of these countries. It is a challenge to governments in the region to recognise their responsibility to protect the rights of their own citizens. The Jakarta Declaration set out in this report is a stirring
declaration of the responsibilities, not just of governments but of all the relevant actors. It set out a clear path to the essential task of protecting rights to free expression in the region and ultimately, to the protection of religious belief itself." (Andrew Puddephatt, p.8)

http://content.bytesforall.pk/sites/default/files_Final_FoER_Report.pdf


"A Western paradigm has dominated approaches to communication and journalism studies – particularly in the areas of theory, analysis and law and ethics. This article backgrounds important critiques of that paradigm, and considers how globalized communication and media studies has become, before exemplifying how a secular Buddhist perspective might offer 2,500 year-old analytical tools that can assist with media analysis, law and ethics. The article proposes the Buddha’s Four Noble Truths, particularly the sila (moral/ethical) dimension of the fourth truth, the Noble Eightfold Path (magga), can serve as a fruitful tool for informing communication theory and analysis, and media law and ethics. The article begins by assessing the extent to which combating defences to libel (defamation) as they have developed in four Western jurisdictions." (abstract)

EUROPE


subjects: Catholic media; communication / media pastoral; media ethics: Catholic Church – Germany; Poland; Russia


MIDDLE EAST / WESTERN ASIA & NORTHERN AFRICA


"Religious communities have ongoing concerns about Internet use, as it intensifies the clash between tradition and modernity, a clash often found in traditionally inclined societies. Nevertheless, as websites become more useful and widely accessible, religious and communal stakeholders have continuously worked at building and promoting them. This study focuses on Chabad, a Jewish ultra-Orthodox movement, and follows webmasters of three key websites to uncover how they distribute religious knowledge over the Internet. Through an ethnographic approach that included interviews with over 30 webmasters, discussions with key informants, and observations of the websites themselves, the study uncovered webmaster’s strategies to foster solidarity within their community, on one hand, while also proselytizing their outlook on Judaism, on the other. Hence, the study sheds light on how a fundamentalist society has strengthened its association with new media, thus facilitating negotiation between modernity and religious piety." (abstract)


"This case study investigates SAT-7 – a Christian independent satellite-TV network – in its context – the Middle East and North Africa – with a majority of Islamic inhabitants and traditions. It examines and describes what the actual implemented strategy is in order to do the daily work of SAT-7. Three sub-questions, aimed to explain the strategy in further detail, look at how SAT-7 operates, how they design their programming, and how they tell the stories of themselves. These describe strategic measures. The empirical data are two sources of evidence; I) interviews with a “pool of leaders” in SAT-7, and II) formal documentation presenting the written institutional narrative of SAT-7. This study focuses on the theories of media and religion, religious programming and institutional narratives. The analysis sets out to describe, interpret and explain the findings of strategic measures done by SAT-7. The key strategic measure is being present in the region. SAT-7 is for the Middle East, by the Middle East. This presence includes crossing religious borders, including Christians – even a cooperation of several Christian denominations. An enhancement of cultural authenticity and coexistence becomes the result after taking cautious steps, never attacking, denigrating, or perhaps more important, proselytizing, others. SAT-7 presents the “love of God” – bringing hope and reconciliation to the region." (abstract)

https://www.duo.uio.no/handle/10852/52551

Cinema & Media Entertainment

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


"Based on data collected from 97 countries through the UIS 2014 Survey on Feature Film Statistics, the following observations on diversity can be made: In 2012, the number of feature films greatly increased throughout the world, and the following year a new production record was hit: 7,610 movies. However, the sustained growth of global production during the 2005-2013 period has not undermined the weight of the main production countries: India, the United States, China, Japan and a set of Western European countries, including the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Spain. This finding, in the attempt to analyze the diversity of sources, reveals a high degree of concentration of production in the economic superpowers and in some of the most heavily populated countries of the world. In the case of India, for example, the country with the second-largest population, and the number-one filmmaking country, which is experiencing a major growth in production. India produced 1,041 movies in 2005 to 1,724 movies in 2013. The number of feature films produced in 2013, mostly with digital technology and at multiple sites, represented over one-fifth of worldwide production..." (conclusion, p.35)


AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN


Contents: Analizar la telenovela nueva. El modelo -- Los niveles discursivos y su articulación – Una propuesta de clasificación para la telenovela – Telenovelas latinoamericanas de fin de siglo -- Producciones en Argentina – La telenovela en la industria brasileña – Telenovela en Colombia – Conclusiones. subjects: soap operas & telenovelas - Latin America; Argentina; Brazil; Colombia
	subjects: documentary films - Argentina


subjects: documentary films; feature films; indigenous, minority & ethnographic films; film and society; political & advocacy films; children's films - Bolivia; Colombia; Peru

Community Media & Citizen Journalism

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


"Internews set out to take stock of community radio stations (CRS) in Tanzania through a rapid media assessment. We assessed 22 community radio stations visited in 13 CRS across the country were providing a valuable public information service, and what barriers could be overcome and opportunities seized to increase their effectiveness in supporting two-way feedback and accountable governance. In order to ensure the success of future efforts to improve democratic and economic development in Tanzania, the system of producing, disseminating, sharing, trusting and engaging with information must improve in equal measure. A team of Internews staff and consultants visited 22 community radio stations in Arusha (8), Dar es Salaam (2), Lunda (5), Mtwara (2), and Zanzibar (5)." (Internews website)


"This article examines the role of participation in development through community radio. Ordinary people participate in community radio through programme production, financing, management and the daily operations of the station. This enables them to define the development problems faced by their communities, and to find solutions to those problems -- they therefore participate in development through community radio. As such, the term ‘participation’ is presented as an empowering factor for ordinary people and as a potential solution to the many development problems faced by the community. The use of the Facebook and Mobile Phones to report Presidential election results in Tanzania / Hlazo Mkandawire -- Interrogating citizen journalism practices: a case study of Rhodes University’s Lindaba Ziyafika Project / Shile Nyathi & Anthea Garman -- Citizen journalism and moral panics: A consideration of ethics in the 2015 South African xenophobic attacks / Sheikh Mpofo & Shanaide Bianca Barnabas.


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"We draw on insights from a two-year research project, Politics and Interactive Media in Africa (PIMA), and the related, independently piloted, citizen’s Voices, which worked with local radio stations in eight Sub-Saharan African countries. We examine the social and political significance of new opportunities for voice, debate and claim-making in the mediated public sphere that interactive broadcast media enables, and how an approach..."
to citizen engagement that values pluralism and inclusivity and is not extractive, might better seize opportunities that interactive broadcast offers. The chapter critically reappraises what kinds of engagement count in communication for development, what kinds of ‘publics’ audiences in interactive shows constitute and how we should understand the power of these ‘audience-publics.’" (abstract) http://www.nordicom.gu.se/sites/default/files/publication-nelau-0.pdf

Voice and matter communication development and the cultural return.pdf


AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN


"In this paper, we have documented a broad spectrum of efforts that help position communities at the center of journalism. Different approaches are outlined, along with useful examples from the field. We don’t seek to prioritize or rank these different models, but rather understand that each meets different newsroom goals and community needs. Together, we refer to the full spectrum of ideas presented here as “Engaged Journalism.” Engagement is an emergent practice in journalism although it has been explored and debated for years in other fields, which have invested greatly in documenting, training, and supporting innovation and best practices. But as newsrooms grapple with these ideas anew, it is to be expected that the language they use will be a bit of a contested terrain. It is in language where we hash out the core ideas that shape how we operate in the world." (preface) https://www.internews.org/sites/default/files/Pathways-to-Engagement_2017apr11-DemocracyFund.pdf


"This new book examines whether television can be used as a tool not just for capitalism, but for democracy. Throughout television’s history, activists have attempted to access it for that very reason. New technologies—cable, satellite, and the internet—provided brief openings for amateur and activist engagement with television. This book elaborates on this history by using ethnographic data to build a new iteration of liberalismo technoliberalismo, which sees Silicon Valley technology and the free market of Hollywood end the need for a politics of participation."  


"This research explores the present status of the CR in India in the initial sections. But the main focus has been given on the innovative practices of the CRs scattered in nook and corner of the country. Emphasis has also been given to classify the possible innovations in the sector and a list of areas on innovation has been identified. This endeavour would open up new paths to create a robust CR environment in the country." (Foreword) http://cemca.org.in/cfkfinder/userfiles/files/Innovations%20in%20Community%20Radio_Lo w%20Res.pdf


"Community media is an integral component of CEMCA’s TYP 2012-15 and mission, “to assist governments and institutions to expand the scale, efficiency and quality of learning … in open, distance and technology enabled learning.” In September 2013, CEMCA contracted Ashish Sen to evaluate its Community Media activities for the Six Year Plan (TYP) 2012-15. The Evaluation process comprises three parts. These include: 1) Development of the Monitoring & Evaluation Plan (October 2013). 2) Interim Report (August 2014). 3) Final Report (April 2015). It focuses on the four key goals specified in CEMCA’s TYP. These comprise: 1) 20 % increase in number of community radio stations supported by CEMCA. 2) 100 community women empowered in media literacy, health, and leadership to develop community based programmes. 3) 9 community radio stations adopt sustainable models & show case best practices. 4) Increase in the number of stakeholders among content exchange platforms to share programmes in different formats and media." (p.9-10) http://cemca.org.in/cfkfinder/userfiles/files/Community-Media_Programme_Monitoring%20Evaluation.pdf


"The term “fake news” became increasingly common during the past year. While this concept has many synonyms—disinformation campaigns, cyber propaganda, cognitive hacking, and information warfare—it’s just one facet of the bigger problem: the manipulation of public opinion to affect the real world. Thanks to the connectivity and digital platforms that make it possible to share and spread information, traditional challenges such as physical borders and the constraints of time and distance do not exist anymore. Unfortunately, it also makes it easier to manipulate the public’s perception of reality and thought processes, resulting in the proliferation of fake news that affects our real, non-digital environment. Each new incident shows how much impact the technological manipulation of public opinion can have on people’s daily lives. This paper studies and explores the techniques and methods used by actors to spread fake news and manipulate public opinion to serve various motives ranging from personal and political. It also discusses the three legs of the fake news triangle: the source, the method by which they spread, and the motivation behind these activities. We demonstrate several techniques used to identify such campaigns through processing social media data and show how it is possible to trace those campaigns to the original perpetrators. Finally, we discuss how social media platforms and the general public can counter fake news." (page 3) https://documents.trendmicro.com/assets/white_papers/wp-fake-news-machine-how-propagandists-abuse-the-internet.pdf

Targeted towards journalists and media professionals, this handbook is designed to provide key information and encourage reflection on the way that terrorism is covered in the media. Based upon advice from leading institutions and experts, and filled with examples, it explores the professional challenges and ethical dilemmas inherent in terrorism reporting, and poses fundamental questions about what the impact of current treatments can and should be, and about the prevalence of fear in society. The book covered: Journalistic "framing" of terrorism; The balance between freedom, security and responsibility; Ethical issues; The challenges of fear, hate and generalisation; Handling figures, images and words; Coverage of attacks and hostage situations; Management of social media; Relations with victims, authorities and terrorists; Security of journalists.


This paper explores the role of digital and traditional media in shaping formal and informal leaders’ interactions with their own constituencies and a broader audience, by both advancing their messages and narratives and manoeuvring to steer a specific political agenda. It specifically considers the role of power, leadership and strategic communications in both exacerbating and mitigating violent conflict in emerging democracies. It weaves together strands of the theoretical scholarship on political communication and political settlement, while engaging with concepts of hybrid governance and leadership, we attempt to knit a framework that challenges normative assumptions on institutional communicative practices. By bringing together these disparate strands of scholarship that are rarely in dialogue, we question a characteristic that often contrasts vertical mainstream media with more horizontal and inclusive social media, and we note that nuanced version of the political significance of both spaces of communication is required, and one that highlights their interplay and blurs the boundaries between online and offline, and in doing so refocuses on the notion of power, placing it at the centre of analysis, to examine how entrenched relations of patronage can be let unscathed, transformed or even reinforced by networked forms of communication.

(executive summary)


This MeCoDEM working paper presents an overview of the main findings from a quantitative content analysis covering different types of democratisation conflicts (i.e., conflicts over citizenship, elections, transitional justice and distribution of power) in four countries: Egypt, Kenya, Serbia and South Africa. The sample involves 5162 newspaper articles and news stories in the four countries selected on the basis of two main criteria: the degree of independence of media outlets from government and political parties, and their relevance. The key findings from the content analysis are organised around several themes: causes of democratisation conflicts, portrayal of conflict parties, preferred solutions to conflicts, perceptions of democracy, role of the media, authoritarian past, and tone of reporting and polarisation. Although this paper focuses principally on these four countries, the research findings may provide key information and encourage reflection on the way that terrorism is covered in the media of any country in the world. The core of the analysis is that cross-national variations that we found in media reporting of democratisation conflicts appear to depend on several factors.

(executive summary)

https://tinyurl.com/framing-content-analysis-2017


This guidebook is a tool for Kenyan media professionals who are reporting on issues of terrorism and whilst doing so seek to counter violent extremism. It is designed to help journalists to effectively cover stories without putting innocent civilians (or security forces) in harm’s way, without instilling fear in the community, or giving attention to publicly seeking terrorists.” (IMS website)


fragile contexts. FoME symposium 2016 Documentation.


This paper seeks to provide some initial guidance as to what Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) is and what it means for the media development sector, its donors and other organizations that work with media developers. The paper also discusses challenges and implications of VE and CVE for media development and how media development work is relevant to CVE and CVE efforts.” (introduction)


Instead of seeking to provide an objective definition of hate speech, the paper’s empirical approach highlights that context matters. More specifically, analysis – in the political and socio-economic context in which the speech act occurs and consideration of the nature of the speaker and audience – including their impact and transmission – allows for a nuanced and informed approach to evaluate hate speech, and how this impacts democratisation processes. The paper presents: a general discussion of freedom of speech and its relationship to hate speech; definitions of hate speech and international legislation; a short discussion of hate speech in the four country contexts of the MeCoDEM project: Egypt, Kenya, Serbia and South Africa.

(executive summary)


This article shows how results were merged from a study conducted in four countries-Australia, the Philippines, South Africa and Mexico-in which differently versioned television news stories about conflict were played to audiences, and their responses gathered through a mix of methods, to yield both quantitative and qualitative results. These versions were coded according to the Peace Journalism model, a set of distinctions in the representation of conflict, originally conceived by Johan Galtung. A Peace Journalism bulletin and a War Journalism bulletin were produced in each country. Viewer responses--both emotional and cognitive--showed significant differences, depending on which version they watched. This article compares selected stories in each country, which had the strongest measured effects in the original study, and identifies common thematic elements. The most significant of these is that, in the Peace Journalism version of each of the selected stories bar one, viewers were provided with the personal narrative of a carefully chosen individual protagonist, which prompted both their empathy and, through that, their cognitive engagement with counter-hegemonic arguments in favour of non-violent conflict responses.

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


In this chapter we have discussed a number of concrete strategies and practical examples on how to implement digital media literacy projects even in a difficult political and socio-cultural context like South Sudan. These are based in developing a holistic approach that considers citizens interaction with media via the accessible vehicle of social media platforms, as an integral part of both a peacebuilding as well as literacy approach that considers citizen interaction with media via the accessible vehicle of social media platforms, as an integral part of both a peacebuilding as well as literacy education. New York; London: Routledge, 2017, p.368-379

“Africa, Sub-Saharan


Although not always consistent, Boko Haram has ensured its narrative is publicly disseminated, which is revealing for a group that is extremely secretive. Messaging
Zimbabwe was plunged into a genocide named 'Gukurahundi' (meaning the rain that washed the chaff away after harvest) that lasted until 1987. This article argues that there has been a clash of ‘interests’ playing out in the mediation of this yet-to-be-officially acknowledged genocide, specifically use the Unity Accord-associated holiday, the Unity Day, and its associated events that the media that carry the official voice of the ruling party, I argue that public media have seen genocide from conflicting and complex angles, making it difficult to reach a consensus suitable for national building based on genocide truths, meanings and effects to Zimbabweans. I specifically use the Unity Accord-associated holiday, the Unity Day, and its associated debates to pursue two arguments. First, public media have played an ambiguous role in appreciating the conflicting and multipronged nature of the genocide within ZANU-PF. Second, public media have largely been supportive of, and even complicit in, official silences on genocide debates and memory. The article uses public sphere and narrative analysis as frameworks for understanding the operations of public media journalism in the mediation of genocide nearly 30 years after its occurrence.”

ASIA & PACIFIC


"In order to prepare media based support for reconciliation in Sri Lanka MICT conducted a discourse analysis that investigated media coverage of reconciliation issues in Sri Lankan newspapers. Under the supervision of MICT experts, a mixed group of 16 Tamil and Sinhalese journalists examined all articles related to reconciliation in 9 Sri Lankan newspapers during the month of February 2016. Unsurprisingly, the results of the analysis confirm that newspapers differ significantly in their assessment of events. However, a huge overlap in the selection of topics demonstrates that there are shared interests between the Tamil and Sinhalese media which may provide common grounds for dialogue. In addition, the findings strongly suggest that differences between nationalist and government-supporting Sinhalese media are more far-reaching than differences between Tamil and Sinhalese media."


"(1) How do Chinese journalists perceive their roles and practices in conflict zones outside China? (2) How do they cover armed conflicts overseas? (3) Who are the actors, and how do they influence Chinese war correspondence? (4) Do the Chinese news media practice peace or war journalism? To answer these questions, a new cascading media and conflictic framework has been proposed and applied to study contemporary war correspondents. Within this new framework, the following six levels have been addressed from a Chinese perspective: 1. Chinese correspondents’ perception of roles, 2. Chinese-style pragmatic objectivity, 3. Foreign policy and media relations in China, 4. News audience, 5. News practices in war reporting, 6. News framing and peace/war journalism.”


"This European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) contribution to the second Annual Colloquium on Fundamental Rights provides a snapshot of manifestations of incitement in media content and political discourse against different groups in EU member states. It outlines the European and international legal framework governing such cases, substantiated by relevant case law examples. Highlighting that members of minority groups perceive the prevailing social climate as condoning racism, xenophobia and intolerance, this FRA paper underlines the need for EU institutions and Member States to address the effect incitement can have on the population groups it targets."

EUROPE

73. Dariya Orlova: The coverage of the conflict in the East by the Ukrainian media: investigating the values, guidelines, and practices of the journalists. Kyiv: Detector Media NGO, 2016, 19 p.

"The Ukrainian media are rather plural in approaches and editorial policies concerning the coverage of the conflict. The journalists are often ambivalent in professional standards; it means that the Ukrainian journalist community has not worked out universal rules yet, while the journalists are still looking for professional guidelines. The Ukrainian media lack institutionalization of editorial practices regarding the coverage of the issues associated with the conflict. Therefore, the journalists often tend to follow their own experiences and views instead of the fixed editorial practices and standards." (conclusions)

74. Dariya Orlova: The coverage of the conflict in the East by the Ukrainian media: investigating the values, guidelines, and practices of the journalists. Kyiv: Detector Media NGO, 2016, 19 p.

"Ukrainian journalists find it hard to remain neutral and independent when covering the conflict in their country. Many are torn between feelings of patriotism and their role as detached observers, new research has found. Of the 47 Ukrainian journalists, representing 42 different media outlets, interviewed for the study, most said they tried to adhere to ethical and journalistic standards when reporting the war in the Donbas region, eastern Ukraine, but added they did not want to ‘hurt’ the Ukrainian side through their reporting. The research found that few Ukrainian newsrooms offer guidance or support to journalists on how to cover the conflict. There are no written rules or agreed ethical standards and professional judgments are usually left to the journalists themselves. Ukrainian reporters working in the conflict zone tend to rely on their ‘gut instinct’, rather than instructions, the study revealed.” (publisher)

MIDDLE EAST / WESTERN ASIA & NORTHERN AFRICA


"This Research Paper examines the Iraqi Popular Mobilization Unit’s (PMU) messaging on the organisation’s website and social media platforms through early January 2017 to develop a more nuanced understanding of the PMU’s outlook, both present and future. After providing an overview of the PMU’s media presence online, the paper discusses how the organisation promotes its core narrative: that it is a cross-confessional and patriotic force for the defence of all Iraqis against a brutal and evil IS. The paper then addresses the PMU’s use of messaging to refute the sectarian portrayal of the organisation in some quarters before turning to the way the PMU approaches regional and international states in its media. Finally, the paper summarises the PMU’s messaging strategy and discusses how this strategy implies a less threatening future for the organisation than is often anticipated.” (abstract)


"The Syrian Civil War has shaken the country’s media landscape and provided space for the nascent emergence of an independent Syrian media. Syria’s media culture is undergoing significant transformation from a top-down, state-run industry, to a diverse arena populated by competing viewpoints and driven by communities. This paper maps the changes in Syrian media since the beginning of the uprising in 2011, and explores the constraints facing independent media moving forward. Stronger mechanisms to support
Democracy, Governance & Media, Political Communication

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


“The current study explores the influence of communication variables on human rights protection. The effects of international and domestic mass communication and digital media were assessed among global social, economic, and political factors. The statistical analyses on a sample of 101 nation states over the most recent decade reveal several important findings: (a) top-down, internationally initiated human rights discourse and monitoring were not as effective as bottom-up, domestically initiated human rights dialogues; (b) access to the Internet and access to a mobile phone have different effects on human rights performance, and Internet availability played an especially important role; (c) economic development, political system, and population size are powerful predictors of nations’ human rights performance, but a large population size diminishes the effect of economic development; and (d) economic development can moderate the effect of political context on human rights performance. Theoretical and practical implications are discussed.” (abstract)

79. Rebecca Pointer, Tanja Bosch, Wallace Chuma, Herman Wasserman: *Comparative analysis of civil society, media and conflict.* Media, Conflict and Democratisation (MeCoDEM), 2016, 52 p.

“This paper explores how Egyptian, Kenyan, Serbian and South African civil society organisations (CSOs) use communication and relationships with media to engage in democratic contestation. Individual interviews were conducted with 91 CSO members who participated in the various democratisation conflicts listed in MeCoDEM’s research design. The study found that key sources of conflict identified by the interviewees included group identity (e.g. religious and ethnic identity) and contestations around design ... The study found that key sources of conflict identified by the interviewees who participated in the various democratisation conflicts listed in MeCoDEM’s research design ... The study found that key sources of conflict identified by the interviewees included group identity (e.g. religious and ethnic identity) and contestations around (a) top-down, internationally initiated human rights discourse and monitoring were not as effective as bottom-up, domestically initiated human rights dialogues; (b) access to the Internet and access to a mobile phone have different effects on human rights performance, and Internet availability played an especially important role; (c) economic development, political system, and population size are powerful predictors of nations’ human rights performance, but a large population size diminishes the effect of economic development; and (d) economic development can moderate the effect of political context on human rights performance. Theoretical and practical implications are discussed.” (abstract)


“This document provides general guidelines for electoral management bodies (EMBs) and other stakeholders, including political parties, candidates, civil society and other social media commentators, who wish to agree on a code of etiquette for the publication and dissemination of election-related news and information. Of course, each country must adapt these guidelines to develop a code of conduct that suits its particular political context and its own population’s use of social media.” (introduction) http://www.idea.int/publications/social-media-code-of-conduct/loader.cfm?csModule=security&getfile&pgaid=p-73939


“This book explores how human rights developed as a language located in history, space and time, and how the festivals continue with this tradition by adapting it for local audiences. The ten festivals produced by human rights’ search for universality and the located-ness of the festivals are explored in detail through two case studies: one located in Buenos Aires, South America; the other in New York, North America, which was the first human rights film festival worldwide.” (back cover)

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


“This descriptive, empirical study gives context to how print journalists in two politically different African nations, Senegal and Ethiopia, use Twitter and Facebook to report the news and to what extent. We ask, “how is this new model of online reporting manifesting itself in Ethiopian and Senegalese newsrooms, given Senegal’s track record of democratic government and free press and Ethiopia’s infamous authoritarian control and censorship of the country’s journalists?”. The method is a content analysis of 60 days of posts on ten print newspapers’ Twitter and Facebook pages, to establish a comparative assessment of the two nation’s findings are also given context by comparing the print newspapers’ popularity on Twitter and Facebook against each nation’s top 20 most popular Twitter and Facebook pages. Results show Ethiopia to be markedly behind in Twitter posts, but the newspapers of each country show similar rates of posting to Facebook. Journalists in both nations are not livetweeting events, but instead are linking content on social media to the newspaper’s main home page.” (abstract)

84. Michael Meyen, Anke Fiedler, Kerem Schamberger: ‘It is a crime to be abusive towards the president’: a case study on media freedom and journalists’ autonomy in Museveni’s Uganda. In: *African Journalism Studies, vol. 37, nr. 3, 2016, p.1-18*

‘Using the case of the hybrid media system of Uganda and Schimank’s approach of agent-structure dynamics, this article argues that media freedom and journalists’ autonomy first and foremost depend on society’s expectations of the media system. Closely linked to these informal structures of expectations which are path and time dependent, journalists’ room for manoeuvre is limited by the resources allocated to individual and collective media actors. In a first step and following Schimank’s approach, the article presents a category system that could drive the analysis of media freedom in Uganda and beyond. The empirical study is based on research material consisting of 30 expert interviews, two elite round tables on site in Uganda and documents. This material shows that both journalists’ working conditions and (related to this and even more important) their perception among the ruling elites, public administrations and those governed, limit media freedom. It is precisely the media’s relative societal position which allowed the government to implement a system of media laws and media regulation authorities which create arbitrariness and, therefore, a feeling of insecurity within the profession.” (abstract)

Keywords: case study, journalism, media freedom, media systems, qualitative research, Uganda


‘Partisan media are often blamed for polarization in newly liberalized regimes. However, there is little empirical work on the subject, and information-processing theories suggest that extreme position taking is only one possible response to opinionated news. Rather, we theorize that partisan media may cause moderation in postliberalization settings, because low political sophistication and shifting political landscapes discourage partisan-motivated reasoning. We conducted a field experiment in Ghana in which tro-tros (commuter minibuses) were randomly assigned to one of four conditions. Passengers heard live talk-radio from a progovernment, pro-opposition, or neutral station, or were in a noradio control. We find no effect of like-minded media on polarization, but significant evidence of moderation from crosscutting broadcasts, indicating that rival arguments persuaded subjects. Partisan broadcasts also encouraged displays of national over partisan identity. Rather than fueling extremism, we argue that partisan media can moderate by exposing citizens to alternate perspectives.” (abstract)


AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN

86. Andrés Cañizález: *Live from the bully pulpit: the abuse of obligatory presidential broadcasts in Latin America.* Washington, DC: Center for International Media Assistance (CIMA), [2017]

*In Latin America, several countries’ laws permit the president to commandeer all radio and television broadcasts. Initially contemplated for use in rare circumstances such as national emergencies, a few leaders in the region, beginning with Venezuela’s Hugo
Chávez, have taken advantage of these laws to create an unprecedented media bully pulpí that has been an essential part of their populist politics. This report explores how these obligatory presidential broadcasts have become a routine occurrence in Venezuela, Argentina, and Ecuador with troubling implications for public debate. The report also surveys the legal and regulatory frameworks across the region for lessons on how press freedom and media pluralism can be strengthened. The broadcasters are free to restrict the type of content and crises of professional identity are distinctive features of the post-Maidan media landscape in Ukraine. This paper provides an overview of developments in the Ukrainian media system since the declaration of independence with a special focus on the situation after the EuroMaidan and discusses four major challenges that will impact the future of the Ukrainian journalism and media sphere. The EuroMaidan protests that shook Ukraine in late 2013 to early 2014 triggered a chain of events that brought numerous challenges and changes for the Ukrainian society. The European Union. On the positive side, the majority of respondents think their national media provide a diversity of views and opinions. Furthermore, the majority in each Member State think this is the case. Most respondents also think the level of public service media is free and independent. Furthermore, almost three in ten think their national media are less free and independent than they were five years ago. Media independence and trust in the information provided by the media often go hand in hand. In many countries, when a high proportion of respondents think their national media are free from political and commercial pressures, there are also high proportions of respondents who think the media provides trustworthy information. However, in spite of the diversity of the media, the majority of respondents say neither their national or their public service media are free and independent. Furthermore, almost three in ten think their national media are less free and independent than they were five years ago. Media independence and trust in the information provided by the media often go hand in hand. In many countries, when a high proportion of respondents think their national media are free from political and commercial pressures, there are also high proportions of respondents who think the media provides trustworthy information. For example, this is the case in Finland, Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands. The reverse is also true. In France, Greece, and Spain, for instance, respondents are much less likely to think their national media are free from political and commercial pressures, and they are much less likely to consider the national media provides trustworthy information. While all Member States have a body to regulate audiovisual media, just over one in five know their country’s media regulator. Furthermore, only a minority believe their media regulator is free and independent from political, governmental or commercial pressures. Just over half of respondents follow debates on social media by reading articles on the Internet, or through blogs or other social media. Less than three in ten actively participate in them by posting comments and so on. For those who do participate, it is more likely to be an occasional rather than a regular occurrence. 


Development Communication

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


The first two parts of the handbook outline methods and concepts, showing how communication can be planned according to the context and integrated into the project cycle. The third part recounts the SDC’s experiences in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. The documentary video catalysing reforms in Georgia’s sheep-farming sector, the puppet show to rally promoting girls’ right to enrol in school in Benin, the thematic week advocating for human rights in Afghanistan, and the interactive web game raising awareness of responsible water use in Colombia are just four of the 24 examples provided in the handbook with a view to inspiring emulation. The wide variety of tools range from ad-hoc discussion forums in the marketplace to elaborate multimedia campaigns covering an entire country. Diverse as they are, they share one characteristic: the national communication management is far from a passive process, rather than a product. It seeks to elicit constructive responses and open up inclusive debates. To ensure that no-one is left behind, these debates must break the mould of specialist discussions on laws and standards. They must be clear and appeal to the senses and emotions.” (editorial, p.7) https://www.eda.admin.ch/content/dam/da/dea/er/documents/publikationen/Diverses/Communication-for-development-Manual_EN.pdf


“Drawing on examples ranging from the Indignados movement in Spain to media activists in Brazil, from rural community workers in Malawi to UNICEF’s global outreach campaigns the [author] presents cutting-edge debates about the role of media and communication in enhancing social change. He offers both new and contested ideas of approaching social change from below, and highlights the need for institutions - governments and civil society organizations alike - to be in sync with their constituents.” (publisher)


"PhotoVoice: A creative and effective tool for purposes such as monitoring, participatory research, data collection and capacity building. This guide has been developed to help you prepare, organise and facilitate a PhotoVoice training course in low, middle and high-income countries." (back cover)


"The documentary film, Gringo Trails explores the long-term effects of tourism globalization on cultures, economies and the environment in the developing world through the lens of budget backpacker travelers and their storytelling. This chapter explores the travel narrative to tourism globalization as it was visualized over a 30-year timespan through Gringo Trails and traces the effect of the film itself throughout its journey at international screenings and in press coverage. Tracking the film’s trajectory from its premiere in late 2013 through 2015 and the reactions to it either verbally or in print provides the catalyst for a discussion on the role of long-term, ethnographic filmic observation and research in exploring globalization processes; and, connects media practices to the scholarship on development, tourism studies, and the anthropology of tourism." (abstract)


"This report reviews and highlights some key issues in the current debate on development communication. To do so it draws on experiences and inputs from members of the Informal Network of Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Development Communicators (DevCom). The report starts by looking at one of the fundamental elements regarding development communication: the monitoring of public support ... the report then looks at communications strategies. Whereas only a few years ago they were somewhat rare among development ministries and agencies, they are now becoming common currency. Some are on their third or fourth generation and others have developed specific strategies (e.g. for the use of new media)." (executive summary)


AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


"The stories in this volume were gathered as part of a Writeshop held in Nairobi on 9–10 November, in the context of the Access Agriculture Week 9–13 November, 2015. People are story-tellers as well as creatures who walk and make tools. Stories are important to us. Statistics tell us what happened; stories tell us why. These stories celebrate the creativity of the many organisations involved in making, translating, distributing, and screening videos, as well as those that do follow-up studies, especially the MSC and PhD students that Access Agriculture supports. We learn what it feels like to be involved in one of the more creative efforts in international development and communication. We read, for example, about the radio producer who began to make videos because his father, a Kenyan farmer, said that farmers wanted to see the images, as well as the words. We learn why farmers in Malawi find videos from West Africa more convincing than learning from lead farmers in their own villages. We read about the journalist in Benin who is so inspired by the videos that he has become a farmer himself. We learn what it’s like to translate a video script into an African language, and other personal experiences of getting videos and DVDs into the hands of farmers." (foreword)


"Community video is a powerful approach to improving nutrition practices, even in areas beset by drought, conflict, and food shortages. When community members create and share videos that promote optimal nutrition and hygiene behaviors, friends and neighbors pay attention. This report details the positive impact of a pilot community video project for better maternal, infant, and young child feeding in Niger and offers important lessons learned." (back cover)

https://www.spring-nutrition.org/sites/default/files/publications/reports/spring_nigerSeeing_is_Believing.pdf


"Featuring a range of examples from ACP countries, this booklet includes testimonies on how Web 2.0 and social media have contributed to policy dialogue and advocacy (Chapter 1), value chain development (Chapter 2) and provision of information services (Chapter 3). The booklet features 18 stories covering all ACP regions, documenting the transformative power of these innovative technologies." (p.6)

https://publications.cta.int/media/publications/downloads/1816_PDF.pdf

AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN


102. José Luis Aguirre Alvis: La radio boliviana en el largo trayecto de educar contando historias: el caso del programa 'Voces nuestras'. In: Ciencia y Cultura (La Paz), vol. 20, nr. 36, 2016, p.83-103

"La radio en Bolivia tiene una larga historia, iniciada desde los ensayos experimentales de la propagación de ondas radiolécticas operados mucho antes de la llegada y madurez de esta tecnología, en 1929. La presencia de este medio ha estado marcada desde su inicio por un acompañamiento estrecho a la dinámica social y cultural del país boliviano. Asimismo, ha sido pionera de la introducción de formas de hacer radio que décadas después aparecerían como propuestas técnicas en el campo teórico de la comunicación social. La radio es y ha sido un medio democratizador de la palabra, y esta cualidad tiene como elemento determinante la cualidad oral de la sociedad boliviana resultado de su carácter indígena-originario. La metodología de la educación por entretenimiento se propone mundialmente como un recurso para generar procesos de cambio social, y dentro de ella se ejecuta en Bolivia el programa ‘Voces nuestras’, que reaviva la experiencia de contar historias para cambiar vidas." (resumen)

http://www.nordicom.gu.se/sites/default/files/publikationer-hela-pdf/voice_and_matter_communication_development_and_the_cultural_return.pdf
Disaster & Humanitarian Crisis Communication

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


"In April 2017, an Internews team conducted a rapid assessment on information needs among refugees and migrants in Italy, visiting formal reception facilities (hotspot, CAS, CARA) in Lampedusa, Agrigento, Catania, and informal centers in Ventimiglia and Rome. Through this rapid assessment exercise, we analysed the role of media and provided recommendations for addressing the information void contributing to the refugee crisis." (website Internews)


"The purpose of Lifeline programming is to make content for people affected by humanitarian crises in order to help save lives and reduce suffering ... Lifeline programming requires a different approach from conventional newsgathering and reporting. It involves sharing practical, actionable information that audiences can use to improve their situation, and also providing encouragement and reassurance. It’s about reporting for those affected rather than about them. Topics may include issues around safety, food, water, shelter, health, hygiene, trauma and more." (p.4) https://www.bbcmediaactionilearn.com/pluginfile.php/5116/mod_page/content/21/1LifelineManual_A5_2016Rewrite_4.2.pdf


"The guide is not about how to use media for public relations or fund-raising purposes; it focuses on working with media to share useful and actionable information with communities affected by crisis. Humanitarians call this kind of communication different things: "community engagement", "communication with communities", "beneficiary communication" or "humanitarian communication". They all mean the same thing: harnessing the power of communication to save lives. The focus is on local and national media but can be extended if you want to reach local communities you need to go through local channels, which can provide specific, localised information and are in close proximity to their audiences." (introduction) https://www.bbcmediaactionilearn.com/pluginfile.php/5116/mod_page/content/10/LifelineManual_A5_2016_Online_REVISE.PDF


"Most analysis of media coverage of disaster has a normative edge. This paper outlines a philosophical basis for establishing normative standards for news coverage of natural hazards and human-based risk. It begins with a down-top, or system-oriented, epistemological approach to disasters and risk. By employing this epistemology, a new professional standard of excellence, the journalist as mitigation watchdog, emerges. Focusing on mitigation promotes narratives that acknowledge the shadow of the future and report on human emergent cooperative behavior. Both are linked to human flourishing through Nussbaumer’s theory of capabilities. The goal is to provide a framework that specifies how professional performance might be improved and explains why some news reports are exemplary and others deserve professional censure." (abstract)


"This document has been created to provide a broad overview of big data usage in humanitarian organisations and general guidance on how organisations can incorporate it into operations. It describes big data and its role within the humanitarian sector, offers a categorisation of the large variety of big data types, highlights benefits and risks of incorporating big data into response, identifies policy and ethical considerations for the organisation, and provides example materials organisations can use when starting the process of incorporating big data. The goal is to create dialogue and generate structure in the conversation among decision makers, data scientists, and volunteers and technical communities." (executive summary) http://blog.veritythink.com/post/190055206839/guidance-for-incorporating-big-data-into

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARIAN


"Internews has launched a three-part learning module on Boda Boda Talk Talk, the hyperlocal humanitarian information service currently operational in four United Nations Protection of Civilians Sites (PoCs) across the country. Part I of the module focuses on the theory and rationale behind a community-led audio program produced to radio broadcast standards, describing how the political and humanitarian context in South Sudan—and unique local information ecosystem within the UN PoC sites—influenced BBTT’s design. Part II is a case study that describes how BBTT was designed and rolled out in Tong Ping (Juba) and Malakal/Wau Shilluk, including sections on challenges, adaptive programming, and recommendations for similar projects." (Internews website) https://www.internews.org/sites/default/files/learningcollection_part1and2_final.pdf


"This guide outlines the step-by-step processes and potential challenges that may arise in setting up a Boda Boda Talk Talk (BBTT) project. In it, you will find information and advice on everything from what equipment to purchase, to how to build relationships with other humanitarian actors, to recruiting staff and establishing listening groups. Given its straightforward setup, readily available equipment and relatively low cost, the BBTT model can be easily replicated and adapted to other humanitarian emergency contexts." (p.7) https://www.internews.org/sites/default/files/learningcollection_part3_final.pdf

AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN


"Internews’ Humanitarian Information Service in Haiti, which ran from October 2016 to February 2017, was a DFID funded humanitarian project with the goal to improve the quality of timely and actionable information exchanges with Haitian communities affected by Hurricane Matthew. Internews’ two-way communication model relied on gathering feedback from affected populations in order to directly address the issues they concern the most, and to help humanitarian partners integrate their concerns into their programming and interventions. Through partner coordination and training, on-the-ground teams conducted data gathering and rumor tracking for feedback-based publications targeted to the affected population and for a humanitarian audience." (website Internews)

https://www.internews.org/sites/default/files/CaseStudy_Haiti_InternewsETC_2017-05.pdf

113. Teresa Correa, Andres Scherman, Arturo Arriagada: *Audiences and disasters: analyses of media diaries before and after an earthquake and a massive fire.* In: *Journal of Communication, vol. 66, nr. 4, 2016, p.519-541*

"Media diaries of 36 Chilean adults were being collected as two disasters unfolded: an earthquake on the northern coast and 11 days later a massive fire in Valparaiso. From an audience reception theoretical approach, these events provide a unique opportunity to compare people’s engagement with media and responses to two mediated disasters. By complementing textual and computerized linguistic analyses, this study reveals that audiences’ responses differ by type of disaster and proximity. Where earthquake abounds, people express more rational analyses of media quake coverage and more emotional responses to the fire. Also, proximity played an expected role with the fire but not the quake, suggesting that audiences’ engagement with media events depends on the context and the type of disaster." (abstract)


"This study provides insights that can inform disaster communication management, policymaking, and theory building through a nationally representative field experiment (N = 2,015 U.S. adults) grounded in media richness theory, information and communication technologies (ICTs) succession theory, and the social-mediated crisis communication (SMCC) model. Key findings include the following: (1) Significant main effects of disaster information source were detected on how likely participants were to seek further disaster information from TV, local government websites, and federal government websites; (2) regardless of information form and source, participants reported strongest intentions to immediately communicate about the disaster predominately via offline interpersonal forms rather than through online organizational and personal forms; and (3) regardless of information source, participants reported strong intentions to evacuate if instructed to do so by the government. These findings call for developing crisis communication theory that is more focused on how publics communicate with each other rather than with organizations about disasters and predict a wider variety of crisis communication outcomes." (abstract)


“For journalists promoting the free flow of information in repressive or restrictive media environments, the issue of financial sustainability is complex. Both media in exile (out-of-country news outlets feeding independent information into the country of origin) and news outlets in restrictive news environments (in-country providing counter-information) exist in flawed market situations and often rely on grant funding. This is the first academic study of the revenue streams of these media, providing scarce empirical data and a typology of funding structures of these media. This article examines three main revenue categories: grant funding, earned income and donations. The major factors influencing the revenue streams compared to online media start-ups in open markets are discussed. The article finds significant barriers to revenue creation and identifies the need for alternative approaches, particularly partnerships, to promote economic resilience for media under threat.” (abstract)


Contents: Factor #1: Independent media are captured and replaced with entertainment – Factor #2: Many audiences have switched to digital, especially on mobile – Factor #3: Mobile penetration is setting the conditions for an even greater shift – Factor #4: Advertising revenues have followed audiences – Factor #5: Fewer, bigger players are capturing a huge part of the pie… and there is one dominant player – Factor #6: Ubiquitous, high-quality media compete for attention in an expanding world media market – Factor #7: As advertisers follow audiences to digital, the advertising industry’s architecture has been reshaped – Factor #8: Advertising placement is driven by data, not deals – Factor #9: Mobile ad blockers shut out revenue – Factor #10: And then there is Facebook – How News Outlets Are Performing in the Digital Advertising Market - Charting a Course: How Independent Media Can Improve Digital Distribution. http://www.cima.ned.org/publication/media-feast-news-famine-ten-global-advertising-trends-threaten-independent-journalism/


“…In times of digital transformation media all over the world have come to up ways to ensure their survival. Meanwhile, media development actors are searching for new concepts and orientation in their support of media organizations and media markets. This paper presents DW Akademie’s suggestion for new indicators to measure economic viability. The criteria not only take into account the financial strategies and management structures of individual media outlets, but also the overall economic conditions in a country as well as the structures of the media market needed to ensure independence, pluralism and professional standards. After all, money talks – and media development should listen.” (executive summary)


“The objective of the Study Module is to enhance the business knowledge of undergraduate and graduate students of arts, humanities and media communications, i.e., individuals, who have potential to be (self) employed after their graduation in the field of creative industries. Special focus in the study module is given to the latent entrepreneurial opportunities, i.e., personal qualities and skills of the individual that would enable students to pursue an entrepreneurial career when given the opportunity or incentive to new venture creation.” (p.4)

http://www.crebiz.eu/images/CreBiz_eBook_Final_PDF.pdf

AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN


“En el año 2016 la inversión publicitaria en nuestro país alcanzó la cifra de 725 millones de dólares, 2% más que la del 2015; sin embargo este crecimiento está por debajo del PBI que fue del 3.9%. Dos acontecimientos importantes creemos que influenciaron en este crecimiento publicitario: La campaña presidencial de la primera y segunda vuelta electoral, y la Copa América transmitida por América TV... Los medios en general han mantenido sus tendencias de los últimos años. Así tenemos que la televisión es el medio que lidera la “torita publicitaria” con un 50.6%. Si bien es cierto el volumen de espacios comprados en TV disminuyó 5% aproximadamente respecto al 2015, el incremento de tarifas en 10% como promedio le ha permitido a la TV alcanzar un incremento del 5%.”

(p.1-2) subjects: advertising markets - Peru - statistical data


122. Nancy Vogt, Amy Mitchell: Crowd funded journalism: a small but growing addition to publicly driven journalism. Projects funded through Kickstarter cut across more than 60 countries. Pew Research Center, 2017, 33 p. (subject: crowdfunding; media financing; nonprofit media - USA; international scope)

http://www.journalism.org/2016/01/20/crowdfunded-journalism/


“High levels of revenue and ownership concentration in the media sector pose a threat to freedom of information in Peru. Concentration is also exceptionally high in terms of content distribution and audience of print and digital media sectors. MOM Peru, carried out from September and December 2016, has revealed a high degree of media ownership concentration as well as a lack of regulation by the state, and confirms the dominant position of the El Comercio Group.” (http://www.mom-rsf.org)


“Even though Colombia has more than 200 radio stations, more than 50 television channels and more than 50 newspapers, there is little media pluralism. The Media Ownership Monitor 2015, jointly carried out with the Colombian Association for Journalists (Federación Colombiana de Periodistas, FECOLPER) from August to
November, reveals some of the reasons: Concentration is especially high for TV and Radio; Media intertwined with business empires and politics; No clear regulation for distribution of public advertising or licensing regime; Media market remains transparent.

(http://www.mom-rsf.org)


ASIA & PACIFIC


"Only one out of ten Mongolian media outlets is actively transparent about its ownership. A majority of them has political affiliations through their founders and / or owners. This limits the important role of media to act as an independent watchdog for democracy. These are some of the main findings of the Media Ownership Monitor Mongolia, jointly carried out with the Press Institute of Mongolia, from September to December 2016.

(http://www.mom-rsf.org)


"Two giant broadcast networks dominate the Philippine media industry both in terms of economic market power and audience reach, which gives them a major potential to shape public opinion. Despite a high number of media outlets and being described as one of the most freewheeling media systems in the region, Philippine media continue to be owned by and to depend on the economic and political elite... Five families in the Forbes List of 2016 Philippines’ Richest are in media, four of which made their money predominantly from media. Even though the political and economic elite are interwoven, those links have not led to targeted discriminatory actions in the recent past, with in general little political control being openly exerted. It poses, however, a potential risk to media as soon as the political elite start to exploit the vulnerability of media owners.

(http://www.mom-rsf.org)

http://www.mom-rsf.org/en/countries/philippines


“In this report, we have analysed how the Hindustan Times, Dainik Jagran, and Malayala Manorama are changing their newsroom organisation and journalistic work to adapt to an increasingly digital media environment. Our analysis shows that all three newspapers are investing in expanding their digital activities to pursue new opportunities as digital media become more important in India, and print relatively less so. All are investing significantly more effort in digital operations than they did in the past, and more than many other Indian newspapers. This includes investments in new technology and staff with new expertise, as well as training of existing staff. We find important variations in how they are changing. At the Hindustan Times, senior editorial and managerial leaders have worked together to integrate print and digital newsrooms into one cross-platform operation equally adept at serving audiences across print, website, mobile app, and social channels. At Malayala Manorama, and especially Dainik Jagran, the transition seems to have been led more exclusively by management, and the focus has been on expanding parallel digital operations that are not part of the print newspaper organisation. By creating a brand of their own, distinct from but built on that of their print newspapers, opening up new offices and hiring new personnel to perform digital news work, Jagran Online and Manorama Online partially circumvented the inertia that often hampers attempt to change an incumbent organisation where people are proud of what they have accomplished in the past. Because they are building parallel units, they do not have to deal with the issues that arise when moving from a print to a digital or platform-agnostic newsroom.”

(http://www.mom-rsf.org)

http://www.mom-rsf.org/en/countries/cambodia


"The Media Ownership Monitor Cambodia revealed high levels of ownership concentration, a low transparency level, and a problematic dependency of media outlets on the government. The research and publication, jointly conducted together with the Cambodian Center for Independent Media (CCIM) from September to December 2015, highlights the related dangers to media freedom, particularly thorough self-censorship and the absence of critical reporting."

(http://www.mom-rsf.org)

http://www.mom-rsf.org/en/countries/cambodia

EUROPE

129. Media ownership monitor Serbia. Reporters Without Borders, 2017

"The state has been for year the biggest advertiser in the country. Public money has been spent through its Ministries, institutions, republic agencies, bodies, local self-governments etc on different advertising and sponsorship contracts. The total value of state advertising still remains unknown due to the poor regulation of this sector. Most commercial advertising is placed with national media outlets. Outside the main cities, local economies are underdeveloped and advertising markets are very poor or nearly nonexistent. Under every government so far, owners of media buying agencies had close ties with the ruling party and politics. These connections have helped acentuate growing economic and editorial pressure on Serbian media. According to the latest available data which relate to 2016, the total value of the advertising market in Serbia was 174 million Euros. This amount of money is insufficient to sustain the survival of the currently active media in Serbia. There are more than 1600 active registered media outlets which are competing for their share of the advertising market."

(http://serbia.mom-rsf.org/en/findings/serbia)

http://serbia.mom-rsf.org/en/findings/serbia

MIDDLE EAST / WESTERN ASIA & NORTHERN AFRICA


"The accelerating digitalisation of the media landscape has released enormous forces of change in the Nordic advertising markets. The overall impression from the results of this study is that the sweeping changes digitalisation is bringing about are not just undermining the business model on which the majority of commercially financed media companies in the Nordic countries have based their journalistic operations, they are also making it more difficult for the same companies to find a sustainable business model in a digital environment. The Nordic media market is vast and diverse with the national and local level are finding it increasingly difficult to compete with the advertising solutions that global digital actors such as Google and Facebook are bringing to the market. The latter are not just more sophisticated than the domestic alternatives, they are also significantly cheaper. The results of this study indicate unequivocally that the differences in competitiveness between Nordic and non-Nordic advertising platforms will be exacerbated as digital advertising investments grow."

(http://www.mom-rsf.org)

http://www.nordicom.gu.se/sites/default/files/publikationer-hela-pdf/ad_wars_pdf


"Ukrainian mass media outlets are mostly driven by their owners’ individual interests and thus serve as instruments to securing political and economic power. Corruption and lack of financial transparency further inhibit the healthiness of the country’s media landscape. The Media Ownership Monitor Ukraine, carried out from July to October 2016 together with the Institute of Mass Information (IMI), showed that the Ukraine media is prone to power plays, more than ever. The Media Ownership Monitor pinpoints that concentration is especially high within the audio-visual and radio markets. The major four TV owners – StarLight Media, 1+1 Media, Inter Media and Media Group Ukraine – represent an audience share of more than three quarters. The top four radio groups even combine a reach of 92% of the audience in Ukraine: Tavr Radio Group, Ukrainian Media Holding, Business Radio Group and TRK Lux. Those media groups mainly belong to some of the richest in Ukraine, amongst others Viktor Pinchuk, Ihor Kolomoyskiy, Dmytro Firtash and Rinat Akhmetov. The print media and online sectors are less concentrated. Online media in particular offer much more pluralism and choice to Internet savvy Ukrainians."

(http://www.mom-rsf.org)


"The Tunisian revolution has left a significant mark on the country’s media landscape, which diversified and played an important role in the transition process. Media diversity, however, does not guarantee the independence of information per se, especially if it remains to be dominated by political or economic interests. The Tunisian Media Ownership Monitor, set up by RSF and Al Khati from April to June 2016, shows that even if there is no strong media concentration in the hands of a few like in the days of Ben Ali, disturbing trends can nonetheless be observed: 6 out of the 10 TV stations analysed have known a political affiliation. As the form of media with the highest audience rates in Tunisia, TV stations naturally attract interests from the political sphere; No reliable audience data exists, no matter for which type of media; Financial data difficult to obtain; Lack of transparency about funding means."

(http://www.mom-rsf.org)

This publication provides a selection of literacy programmes that use radio, TV, mobile phones, tablets and computers to support the development of literacy, numeracy and language skills. Despite the second edition of the publication having been updated with new case studies. All programmes included in this publication are also available on UNESCO's Effective Literacy and Numeracy Practices database (LiBase). This database allows users to identify trends, challenges and lessons learnt in applying ICTs to literacy teaching and learning worldwide. The programmes share valuable examples of how ICTs can be used creatively and innovatively to complement face-to-face adult literacy teaching. They highlight the prerequisites that must be met to reach the full potential of ICTs. *(foreword)*

http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002439/243981e.pdf


"ICT have a high potential for education system strengthening, despite the particular obstacles that exist in contexts and crisis settings. Enabling education systems, for example, involves the use of mobile money transfers to ensure teachers receive regular salaries. Two-way communication systems using SMS (text messaging) over mobile phones promote safe learning spaces by informing parents, guardians, and young people directly about danger near schools. ICT is also being used for data collection about students, teachers, schools, and the larger education infrastructure. However, the project landscape shows much more room for growth with regard to ICT for education systems strengthening in conflict and crisis. The two major areas of programmatic focus in ICT for education in crisis and conflict are teacher training and student learning. A characteristic of programs working in postsecondary education — including higher education, teacher training, and vocational training — is that they are using multiple tools for teaching and learning, which gives learners varied opportunities for participation in unstable contexts. This includes the use of locally existing technologies, such as mobile phones. Overall, blended learning is an important component of education at the post-secondary level. The examined case studies also confirm that human resources and teachers are still crucial to the success of educational initiatives and projects. Good blended learning practices involve using technology to support face-to-face learning." *(executive summary)*

http://tinyurl.com/ict-education-conflict


"Open Educational Resources (OER) — teaching, learning and research materials that their owners make free for others to use, revise and share — offer a powerful means of expanding the reach and effectiveness of worldwide education. The Commonwealth of Learning (COL) and UNESCO co-organised the World OER Congress in 2012 in Paris. That Congress resulted in the OER Paris Declaration: a statement that urged governments around the world to release, as OER, all teaching, learning and research materials developed with public funds. This book, drawing on 15 case studies contributed by 29 OER researchers and policy-makers from 15 countries across six continents, examines the implementation of the pivotal declaration through the thematic lenses of policy, costs and transformation. The case studies provide a detailed picture of OER policies and initiatives as they are unfolding in different country contexts and adopting a range of approaches, from bottom-up to top-down. The book illuminates the impacts of OER on the costs of producing, distributing and providing access to learning materials, and shows the ways that OER can transform the teaching and learning methodology mindset." *(back cover)*

http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002434/243435e.pdf


Freedom of the Press, Media Policies, Media Legislation


To support joint efforts to protect journalism, there is a growing need for research-based knowledge. Acknowledging this need, the aim of this publication is to highlight and fuel journalist safety as a field of research, to encourage worldwide participation, as well as to inspire further dialogues and new research initiatives. The contributions represent diverse perspectives on both empirical and theoretical research and offer many quantitatively and qualitatively informed insights. The articles demonstrate that a new important interdisciplinary research field is in fact emerging, and that the fundamental issue remains identical: Violence and threats against journalists constitute an attack on freedom of expression." *(back cover)*


"The digital convergence means that how the Internet develops going forward — both in terms of policy and technology — will shape the very environment in which all other media operate. This report makes the case to this community that they can, and must, engage in the discussion-making bodies that are shaping Internet governance (IG) to ensure that the Internet and the growing media sphere it sustains — remains open, pluralistic, and democratic. The media development community can work to improve the global enabling environment for media by actively engaging in Internet governance. Policy issues being discussed at ICANN, IGF, ITU, IETF, and IEEE could greatly benefit from the input of those with media development experience. Multistakeholder Internet governance presents a unique opportunity for the media development community to actively shape the future media ecosystem." *(CIMA website)*

the rapid dissemination of information, particularly during antigovernment protests. Public-facing social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter have been subject to growing censorship for several years, but in a new trend, governments increasingly target messaging and voice communication apps such as WhatsApp and Telegram. These services are able to spread information and connect users quickly and securely, making it more difficult for authorities to control the information landscape or conduct surveillance. The increased controls show the importance of social media and online communication for advancing political freedom and social justice. It is no coincidence that the tools at the center of the current crackdown have been widely used to hold governments accountable and facilitate uncensored conversations. (p.1) https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-net/freedom-net-2016


“Press freedom worldwide deteriorated to its lowest point in 13 years in 2016, driven by unprecedented threats to journalists and media outlets in major democracies, intensified crackdowns on independent media in authoritarian settings, and moves by the Russian and Chinese regimes to increase their influence beyond their borders. The share of the world’s population that enjoys a free press according to the Freedom of the Press report criteria stood at just 13 percent, meaning fewer than one in seven people live in countries where coverage of political news is robust, the safety of journalists is guaranteed, state intrusion in media affairs is minimal, and the press is not subject to onerous legal or economic pressures.” (p.3) https://freedomhouse.org/sites/default/files/FTDP_2017_booklet_FINAL_April25.pdf


“Actors interested in media development and freedom of expression can easily inform themselves about the current issues related to spectrum management; this report summarizes those issues, and highlights resources for further research. A “spectrum commons” approach – one that focuses on treating specific bands of spectrum as openly accessible public resources – may foster media pluralism by decreasing barriers to the free flow of information. Networks are forming around this issue; this report also highlights the major organizations working on this from a perspective of rights, freedom of expression and media development.” (CIMA website) http://www.cima.ucd.ie/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/CIMA-Spectrum-Management_web.pdf


“This Study, which covers 121 UNESCO Member States, represents a global benchmarking of journalistic source protection in the Digital Age. It focuses on developments during the period 2007-2015. The legal frameworks that support protection of journalistic sources, at international, regional and country levels, are under significant strain in 2015. They are increasingly at risk of erosion, restriction and compromise - a development that is seen to represent a direct challenge to the established universal human rights of freedom of expression and privacy, and one that especially may constitute a threat to the sustainability of investigative journalism. In many of the countries examined in this Study, it was found that legal source protection frameworks are being actually or potentially: overridden by national security and anti-terrorism legislation; undercut by surveillance – both mass and targeted; jeopardised by mandatory data retention policies and practice applied to third party intermediasries - like ISPs, telcos, search engines, social media platforms - to release data which risks exposing sources; outdated when it come to regulating the collection and use of data, such as whether information recorded without consent is admissible in a court case against either a journalist or a source; and whether digitally stored material gathered by journalistic actors is covered by existing source protection laws.” (executive summary) http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002465/246527E.pdf


“This report provides an overview of a decade of killings of journalists, media workers and social media producers, between 1 January 2006 and 31 December 2015. The extent of the risks faced by those exercising their right to express opinions and disseminate information is demonstrated by the figure of 827 killings recorded by UNESCO over ten years. To this, one needs to add the numerous other violations endured by journalists, which include kidnappings, arbitrary detention, torture, intimidation and harassment, both offline and online, and seizure or destruction of material. Overcoming all these threats is needed for measuring progress on the Sustainable Development Goal Target 16.10 on ensuring public access to information and protecting fundamental freedoms within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This report focuses exclusively on the worst violations, i.e. the killings of journalists, in line with the IPDC Council’s 2008 Decision on the Safety of Journalists and the issue of impunity, which was reinforced by subsequent decisions in 2010, 2012, and 2014.” (executive summary) http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/IDPC/ipdc_council_30_4_en_02.pdf


“Internet freedom has declined for the sixth consecutive year, with more governments than ever before targeting social media and communication apps as a means of halting the rapid dissemination of information, particularly during antigovernment protests. Public-facing social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter have been subject to growing censorship for several years, but in a new trend, governments increasingly target messaging and voice communication apps such as WhatsApp and Telegram. These services are able to spread information and connect users quickly and securely, making it more difficult for authorities to control the information landscape or conduct surveillance. The increased controls show the importance of social media and online communication for advancing political freedom and social justice. It is no coincidence that the tools at the center of the current crackdown have been widely used to hold governments accountable and facilitate uncensored conversations.” (p.1) https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-net/freedom-net-2016


“Encryption is a hot topic in the current global discussion on Internet governance. This research delves into the subject, to outline a global overview of the various means of encryption, their availability and their potential applications in the media and communications landscape. The research explains how the deployment of encryption is affected by different areas of law and policy, and it offers detailed case studies of encryption in selected jurisdictions. It analyzes in-depth the role of encryption in the media and communications landscape, and the impact on different entities and final users. Built on this exploration and analysis, the research provides recommendations on encryption policy that are useful for various stakeholders. These include signaling the need to counter the lack of gender sensitivity in the current debate, and also highlighting ideas for enhancing “encryption literacy”. (back cover) http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002424/242457E.pdf


“This study examines the existence of criminal defamation and insult laws in the territory of the 57 participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). In doing so, it offers a broad, comparative overview of the compliance of OSCE participating States’ legislation with international standards and best practices in the field of defamation law and freedom of expression. The primary purpose of the study is to identify relevant provisions in law. Although the study does include examples of the usage of these provisions, it is not an analysis of legal practice … The study is divided into two sections, the first section offers overviews according to each of the principal categories researched and in reference to international standards on freedom of expression. The second section provides the detailed research findings for each country, including relevant examples. As the study’s title suggests, the primary research category is general criminal laws on defamation and insult. However, this study also covers special laws protecting the reputation and honour of particular persons or groups of people (e.g., presidents, public officials, deceased persons); special laws protecting the ‘honor’ of the state and state symbols; and blasphemy and religious insult laws.” (About this study, p.2) http://www.osce.org/fom/203181?download=true


“This publication is what we call our Transfer Guide. It serves three different purposes. First, it documents the work done by the IGF Academy team and the eight fellows in 2016. Second, we make those stakeholders involved (or who should be involved) in Internet governance in the eight countries [Bangladesh, Bhutan, Congo-Brazzaville, Myanmar, Namibia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Togo] ... Secondly, the Transfer Guide is an iterative document in that the fellows will continue to work on or adapt various aspects of the process, such as creating more detailed funding and communication strategies or

This policy brief is divided into four parts. First, we provide basic definitions and terminology concerning blocking/filtering. This is followed by an outline of relevant international standards on freedom of expression. We then address the fundamental issues underlying the use of filters and blocking measures. Finally, we provide comprehensive recommendations for legislators, policy and decision makers in this area. The conclusions read as follows: 1. Blanket filtering must be forbidden by law; 2. Filtering should be user-controlled and transparent; 3. Any requirement to block content must be provided by law; 4. Blocking should only be ordered by an independent and impartial court or judiciary body. 5. Blocking orders must be strictly proportionate to the aim pursued. (executive summary) 


The 45 country reports gathered here illustrate the link between the internet and economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs). Some of the topics will be familiar to information and communications technology for development (ICT4D) activists: the right to health, education and culture; the socioeconomic empowerment of women using the internet; the inclusion of rural and indigenous communities in the information society; and the use of ICT to combat the marginalisation of local languages. Others deal with relatively new areas of exploration, such as using 3D printing technology to preserve cultural heritage, creating participatory community networks to capture an “inventory of things” that enables socioeconomic rights, crowdfunding rights, or the negative impact of algorithms on calculating social benefits. Workers’ rights receive some attention, as does the use of the internet during natural disasters. Ten thematic reports frame the country reports. These deal both with overarching concerns when it comes to ESCRs and the internet – such as institutional frameworks and policy considerations – as well as more specific issues that impact on our rights: the legal justification for online education resources, the plight of migrant domestic workers, the use of digital databases to protect traditional knowledge from biopiracy, digital archiving, and the impact of multilateral trade deals on the international human rights framework. The reports highlight the institutional and country-level possibilities and challenges that civil society faces in using the internet to ensure ESCRs. They also suggest that in a number of instances, individuals, groups and communities are using the internet to enact their socioeconomic and cultural rights in the face of disinterest, inaction or censure by the state. (back cover) http://www.giswatch.org/2016-economic-social-and-cultural-rights-escrs-and-internet


This series aims to help human rights defenders develop the tools, skills and knowledge they need to engage effectively in cyber policy debates. The series is structured around five modules. The first four each focus on a different aspect of cyber policy - human rights, cybersecurity, regulatory frameworks and cyber capacity building - with a final regional module highlighting how these apply in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Each module consists of several videos, which take participants through a key cyber issue or concept - explaining how it relates to human rights, who the key actors are, and how and where to engage. (introduction) https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCx0w9GzJMNz1Azkz4zTtcJA


"IT Governance requires public and corporate cybersecurity policies to improve fighting against cybercrime and other violations. The EU, the USA and Brazil have recently developed different regulatory approaches on the subject. Assessing how to design policies in line with them across geographies seems key for effectively managing relevant global issues. After a brief introduction, the article touches on three sample topics: online privacy, open-source platforms, and latest-generation cyber-threats to illustrate how EU, US and Brazil have taken different paths. Each sample topic is analysed in detail and followed by a conclusion indicating how possibly regional or national particularities may be pragmatically reconciled by public and corporate interested parties." (abstract)


"Blurring the Lines: Market-Driven and Democracy-Driven Freedom of Expression focuses on challenges from the market to free speech and how free speech can be protected, promoted and developed when lines between journalism and advertising are blurred. With contributions from 20 scholars in law, media studies and philosophy, it explores an issue deserving greater attention, market pressures on freedom of expression. The role of commercial constraints on speech, restrictions and control of media content and the responsibility of state institutions in protecting free speech are some of the topics scrutinized from a democratic free speech perspective." (back cover) http://www.nordicom.gu.se/sites/default/files/publikationer-hela.pdf/blurring_the_lines.pdf


"The guide is designed to help human rights defenders working on human rights online navigate the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process, with resources and case studies of real life advocacy to help inform and structure engagement. It also provides examples of how the UPR has been used for human rights online, including examples of recommendations that states have accepted relating to the internet, sample civil society reports, advocacy documents, and tips on how to use the UPR to complement ongoing advocacy work.


"Given the distributed and open nature of the Internet, it is reasonable to assume that a distributed and open approach to governance may prove most effective. The multistakeholder efforts examined in this paper have sought to respond to this reality by creating institutions and processes that aim to be more inclusive, participatory and transparent. However, one of the main challenges they have confronted is a lack of systematic analysis or evidence regarding what works, and what doesn’t. Despite over two decades of efforts to develop a new model of governance—despite all the models that have been tried, with varying degrees of success—the field of Internet Governance lacks an evidentiary basis upon which it could continue to innovate." (conclusion) http://www.gp-digital.org/wp-content/uploads/pubs/thepracticeandcraftofmultistakeholderpolicymaking.pdf


"This study encompasses both quantitative and qualitative assessment: On the one hand, the more than 50 evaluated declarations, guidelines, and frameworks are briefly described in the given context; on the other hand, the issues contained in these documents are also qualitatively analyzed. In this, it is evident that multiple initiatives have been taken during the last 25 years. The prevailing impression is of a wide diversity of documents and of attention to diverse Internet Governance principles. The contents of the analyzed documents heavily depend on the given actors and environment at the time of the drafting. Furthermore, some principles (for example freedom of expression, access to information, privacy) have gained much more attention than other principles (for example, multistakeholder participation, ethical behavior, sustainability, education, gender equality)." (executive summary) http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002342/234435e.pdf

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


"The study finds that Kenyan journalists face serious challenges in the course of their work. Further, both State and non-State actors have contributed to a deteriorating climate for journalists. The number of threats, incidents of harassment and intimidation as well as legal and personal attacks, has grown within the period under study." (executive summary) http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002449/244914e.pdf

“This mapping study investigates the ways in which the Kenyan government and other actors have initiated or engaged in multistakeholder processes in order to address cybersecurity-related matters in the country. Based on this, it will identify best practices, gaps and missing links, as well as opportunities and recommendations for improving the cyber policy landscape in the country. The assessment of Kenya’s cybersecurity landscape in this report will identify actors within the government and civil society, as well as existing laws and frameworks, and address the proposed ones, based on the information that is currently available. Unless otherwise stated, all institutions and legislative documents listed here are existent and/or functional.” (p.1) https://www.gp-digital.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Kenya-Cyber-Policy-Mapping-final-1.pdf

AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN


“The idea of rules limiting concentration of media ownership is often cast by media owners as a restriction on their right to freedom of expression. Unfortunately, the behaviour of States in Latin America has often lent support to this perspective, especially when States abuse for political ends their power to provide for regulation of the media. International law has a clear answer to both of these problems. By protecting the rights of both the speaker and the listener, international law provides an alternative view of the claim that limits on media ownership are simply restrictions on freedom of expression. Instead, by promoting a plurality of voices in the public sphere, such limits enhance the right of both listeners to receive a diversity of information and ideas, which is essential to the exercise of full citizenship, political participation, robust cultural expression and many other important values in society. Thus what at first blush may appear as a restriction on the expressive rights of speakers is also a form of protection for the freedom of expression rights of listeners.” (conclusion) http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002480/248091e.pdf

164. Amenazas, mentiras y censura: medios de comunicación en Venezuela. International Media Support (IMS): Open Society Foundations; Article 19, 2016, 28 p. (also published in English)

“Lo que hace algunos años era un escenario de polarización entre medios de comunicación anti-Chávez y pro-Chávez sumamente tendenciosos, lo cual era el reflejo de una sociedad dividida, se ha convertido en un escenario de control gubernamental, directo o indirecto, sobre la mayor parte del discurso público. ... Sin embargo, en medio de este panorama desolador para la libertad de expresión, hay rayos de esperanza: han surgido nuevos medios de comunicación independientes y en su mayoría digitales que están determinados a enfrentar las dificultades y contar la historia de lo que realmente está ocurriendo en Venezuela. Sus reportajes han sido finalistas o ganadores de varios de los premios de periodismo más prestigiosos del continente; uno de estos reportajes documenta precisamente la compra de medios de comunicación por parte de amigos del gobierno, y el consecuente cambio en la línea editorial que obligó a muchos periodistas y editores a renunciar. Las recomendaciones finales de este documento incluyen un llamado para una reforma urgente del marco legal en el que los medios de comunicación operan; el acceso pleno a la información pública y a los funcionarios públicos; y un mayor apoyo para que el periodismo de investigación y los medios independientes en Venezuela se relacionen con colegas en el continente y aumenten su capacidad para informar de manera factual acerca de la situación crítica que vive el país.” (resumen) subjects: media landscapes & media systems; freedom of the press; media assistance: (post-) conflict countries - Venezuela https://www.mediasupport.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Venezuela-report Es 1-final2.pdf


“Lo que hace algunos años era un escenario de polarización entre medios de comunicación anti-Chávez y pro-Chávez sumamente tendenciosos, lo cual era el reflejo de una sociedad dividida, se ha convertido en un escenario de control gubernamental, directo o indirecto, sobre la mayor parte del discurso público. ... Sin embargo, en medio de este panorama desolador para la libertad de expresión, hay rayos de esperanza: han surgido nuevos medios de comunicación independientes y en su mayoría digitales que están determinados a enfrentar las dificultades y contar la historia de lo que realmente está ocurriendo en Venezuela. Sus reportajes han sido finalistas o ganadores de varios de los premios de periodismo más prestigiosos del continente; uno de estos reportajes documenta precisamente la compra de medios de comunicación por parte de amigos del gobierno, y el consecuente cambio en la línea editorial que obligó a muchos periodistas y editores a renunciar. Las recomendaciones finales de este documento incluyen un llamado para una reforma urgente del marco legal en el que los medios de comunicación operan; el acceso pleno a la información pública y a los funcionarios públicos; y un mayor apoyo para que el periodismo de investigación y los medios independientes en Venezuela se relacionen con colegas en el continente y aumenten su capacidad para informar de manera factual acerca de la situación crítica que vive el país.” (resumen) subjects: media landscapes & media systems; freedom of the press; politics and media; government communication strategies; state influence on the media - Venezuela http://www.cadal.org/libros/pdf/Venezuela_bajo_la_Revolucion_Bolivariana.pdf


“Though there is a huge growth in terms of quantity in the media sector in Nepal, journalism remains professionally weak and economically insecure, and the journalists in highly vulnerable condition in terms of physical and psychological safety. Nearly half of the journalists do not have any appointment letter or contract from their employers and the journalism profession in Nepal is characterized by low wages, irregular payments, poor working conditions, and declining credibility among the public. Journalists perceive that they are prone to be victimised by both State and non-State actors, and the prolonged political transition has further complicated their security situation.” (executive summary) http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002482/248237e.pdf


“The future of journalism is impossible to predict in an era of the internet and the media landscape is highly fluid. Business interests have reengaged with Cuba, and the clock is highly unlikely to be rolled back. There is going to be much more digital media in Cuba, and more Cubans are going to go online. The Internet will continue to advance, and the regime’s old monolithic message will become less possible to sustain. The future of journalism is impossible to predict in Cuba, other than to say it is bound to get better. The Cuban journalism of the future is likely to skew to online platforms.” (conclusion) http://www.cima.red.org/resource/cubas-parallel-world-digital-media-crosses-divide/


“...For many years, the media development conversation regarding Cuba has largely shifted to the country’s harsh censorship practices and other restrictions on freedom of expression. Those concerns remain. But with the opening of relations with the United States over the past two years, the conversation has widened. U.S. government and business interests have engaged with Cuba, and the clock is highly unlikely to be rolled back. There is going to be much more digital media in Cuba, and more Cubans are going to go online. The Internet will continue to advance, and the regime’s old monolithic message will become less possible to sustain. The future of journalism is impossible to predict in Cuba, other than to say it is bound to get better. The Cuban journalism of the future is likely to skew to online platforms.” (conclusion) http://www.cima.red.org/resource/cubas-parallel-world-digital-media-crosses-divide/

“As we stand now, Pakistan’s media continues its stratospheric expansion, but in the midst of all this, and amidst growing safety risks, Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka are treading a precarious path to finding credible and independent spaces for the media against economic challenge and political change – one that has surprisingly seen the return of journalist exiles in the case of Sri Lanka. Meanwhile, journalists in the world’s largest democracy in India are standing firm in the face of ongoing direct assaults, wage challenges and threats by governments, security forces and other political and religious powers. And sadly, Afghanistan has found itself in a new war on media as international support withers and the Taliban and the IS amplify their efforts at control as evidenced through the horrific suicide attack on Tolo TV workers in Kabul – the single deadliest attack on the country’s media. But perhaps nowhere has the battle for freedom of expression been as acute and brutal in the past year as Bangladesh. As we prepare to launch this report, there have been two more horrendous murders of individuals working to push the boundaries of free expression– blogger Nazimuddin Samad and editor Zulham Marjan. They are among seven bloggers and journalists killed in the last year and form part of a broader, sustained project of silencing being rudely conducted by fundamentalists and extremists that have turned the country into a killing field for those who dare to speak with an alternate voice.” (foreword, p.4) https://issuu.com/ifjasiapacific/docs/the_road_to_resilience_sapfr_2015-1


“This article introduces the concept of infrastructural action and argues that it serves as a useful analytical tool to understand hacking in the global South. Infrastructural action consists of the delicate ways in which people establish sociotechnical connections when located along the margins of global modernity. In Vietnam, hacking is situated within the illicit circulation of global commodities. These circulations form pervasive infrastructures for clandestine importation of "handcarried" goods into the country. Embedded within these circulations, hacking consists of a strategy for breaking into global techno-cultures rather than breaking out of sociotechnical limitations. This contextualizing hacking within the larger dilemmas of distance within global integration, this notion of infrastructural action serves as a critique of the techno-political ethos of transgression typical of hacking discourses in the global North.” (abstract)

EUROPE


“A survey published by the Council of Europe, based on a sample of 940 journalists reporting from the 47 Council of Europe member states and Belarus, shows that journalists in Europe are often exposed to serious unwarranted interference in their work, including intimidation and violence. As a consequence, many also suffer from fear, which frequently leads to self-censorship. Almost one third of the journalists who participated in the survey, carried out between April and July 2016, had experienced physical assaults over a period of three years. The most common interference, reported by 69% of the journalists, was psychological violence, including intimidation, threats, slandering and humiliation. The second most common interference was cyberbullying, reported by 53%, mostly in the form of accusations of being partisan, personal attacks, public defamation and smear campaigns. Reports of intimidation from interest groups were the third most frequent interference mentioned (50%), followed by being threatened with force (46%), intimidation by political agents (40%) and targeted surveillance (39%) and intimidation by the police (35%).” (Council of Europe website)

executive summary & introduction: https://rm.coe.int/168070ad5d


“In Russia, the state controls strategic media (such as national TV), and restricts independent media and the internet through increasingly repressive legislation. However, there is still some scope for media pluralism, with a few outlets openly criticising the authorities.” (p.1) http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2017/603989/EN/603989_EN.pdf

MIDDLE EAST / WESTERN ASIA & NORTHERN AFRICA


“Morocco’s 2015 Press Code eliminates prison as a punishment for speech offenses. This, on its face, represents progress for freedom of expression in a country where journalists and ordinary citizens have been locked up for “insulting” the king, questioning Morocco’s claim over Western Sahara, or rapping about police corruption. The Red Lines Stay Red: Morocco’s Reform of its Speech Laws analyzes the laws governing speech offenses in Morocco and finds that the recent overhaul falls well short of securing freedom of speech as guaranteed by international conventions and Morocco’s own 2011 constitution. Imprisonment as punishment for crossing Morocco’s famous “red lines”—which outlaw film to Islam, “harmful integrity,” the institution of the monarchy, or the person of the king—is alive and well. While the new press code punishes “red lines” offenses only with the suspension of publications, judges can, thanks to new provisions of the penal code, still hand down prison sentences for these offenses. In addition, the penal code continues to mandate prison sentences for other speech offenses such as “insulting” state institutions or state agents, and broadly defined notions of “pandering terrorism,” “casting discredit in judicial decisions,” and “inciting hatred or discrimination.” (back cover)

https://www.hrw.org/report/2017/05/03/red-lines-stay-red/moroccos-reforms-its-speech-laws


“This paper shows how digital communication technologies enable new and influence tactics of state control beyond borders. Based on interviews with Iranian activists and journalists who were forced to leave the country after the controversial elections of 2009, I analyze mechanisms and aims of repressive measures targeting exiled dissidents. I argue that in an environment of intense transnational communication and information exchange, authoritarian regimes can monitor and respond to the activities of political exiles rapidly and on a large scale. State actors seek to undermine the links of exiles into the country (horizontal voice) as well as to punish claims to public attention that challenge the regime’s position in the domestic and international arenas (vertical voice). With these measures, authorities pursue a parallel strategy: expanding authoritarian power and practices beyond borders while distancing political exiles from contacts in the home country.” (abstract)

http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14747731.2016.1263078

Gender & Media

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


“This practice briefing sets out what BBC Media Action has learned about how media can provide a platform for both men and women to hold their leaders to account, while empowering them to participate in their own communities. Unpacking the challenges faced and the solutions found, it will bring together practice and research to examine how effective our factual programmes have been in reaching and impacting on men and women equally. The paper argues that these projects have been effective in building political knowledge, levels of discussion of governance issues and political participation among both men and women. However, it also draws the tentative conclusion that, in Nepal and Bangladesh, the programmes may be less effective at empowering female audiences to participate in politics than men. After setting out the global picture for gender and governance, the paper outlines BBC Media Action’s approach to supporting women to participate in their communities and hold their leaders to account. It then unpacks the challenges of creating gender-sensitive governance programmes and weighs up how successful BBC Media Action has been in reaching and impacting women. The paper concludes with some recommendations to inform future programming.” (BBC Media Action website) http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/mediaaction/pdf/practicebriefings/empowering-women-through-media-report.pdf


“Free Press Unlimited believes that gender equality is central to achieving its overall long-term objective that media and journalists constitute a diverse and professional media landscape and function as change agents. As such, they contribute to the overall vision of a just, inclusive and peaceful society. Inclusive refers to men and women of all ages and backgrounds. Free Press Unlimited’s focus on equal access, opportunities and rights for men and women media practitioners is based on existing and persisting gaps and stereotypes in media and society that often benefit men over women. To contribute to bridging these gaps, Free Press Unlimited adopted the thematic area Gender & Media. Its vision of success is: ‘Media actively advocate for gender equality and work towards increased participation and decision making of women in and through the media.” The Gender Equality Policy reinforces this commitment and outlines the organisation’s objectives and standards in relation to gender and the media. The objective of this policy is to promote gender equality in the programmes, in partnerships and cooperation with organisations within the organisation itself and in external communication.” (p.3)

Contents: Building A Winning Organisation -- Mint, India -- La Silla Vacia, Colombia -- Die Tageszeitung, Germany -- The Zimbabwean -- Gannett Co., Inc., United States -- South Kivu Women's Media Association, Democratic Republic Of Congo -- Arab Reporters For Investigative Journalism (Anji), Jordan -- Bloomberg News, United States -- Making Every Voice Count, Gender Media Policy, Botswana -- British Broadcasting Corporation, United Kingdom. 

http://www.osce.org/fm/220417?download=true

Contents: Communication, Gender, and Development -- Communicating Gender in Microenterprise Development -- Communicating Gender in Population Development -- Communicating Gender in Education Development -- Advocating Accountability for Gender Justice. 

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


"Evidence from the study reveals that the visibility of women (candidates or voters) during coverage of the 2016 general elections in Uganda was signifi cantly low relative to that of men, not only in terms of being read about or being heard, but also being seen in public. The study by UMWA show that the representation of women as news subjects was only 20% as opposed to 80% for men, emanating from the study also is that there is a direct linkage between one's status in Ugandan society -- sex, occupation, and family status -- and the likelihood of being covered in election related stories and providing additional information, in the case of the role, news subjects or the source play in the news stories." [executive summary] 

*The report examines the links between the media's promotion of unequal gender power relations based on stereotypical images of men and women and men's and women's expressions of dominance, control and violence in their everyday relationships with women and girls. It also explores media representations of men and women in decision-making and leadership roles. Finally, it identifies the factors that support or constrain media professionals in promoting gender equitable masculine images and profiles selected mass media programmes that endeavour to reflect and promote gender equality." [executive summary] 
http://www.v4c-nigeria.com/download/1499/

ASIA & PACIFIC

187. Andrea Cornwall: Save us from saviours: disrupting development narratives of the rescue and uplift of the 'Third World woman'. In: Oscar Hemer, Thomas Tufte: Voice & matter: communication, development and the cultural return. Göteborg: Nordicom, University of Gothenburg, 2016, p.139-154 
“...The images used to market development often feature women, as victims of terrible traditions and disempowering situations, or – more commonly these days – as enterprising agents of change, poised to ‘lift’ economies and their families and communities. These images tell a story of victims and heroines, representing development as a project of uplift and rescue. The politics of these representations. It takes as its point of entry a film project that sought to disrupt these narratives, producing a short film called Save us from Saviours. Engaging with those often represented as tragic victims and left out of the story of enterprising entrepreneurs to tell a story about sex work, collective action and social change, the film speaks to a set of larger questions about development intervention. Juxtaposing Save us from Saviours with another film, made at the same time about some of the same people, which gave rise to a third film, made by the sex workers in response, the chapter reflects on the complexities of development communications in an age of global connectivity." [abstract] 

MIDDLE EAST / WESTERN ASIA & NORTHERN AFRICA

This study examines why female journalists in an Arab country continue to be marginalized. It hypothesized that a set of interrelated factors, pertaining to gender discrimination, sexual harassment, and the lack of a legally and socially enabling environment, work together to systematically disempower, down and push those who made it out of the profession, and keep those who have endured down and silenced in specific roles away from decision-making and policy-setting positions. The study uses a mixed-methods approach, including a survey of 250 Lebanese, Arab and international female journalists working in Lebanon, qualitative interviews with 26 female journalists, as well as analysis of ownership documents and minutes of board meetings. Findings suggest that structural, institutional and cultural obstacles that have faced women for centuries around the globe continue to operate with potent effects in Lebanon, and by extension in the Arab region." [abstract] 

Health Communication

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL

189. Ravindra Kumar Vemula, SubbaRaO M. Gavararavapu (eds.): Health communication in the changing media landscape: perspectives from developing countries. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016, xxv, 238 p. (Global Transformations in Media and Communication Research) 

Part IV. Emerging Issues.


“Drawing on BBC Media Action’s work on maternal and child health with governmental and non-governmental partners in Bangladesh, India and Ethiopia, this paper discusses: the value of these partnerships for successful health communication; the part played by media and communication in wider health interventions; ways to include those with no access to mass media; how to spark discussions that underpin journeys of change; the best techniques for working together to produce long-lasting results. It concludes that by working together from the outset, media organisations and others working to improve people’s health can help support each other to ensure that health communication reaches its full potential to change lives.” (BBC Media Action website) http://download.bbc.co.uk/mediaaction/pdf/practicebriefings/a-bigger-splash.pdf


“Through a careful review of the evidence, this briefing offers a spirited case for why donors, practitioners and developing country governments need to pay more attention to the role of communication in tackling global health. The briefing finds that: Communication has been central to public health developments from Ebola to polio and from HIV to child survival. While health policy officials recognize the importance of health communication, it often remains poorly funded, under-utilised and badly planned in public health programmes. Even when it does prioritise communication, public health programming often fails to contribute to a body of knowledge around the role of social and behaviour change communications (SBCC). Progress has been stymied by the complexity of social and behaviour change communication, debates around ‘what counts’ as evidence, and the learning and capacity-strengthening gaps within the health communication field. Donors should ensure that their staff are familiar with the health communication evidence base and lessons learned from past programmes, so that they are equipped to plan and evaluate proposals for new communication interventions effectively.” (BBC Media Action website)


AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


“Following decades of civil war, South Sudan still lacks a functioning healthcare system and has some of the worst maternal and child health indicators in the world. To help address this, between 2012 and 2017 BBC Media Action produced and broadcast a range of national radio programmes seeking to influence knowledge, attitudes, discussion and the social norms most likely to drive improvements in the RMNCH-related behaviours of women and their families. It also worked to strengthen the capacity of local radio stations to produce similar high-quality, audience-driven health programming.

This report presents a synthesis of all research and analysis completed under this project. In brief, it finds that the challenging country context (e.g. the limited availability of quality healthcare nationally and the ongoing humanitarian crisis) limited the extent to which the project was able to contribute to improved health outcomes. Despite this, audiences were generally optimistic about the shows’ influence and value, and reported gaining knowledge and making some behavioural changes as a result of tuning in. Likewise, local radio station partners reported that the capacity-strengthening support had improved their technical skills, editorial confidence and engagement with audiences.” (BBC Media Action website)

http://download.bbc.co.uk/mediaaction/pdf/country-reports/south-sudan-global-grant.pdf


“This practice briefing sets out what BBC Media Action learned in delivering and supporting health communication in response to the Ebola crisis in West Africa in 2014–15. It has a particular focus on Sierra Leone as this was the hub of the organisation’s response. The paper aims to contribute to a body of knowledge about how to best harness and deploy media and communication in public health emergencies. It also underscores the need for the global community to plan and invest in communication long before any crises take hold, to ensure that communication plays a central role in reducing the impact of future crisis events. The paper sets out the specific communication challenge posed by Ebola and why it was so difficult to get grips with this in the early months of the outbreak. It then documents when the health communication response became more useful and explores what that tells us about effective media and communication. Finally, it offers recommendations to ensure that media and communication are used to their full potential during other disease outbreaks or humanitarian crises.” (BBC Media Action website)


“This study examined the use of a locally developed storytelling prompt as an alternative medium for HIV and AIDS messages and prevention messages among rural university students in Limpopo Province, South Africa. An assessment of first-year students’ (n=21) response to a storytelling stimulus with local and familiar content shows a high uptake of the content messages in six persuasive narrative mediators: recall, narrative interest, absorption, identification with the main character, intention to commit to at least one health behaviour and self-efficacy. There were statistically significant correlations between narrative mediators and socially desirable responses. There was no significant correlation between motivation to recall and intention to commit to at least one health behaviour. Within the narrative theory framework, I argue for differentiated and culturally sensitive strategies and modes on HIV and AIDS communication to broaden the scope of focus to marginal areas where educational entertainment (EE) programmes may be inaccessible and ineffective. Finally, I discuss opportunities for further research that assess the effectiveness of local stories on a larger scale.” (abstract)


ICTs, Information Society, Telecommunications

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


“This report focuses on the difficulties faced by operators in emerging markets looking to deliver data bandwidth cost effectively to challenging locations, including remote communities and busy cities. While the challenges are myriad, improvements in technology are increasingly making the business case viable and allowing operators to extend their reach to areas that just a few years ago would have been logically and financially unfeasible to connect. This report has compiled the lessons learned in this field to discuss the most appropriate and efficient technologies for the various use cases of last mile connectivity.” (foreword)


“This annual report presents a global and regional overview of the latest developments regarding information and communication technologies (ICTs), based on internationally comparable data and aims to update and supplement the ICT policy debate in ITU Member States by providing an objective assessment of how countries have performed in the field of ICT and by highlighting areas that need further improvement. One of the core features of the Report is the ICT Development Index (IDI). This year’s results show that nearly all of the 175 countries covered by the index improved their IDI values between 2015 and 2016. During the same period, stronger improvements have been made in mobile broadband than in fixed broadband. ICT Development Index values are calculated by the ITU on the basis of one year of comparable data and agreed methodologies. It aims to stimulate the ICT policy debate in countries and by highlighting areas that need further improvement. The report also shows countries’ rankings according to their improvement in IDI value. The results show strong improvements in performance throughout the world; a number of middleincome developing countries in particular are reaping the benefits of more liberal and competitive markets that encourage innovation and ICT uptake across all sectors. Despite these encouraging developments, we need to focus on the countries that are among the least connected in the world. Urgent action is required to address this persistent digital divide if we want to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) enshrined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. For example, the Report
showed that in some low-income countries, between 20 and 40 per cent of people still do not own a mobile phone and that the gender gap in mobile phone ownership is substantially higher.* (foreword) http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Documentations/publications/mir2016/MSR2016WV.pdf

“Digital technologies have spread rapidly in much of the world. Digital dividends—the broader development benefits from using these technologies—have lagged behind. In many instances digital technologies have boosted growth, expanded opportunities, and improved service delivery. Yet their aggregate impact has fallen short and is unevenly distributed. For digital technologies to benefit everyone everywhere requires closing the remaining digital divide, especially in internet access. But greater digital adoption will not be enough. To get the most out of the digital revolution, countries also need to work on the “analog complements”—by strengthening regulations that ensure competition among businesses, by adapting workers’ skills to the demands of the new economy, and by ensuring that institutions are accountable.” (overview, p.2) http://www.wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2016/01/13/090224b06405e5a6262_0/Rendered/PDF/WorldDevatomp000digitaldividends.pdf

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN

"Although most Africans remain disconnected from the Internet, and access to broadband services continues to be a central policy issue, the increased availability of broadband services alone will not reduce digital inequality on the continent. While the provision of access to the Internet remains a key public policy issue — as a necessary condition of digital participation in the economy and society — it is insufficient. Even where networks and services are available, large numbers of people are unable to access these services affordably or use them optimally to enhance their social and economic well-being, unlike in more mature economies, where levels of human development and equality are higher. Demand stimulation measures — such as the reduction of prices to make services more affordable, the development of relevant local content and applications, the enhancement of citizens’ e-literacy and national skills development plans — are the focus areas of this paper. It examines alternative policy and regulatory interventions to so-called “international best practice” — assuming in the process certain political and economic conditions, by recognizing the institutional and resource constraints that generally exist in African countries — and proposes multiple strategies across the ICT ecosystem that could result in more inclusive digital development." (executive summary) https://www.cigionline.org/sites/default/files/documents/GC%20nn.49_0.pdf

"In this article we depart from studies on empowerment and its intersections with the informal economy and market women in the Global South and promises of the mobile phone in so-called developing regions. Conducting an explorative study among market women from isolated communities confront specific challenges that we need to consider in policy-making decisions." (abstract)

AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN

"This study explored the interplay between contextual and individual factors related to Internet adoption in isolated rural communities. By investigating 10 remote villages throughout Chile that received Internet access infrastructure in 2010-2011, we identified 3 areas in which contextual and individual factors are intertwined. First, the geographical isolation shaped people’s personality and attitudes towards new experiences, including digital technologies. Second, the communities’ aging population also represented a strong challenge because they lack young people, a relevant technology socialization agent. Finally, jobs and economic activities are related to people’s (lack of) motivations and needs toward digital technologies. When the Internet has reached the vast majority of the population, isolated communities confront specific challenges that we need to consider in policy-making decisions.” (abstract)

ASIA & PACIFIC

‘An emerging topic in the development field is how information and communication technologies (ICT) can be used for economic and social development. The general approach relies on technological determinism, whereby the discussion revolves around how and to what extent will ICT support development. It assumes the benefits of ICT as inherent. This approach ignores that ICT is created and experienced within a socially divisive and complex space. A more critical and sociological analysis is needed for development studies to better understand the implications of ICT initiatives. In this article, I argue that Saskia Sassen’s social re-conceptualization of technology and society as embedded avoids this technological determinism and allows social theorists to account for social and material aspects of ICT. To support this alternative framework, I present a case study of a rural ICT initiative in Gujarat, India, and discuss how this re-conceptualization reveals more nuanced understanding of ICT and society. Based on interviews and field research, I find that technology creates new social understandings for the rural ICT users, but also that society shapes the technology to make it inaccessible for them.” (abstract)

This article presents the attitudinal response of rural villagers in Papua New Guinea to mobile cell phones based on a qualitative study that examined their adoption. The research indicates that the introduction of mobile telecommunications has generally been viewed positively, with mobile phones affording social interaction with loved ones. Nonetheless, negative concerns have been strongly felt, notably financial costs and anxiety about mobile phones aiding in the coordination of extramartial liaisons and criminal activities. The communities investigated previously had scant access to modern communication technologies, some still using traditional means such as wooden slit drums, known locally as garamuts. The expansion of mobile network coverage has introduced into communal village life the capability to communicate dyadically and privately at a distance. Investigation into the adoption of mobile phones thus promotes understanding about traditional means of communication and notions of public and private interactions.” (abstract)

EUROPE

"Unfortunately, the Internet has fallen short of its promises in some other aspects, as its benefits have not fully reached people in the bottom of the income distribution. For example, skilled workers are better able to leverage the Internet to increase their earnings, whereas unskilled workers face a higher risk of having their jobs automated. High-productivity firms are more likely to use the Internet to grow their business, while mom-and-pop stores face the risk of being displaced. Rich countries, which tend to have stronger institutions than poorer countries, are better equipped to use the Internet to fight corruption and hold public officials accountable. In other words, the past three decades have shown that the benefits of achieving universal Internet access or increasing the size of the information and communication technology sector will not fully materialize unless governments improve their business environment, invest in human capital, and enhance their institutions. This message cannot be emphasized enough, especially for countries in the ECA region with a long tradition of distortionary industrial policies aimed at sherrypicking winners and losers. Reaping Digital Dividends: Leveraging the Internet for Development in Europe and Central Asia provides a framework for governments in the region to maximize the impact of the Internet on poverty reduction and shared prosperity. It highlights the diverse yet surmountable set of challenges. Although many people in the East remain unconnected, the experience of their neighbors to the West shows that achieving nearly universal Internet access does not guarantee success. For example, several factors hamper technology adoption among firms, while rigid regulations constrain the expansion of the sharing economy. This report argues that reaping digital dividends requires policies focused not only on the telecommunications sector but also on the analog complements, such as skills and the business environment. It also highlights that governments should be prepared to address the disruptive effects of new technologies and facilitate the transition of displaced workers to new and more productive jobs.” (foreword) https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/26151/9781464910251.pdf
International Communication, Foreign News, Public Diplomacy

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


Contents: Mediatization of Foreign Policy Decision-Making -- The Scope Conditions of Mediatized Foreign Policy -- Design and Methodological Concerns -- Mediatization in the United Nations General Assembly -- Political Logic at Play in Côte d'Ivoire -- Mixed Logics at Play in Libya -- Conclusion: Toward a Theory on the Variation of Mediatization of Foreign Policy.


Contents: Media studies -- Global studies -- Political economy -- Policy and governance -- Mobile telephony (with Richard Maxwell) -- The United States of America as global media behemoth (with Bill Grannaham) -- Textual analysis -- Reality television -- Audiences -- Conclusion.


AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


This article examines the depiction of three impoverished Lagosian slums in the controversial British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) documentary, Welcome to Lagos, which highlights the negative impacts of globalised capitalism on urban culture in Nigeria’s commercial centre and biggest city. In recent times scholarship on postcolonial urbanisation has been marked by an important shift in focus from economic concerns to interest in the peculiar cultural dimensions of life in postcolonial cities. As this article argues, however, dominant depictions of postcolonial cities continue to highlight ways in which cultural responses to the harsh effects of late capitalism in such cities reflect economic strategies of what Mike Davis calls "informal survivalism." (abstract)

https://journals.sub.uni-hamburg.de/gqpp/article/view/1023/1030


"This article argues that when it comes to reporting conflicts in the developing world the western press ignores the private sphere of economic activity because it privileges a narrative of people fighting over the nation state, as well as political ideologies and territory gained and lost. This choice of media framing matters in how western audiences understand the complexity of resource wars. To explore this concept further I examine American and British press coverage of conflict diamonds in the civil wars fought in Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Sierra Leone in the pages of four western newspapers of record: The Guardian (UK), The Times (UK), The New York Times (US) and the Washington Post (US). Overall, while conflict diamonds were present in the reporting, the press ignored the full extent of involvement of private companies and international capital in the financing and trading of diamonds to fuel war." (abstract)


"For decades international radio broadcasters on the African continent were considered the tools of Western imperialism, ideological weapons in the Cold War. Yet international radio broadcasters have also provided a conduit for the delivery of alternative supply of information in times of state monopoly of the media and when there was a lack of freedom of expression. Over the past 20 years, the media have become more open and numerous in the countries of French-speaking Africa and, as a result, international broadcasters have had to redefine their strategies. Based on expert interviews, this study examines the positioning of "historically established" international radio broadcasters by looking into the strategies of 2 of them, Radio France Internationale and Deutsche Welle." (abstract)


AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN


"This study examines whether changes in the media, political, and civic landscapes give leading non-governmental organizations (NGOs) increased news access. Using longitudinal content analysis (1990-2010) of a purposive sample of US news outlets, it compares the prevalence, prominence, and story location of news articles citing leading human rights NGOs to human rights coverage more generally. In all outlets, NGO prevalence rises over time; media-savvy NGOs drive much of the growth. By contrast, prominence decreases, as do the number of NGO-driven stories. In all outlets, NGOs typically appear in stories already in the media spotlight; as sources, they appear after the statements of government officials. Finally, the news outlets most receptive to NGOs appear to be those that commit the fewest resources to international news coverage. Overall, the findings suggest that while NGO news access has indeed increased over time, such access continues to be shaped by established patterns of news construction." (abstract)

http://www.cima.ned.org/resource/beyond-great-firewall-china-became-global-information-power/


"This article focuses on the case of Google, the newly emerged US Internet industry and global geographical market expansion. Google's struggles in China, where Chinese domestic Internet firm, Baidu, controls the market, have been commonly presented in the Western mainstream media in terms of a struggle over a strategic information infrastructure between two nation-states – newly emerging global power China countering the United States, the world’s current hegemon and information empire. Is China really becoming an imperial rival to the United States? What is the nature of this opposition over this new industry? Given that the search engine industry in China is heavily backed by transnational capital - and in particular US capital - and is experiencing intense inter-capitalist competition, this perceived view of inter-state rivalry is incomplete and misleading. By looking at the tussle over the global search business, this article seeks to illuminate the changing dynamics of the US-led transnationalizing capitalism in the context of China’s reintegration into the global capitalist market."

(abstract)


- Subjects: China Central Television (CCTV); transnational / international television - China
http://reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/Expansion%20of%20International%20Broadcasting_0.pdf

EUROPE


"Currently, no dedicated agency or systematic effort analyzes the effect of Russian (or any other) disinformation. Who really watches Russia Today? Where? For how long? And why? Nor do we have the means to systematically track the content: How does the Kremlin’s message in Germany differ from the line in Sweden or Poland? Our case studies, combined with an ongoing effort at CEPA to identify and monitor Russian propaganda in parts of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) show the variety of Russia’s means and messaging. But the lack of a coherent picture constrains our ability to respond in both quantitative and qualitative terms. We recommend: Regular, targeted means and messaging. But the lack of a coherent picture constrains our ability to respond in both quantitative and qualitative terms. We recommend: Regular, targeted means and messaging."


"The study confirms that after the fall of communism and the establishment of pluralistic democracy in the country, the conditions were created for the emergence and development of free, independent and pluralistic media. This led to a multiplication of the capacities and space also for international reporting. However, throughout the past 25 years after the fall of communism. Nevertheless, during the last decade, due to the crisis in the media and because of the emergence of new channels of online information, a decline has been noticed in international news in the press and television. These media outlets do not have a special editorial structure for international news and it is mainly covered by the news department or newsroom. Meanwhile, human resources for this field have been shrinking in about 40% of the media outlets. Because of economic difficulties, Albanian media also lack or have a very limited number of correspondents abroad. Thus, none of the newspapers has correspondents in other countries.” (Conclusions, p.58-59)


"The structural conditions of journalism are shaped by legacies of the past (marked by non-democratic regimes and sometimes colonial rule) and persisting power structures. The state and powerful political actors are perceived to play an important role in the media sector, mirrored in different forms of political interference directed at newsrooms and individual journalists in the way of repressive legal frameworks, political ownership and advertising, economic censorship and blackmail, as well as threats directed at the physical and psychological safety of journalists. Journalists perceive the relationship between different communities in society to be reflected in the constitution of and atmosphere among newsroom staff. Even though journalists operate in a more liberal environment than under authoritarian rule in Kenya, Serbia and South Africa, media privatization has created new dependencies and pressures: Against the background of profit-making pressures in capitalist and highly commercialised media markets, journalists claim to work under precarious working conditions, marked by time constraints due to short-staffed newsroom and juniorisation, high professional insecurity and poor salaries arguably making journalists vulnerable to bribery and corruption. Challenges relating to journalistic professionalism also translate into insufficient training on conflict-sensitive reporting and safety measures for journalists reporting on conflicts, low professional organisation and self-regulation, as well as a lack of professional solidarity and prestige.” (executive summary) http://www.mecdem.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Lohner-Neveral-Banjac-2017-Structural-working-conditions-of-journalism-in-Egypt-Kenya-Serbia-and-South-Africa.pdf


- Subjects: mentoring; media assistance; journalism training - criteria catalogues / frameworks / guidelines

222. Judith Lohner, Sandra Banjac, Irene Neveral: Journalistic practices, role perceptions and ethics in democratisation conflicts: empirical findings from interviews with journalists in Egypt, Kenya, Serbia and South Africa. Media, Conflict and Democratisation (MeCoDEM), 2016, 82 p.

- Contents:

The role of journalism in contemporary society is highly debated and highly contested all over the world, even more so in the context of young democracies. We note that in societies where journalism faces constant threats of tighter government control and where even the most innocuous piece of reporting might be criticised, undermined, even censored, the role of journalism is particularly thin but necessary line between the institutionally professional and the ethical-legal. Where journalists are subjected to rebukes, harassment, torture, and worse, by government and public officials, we argue that we need not only reaffirm the role of journalism but even more so investigative journalism, and uncover the political and social factors driving current trends in Caribbean countries. (abstract)


"An academic revolution in higher education during the past half century has been marked by transformations unprecedented in scope and diversity. Simultaneously, the significant changes in the mediascape of southern and eastern Africa over the past two decades have replaced total state control with a degree of liberalization, while the digital revolution has changed the access to, and the content of, media and programming. This article argues that the production of postgraduate scholars, particularly at the doctoral level, is a useful indicator of the way in which capacity building in higher education – specifically, higher education for media and journalism studies – is being undertaken. This desk research article synthesizes the trends in media and academia under six headings: 1. structure and regulation; 2. end users – audiences, readers and viewers and students; 3. content delivery – programmes and curricula; 4. human resources; 5. digital technology and new media; and 6. financial sustainability." (abstract)

"Journalsists’ organisations play a key role to defend the rights of journalists and equip them to cope with the challenges of the changing labour market. Journalists’ organisations themselves also undergo changes to renew their commitment and strategies to counter new challenges. This handbook … contains inspiring examples from EFJ members, including: recruiting and organising strategies to reach out to young and other types of journalists; development of new services and training opportunities catering for the need of different members; continue to defend the labour rights of journalists through collective bargaining and innovative campaigns; advocate the protection of the professional and social security of all journalists, in particular those of freelance and precarious workers, through national and European legislation; lobby for strong authors' rights protection for journalists and fair contacts." (introduction)


MIDDLE EAST / WESTERN ASIA & NORTHERN AFRICA


“This study aims to identify Jordanian journalists’ awareness of the basic concepts of journalistic professionalism by addressing four sets of media quality standards, as abstracted from several studies. Notable among those sets are journalistic content standards, the performance quality standards of newsrooms, institutional standards, and standards of news selection. Furthermore, the study attempts to identify the difference between an awareness of specific standards of professionalism and quality, and a realization of media institutions’ actual practices. The responses of 200 journalists revealed a reasonable awareness of the basic concepts of quality and professionalism. However, there was a gap between Jordanian journalists’ realization of quality and professionalism standards and media institutions’ actual applications of those standards. By way of concluding, this study recommended that media institutions should adopt quality concepts. In addition, they should bridge the gap between standards and actual media practices by means of independence protection; separation between ownership and editing; and restraining external intervention. Also, media institutions should work towards increasing the level of their performance quality with respect to localism standards, their use of sources, pluralism, accuracy, social responsibility, criteria of news selection, and preparing relevant guidelines." (abstract)

Media Assistance

235. Laura Schneider: Media freedom indices in the media development context: how the different information tools can be used. Bonn: Deutsche Welle DW Akademie, 2016, 10 p. (Edition DW Akademie)

“The existing international media freedom indices provide a variety of different information tools that contain important knowledge for media development practitioners. As shown, the different tools are of varying significance for the relevant purposes within the media development context: while some measures mainly supply general data that provide a broad overview, others publish less information tools but more detailed information about specific aspects ... In summary, the presented media freedom assessments should never be used as the only source of information. Rather, their data should generally be verified and validated against other knowledge sources. This is especially true because of the shortcomings of the indices’ methodological frameworks. Especially the two global rankings were developed by a few people mostly from Western countries, and their indicators are evaluated by very few people. In turn, the results of such a small group can be subjective and potentially biased. Hence, media development practitioners should be informed about how the assessments are compiled in order to be able to critically reflect their findings. Consequently, the international media freedom indices should be used in the context of media development, but they should be used with caution." (conclusion)


“Funding to support independent media remains a small, but vital part of international assistance. But while the share of aid directed at this issue remains steady, there are signs that priorities within this field of international support may be shifting. This report looks at the trends identified by CIMA in its efforts to profile the major donors in the field of media development assistance, situating the emerging priorities within a brief history of the field. Assistance to media development, the report suggests, is beginning to acknowledge the importance of supporting media ecosystems more broadly, though perhaps not as quickly as some observers would like." (key findings)

http://www.cima.net.org/publication/slowly-shifting-field


“The growing trend of non-profit journalism has received much attention of late, but this report takes a unique look at how non-profit funding is affecting journalism in the Global South. Amidst the collapse of traditional business models for news organizations, funding from philanthropic foundations may be critical for the survival of independence, in-depth news – especially in environments where news independence is also threatened. But the report also points to the risk that non-profit funding may carry its own threats for independence journalism. The report offers insights into how such non-profit funding can help to sustain news reporting, while ensuring that the independence of the press is respected." (CIMA website)

http://www.cima.net.org/publication/beds-different-dreams-charitable-foundations-newsroom-independence-global-south


“How does donor funding affect the independence, role perceptions, and ideology of the journalism it supports? We begin to answer this increasingly important but underresearched question with a year-long case study of the humanitarian news organisation IRIN as it transitioned from being funded by the United Nations to a private foundation, run by a Malaysian billionaire. Using case studies, in-depth interviews, and ethnographic research, we document the changes that occurred in IRIN’s outputs, target audience, and public service values, and the complex interplay of influences that produced these changes. We find that, in this case, donor power operated entirely indirectly and always in concert with the dominant professional values within IRIN. In doing so, this case study highlights the importance of journalistic agency and contextual variables in the journalist–donor relationship, as well as the potential significance of contradictory dynamics. We also use this case to test whether Benson, Hessérus and Sedel’s model of media owner power can help to explain the workings of donor power." (abstract)


“The purpose of this document is to define IREX’s new approach to information with vibrant information systems. This will enable IREX to help partners and people generate, disseminate, consume, and use content that matters and take positive transformative action. The document provides the foundation for IREX program design, implementation, and technical products." (introduction)


“This paper discusses a number of ways in which media plays a part in increasing accountability. It draws on quantitative and qualitative data from BBC Media Action’s work in nine countries. It finds that: Media can influence accountability by empowering people, creating opportunities for constructive public debate and influencing power; Development donors and practitioners need to integrate media more fully into their empowerment and accountability strategies. In 2017 BBC Media Action will complete a six year, multi-country project to support improved accountability through public dialogue. Partnering with over 135 media and civil society organisations, BBC Media Action supported broadcast programmes that have reached more than 190 million people. In 2016, the governance programmes supported by BBC Media Action reached an average of 37% of the adult population of the countries in which they were broadcast. This paper seeks to explore how the lessons from that support can contribute to the wider empowerment and accountability agenda, and to set out challenges for the future of media, empowerment and accountability work." (BBC Media Action website)


This paper outlines BBC Media Action’s approach to Governance and Rights and our strategy for achieving impact in this area. This paper builds on the significant advances in our Governance and Rights practice, research and policy initiatives since the last approaches and strategy paper in 2013. The key updates to the 2013 approach are: An increased focus on conflict and fragility, Prioritisation of empowerment of women and girls, Expansion of the use of online in our work, Adoption of a new framework for how we share change; empowering people, creating space and influencing policy.” (p.1) http://download.bbc.co.uk/mediaaction/pdf/governance-and-rights-approach-2016.pdf


“Data has the potential to help communities understand their biggest challenges – why people became sick or well, why development initiatives succeed or fail, how many people have the skills or inclination to engage with data directly. That’s where data journalists and the open data community come in. This report looks at the Internews Approach to data journalism as well as data journalism in Myanmar’s emerging open data community.” (Internews website) https://www.internews.org/sites/default/files/Internews_Myanmar_Data_Journalism_2016-10.pdf


“This policy briefing examines the prospects for media being able to play that role, especially in fragile settings. It concludes that the evidence supporting the effectiveness of media as an accountability actor continues to mount even when the performance of other anti-corruption measures are called into question. It looks at the increasingly pressing question of facing independent media in fragile states, especially those of political corruption and a reduction in media freedom. It suggests that these pressures are intensifying precisely because media is so effective at holding power to account and exposing corruption. It argues that independent media need more attention from international development actors not only financially but also through their strategic focus and influence they can bring to bear to supporting media freedom. Without it, such media are more likely to struggle to survive and corruption can be expected to increase.” (BBC Media Action website) http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/mediaaction/policybriefing/curbing-corruption-in-fragile-settings-report.pdf


“Media development organisations regard polarisation and a lack of ethical standards as the main problems in conflict societies. Our interviews with both Europe-based and local media development actors show that their support programmes address journalists as enablers of an inclusive public discourse and as proponents of the human right to freedom of expression. Assistance for journalists increasingly considers the bigger newsroom structure, taking the form of long term counselling or mentoring and often focusing on professional standards and ethics. In addition, media development actors emphasise a need for increased cooperation within the sector, highlighting the need for coordination of media development in foreign policy and a more thorough understanding of local conditions before commencing engagement on the ground.” (executive summary) http://www.mecodem.eu/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Drefs-Thomass-2016_Policy_Brief_Supporting-Journalism-in-Conflict-Societies.pdf


“This paper explores the role professional independent media and journalists can play in circumstances where people’s very survival may rely upon trustworthy information about conflicting factions, violence, or rescue efforts. It also looks at the approaches that have been tried and tested in light of the major challenges faced by the international media development community at local and regional levels. These efforts in fostering quality journalism as a public good in itself can support the realisation of other human rights. A professional and pluralistic media environment does not only provide the necessary information to survive from one day to the next, it can also maximise the chances for dialogue and help reconciliation and political transformation processes. It can be argued that media development cooperation in areas of conflict and in countries with authoritarian regimes is needed the most. However, it also faces the largest obstacles in being able to reach the right stakeholders, being effective, and keeping all those involved secure.” (p.3) http://www.dw.com/downloads/35706157/dw-akademiejurrat-media-development-in-regions-of-conflict2016.pdf


“This paper examines the theory and practice of media development by differentiating two major models: The good governance and the sustainable livelihoods strand. Based on this the author questions how governments, organizations, and civil society today collaboratively rethink and organize media systems to enable them to consolidate good governance and development. His critical analysis shows that a great deal of development and reconstruction assistance is invested in strengthening democratic and independent media systems and institutions, an approach conceptualized as media development. This paper takes the case that the discussion on media development is biased towards Western theory and approaches as it has not examined media development approaches outside the dominant syntaxes of neoliberal governance frameworks.” (abstract) http://www.dw.com/downloads/35955815/mediadevmanyozoeditionsdwakademie2016.pdf


This report describes how media development practitioners perceive the expansion of the Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) agenda’s influence into various aspects of their field, and the different and sometimes ambivalent ways in which they respond to these perceptions. Two conclusions emerge strongly from these interviews. The first is that the efforts to distance CVE conceptually from media development are not providing the guidance needed to navigate an increasingly blurry line between the two fields in practice. The second is that audience reception studies and investments in media literacy are needed, yet receive inadequate attention in CVE efforts and funding.” (conclusion) http://www.cima.net.org/resource/media-development-countering-violent-extremism/


Increased political participation is seen as central to building accountability between citizens and leaders. Through debate and other factual programmes BBC Media Action uses media and communication to foster participation by providing information, stimulating discussion and enabling people to interact directly with decision-makers. Using quantitative data from seven countries (Bangladesh, Kenya, Nepal, Nigeria, Myanmar, Tanzania and Sierra Leone), the report explores the links between watching and listening to governance programmes and political participation, as well as the key drivers of participation: political knowledge, discussion and efficacy. The findings are clear and consistent: BBC Media Action’s audiences participate more than people who do not listen or watch its programmes, even when taking other influencing factors – such as age, income and interest in politics – into account. There is also a strong, positive association between exposure to BBC Media Action programmes and political knowledge and discussion. Finally, the findings also suggest that exposure to governance programmes can have a “compensating effect” on the political participation of groups who have historically been less engaged in politics – those who are young, literate and less interested in politics.” (BBC Media Action website) http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/mhttp/mediaaction/pdf/research/political-participation-research-report.pdf


“This paper strives to highlight the significant lack of audience research in the field of media development and the consequences of this gap – both for project design and policy making – but also for broader efforts to integrate media into governance debates. While this lack of evidence has been noted before, a number of recently published case studies and reviews of the relevant literature now enable us to discuss, in detail, the extent and nature of this gap in our knowledge.” (abstract) https://www.db-thueringen.de/servlets/MCRFileNodeServlet/dbt_derivate_00037167/GMJ12_Scott_Dietz_final.pdf


“The handbook is based on the authors’ varied experiences from consulting the implementation of media mappings in several transitional countries and it will focus on two of these projects: a. mapping the Mongolian media landscape initiated in 1999 ten years after the break down of Communism and b. the mapping of the Libyan media landscape initiated in 2012 one year after the Libyan revolution in 2011 and the ouster of Muammar Gaddafi. Developing on the experiences from these two projects and subsequent reflections the authors investigate why the Mongolian project was a success and still operating and in turn why the Libyan was far less successful despite similar methodological approaches. On the basis of these experiences the authors provide a description of a number of generic circumstances that the authors recommend should be taken into account before and during the process of setting up a media mapping capacity.” (IMS website) https://www.mediasupport.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Handbook-Libya-Media-Mapping_Final-Aug-3-MT.pdf

For over five and one-half years, the Civil Society and Media Leadership (CSML) Program, led by IREX in partnership with The Carter Center and Social Impact, contributed to building a more capable, collaborative, and agile civil society and media sector in Liberia. The CSML team provided intensive support including training, mentoring, small grants, and equipment to over 60 civil society organizations and 35 media outlets in 15 counties. IREX has distributed over $6 million in grants to civil society organizations to conduct advocacy, reconciliation, civic education and voter education, Ebola awareness raising, and contribute to their own organizational development. Community radio stations have received a total of over $400K worth of equipment, including 19 transmitters. The Carter Center trained 3,500 chiefs, women, and youth to advance access to justice and resolve community disputes, and broadened awareness of Freedom of Information to over 15,000 Liberians across the seven original target counties. Beyond these outputs, CSML has contributed to true impact, fostering an improved and enhanced civil society and media sector. These accomplishments are a result of the collaborative effort of IREX and its wealth of partners both international and national who sought, together, to achieve the goal to “sustain peace in Liberia through greater inclusion, giving a voice to, informing and engaging Liberian citizens.” As a result, in part, of the CSML program, IREX’s civil society partners conduct advocacy that is more informed and less confrontational, engage the media as a key stakeholder, and have more productive strategies for engaging local and national government.” (executive summary)


ASIA & PACIFIC


“This study assesses the role and impact of this local radio station network as well as its sustainability prospects, focusing on four pillars of sustainability in particular: Financial sustainability: at a minimum, radio stations need to be able to support their activities, and at best, enjoy some surplus for innovation. Organizational sustainability: radio stations need to have access to a level of professionalism and resources that allow it to produce and present programs of reasonable quality. Political and cultural sustainability: radio stations need to be politically enabled to perform their activities, to do so in safety, and to enjoy the support of the communities within their broadcast area. Audience sustainability: radio stations need to be able to reach a sizeable audience, and to meet this audience’s information needs and expectations. To this end, in-depth interviews with key stakeholders in the Internews/Salam Watandar story as well as those involved in media operations at the central Kabul level were combined with 10 in-depth case studies from the research sample of 30 provincial Internews-established, full Salam Watandar-partner stations. 20 in-depth interviews by phone with the remaining sample stations were added to this.” (executive summary)


“The main objective of this research project was to develop a baseline around quantity and quality information on environment and natural resources in Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan in order to inform Internews’ Central Asia project, specifically capacity building and networking activities, as well as help assess outcomes achievement and impact contribution.”

https://www.irex.org/sites/default/files/Central_Asia_Regional_Assessment_Report_2017-05.pdf


“The Pacific Islands are home to diverse and fast-changing media and communication infrastructures and practices. In this article we examine the Pacific Media Assistance Scheme (PACMAS) Innovation Fund, which has opened up the media and communication for development field to new players by funding many small-scale, low-cost initiatives. As elsewhere, the funding environment has exerted a major influence over the kinds of projects that are implemented, both in terms of the focus and goals as well as the actors who are able to participate. This article explores some of the ways in which this Innovation Fund, which has funded highly localized, small-scale initiatives, has encouraged experimentation and how these initiatives respond to locally determined needs. Central to this article is the question of what happens when donors have less control over the focus of funded projects. Through an analysis of some projects undertaken as part of the PACMAS Innovation Fund, we investigate what innovation means in this context, paying particular attention to how the spread of digital technologies is integrated into media and communication for development practices.” (abstract)

EUROPE


The purpose of this assessment is to compile a general portrait of the media landscape in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) in order to determine the broad status of reforms and needs in the media sector and make recommendations for potential further USAID involvement in the sector. The assessment team addressed the following three main questions: 1. What areas of the BiH media sector require the most urgent assistance that can be provided in the next five years? 2. What types of assistance might be the most effective in those areas, and on what scale? 3. What are the comparative advantages of US assistance to media outlets? ” (executive summary)

http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00M6ZB.pdf


“This article investigates the extent to which Serbian media institutions that have been initiated and supported through media assistance programmes have actually reached a level of sustainability and functionality. Analysing the establishment and transformation of public service broadcasters in Serbia, the author discusses the main achievements, failures and challenges of media assistance programmes that aim to contribute to Serbia’s democratization. As media institutions in transition countries are often designed after similar institutions in Western European democracies, the outcomes regularly differ from the initial model. This article sheds light on the question of what happens to imported models when they are transposed onto the newly evolving media systems of transitional societies using the case of Radio-Television of Serbia.” (abstract)

MIDDLE EAST / WESTERN ASIA & NORTHERN AFRICA


“As it seeks to win the hearts and minds of citizens in the Muslim world, the United States has poured millions of dollars into local television and radio programming, hoping to generate pro-American currents on Middle Eastern airwaves. However, as this fascinating new book shows, the Middle Eastern media producers who rely on these funds are hardly puppets on an American string, but instead contribute their own political and creative agendas while working within U.S. restrictions. The Other Air Force gives readers a unique inside look at television and radio production in Afghanistan and the Palestinian territories, from the isolated villages of the Afghan Panjshir Valley to the congested streets of Ramallah. Communications scholar Matt Sienkiewicz explores how the U.S. takes a “soft-psych” approach to its media efforts combining “soft” methods of encouraging entertainment programming, such as adaptations of The Voice and The Apprentice with more militant “psych-ops” approaches to information control. Drawing on four years of field research and interviews with everyone from millionaire executives to underpaid but ever resourceful cameramen, Sienkiewicz considers the perspectives of the Afghan and Palestinian media workers trying to forge viable broadcasting businesses without straying outside American-set boundaries for acceptable content.” (publisher)

Media Landscapes, Media & Communication General, Media & Society

GENERAL & INTERNATIONAL


“Structural conditions are to be understood as the totality of (formal and informal) orders and structures that characterise media and journalism in a certain space, most commonly, a country. Eleven interrelated and interdependent dimensions of structural conditions relevant to media and journalism have been extracted and adapted from existing literature, guiding structured and comprehensive analysis within specific (country) contexts: (1) political context, (2) economic context, (3) political culture, (4) media freedom, (5) level of state control and regulation of media by the state, (6) media ownership and financing, (7) structure of media markets and patterns of information distribution, (8) orientation of media, (9) political/societal activity and parallelism of media, (10) journalism culture, and (11) journalistic professionalism.

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Country reports feature a unique set and combination of structural factors shaping media and journalism in the four countries, demonstrating the importance of conflict and journalism in the four countries, varying levels of media freedom and state interference in the media sector. Moreover, there are significant differences in media landscapes and the structure of media markets, reflecting the different size, economic situation, infrastructure and cultural, ethnic and linguistic diversity in the four countries, as well as the differing degrees of literacy and spending power of inhabitants.” (executive summary)

http://www.mecdorm.eu/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Lohner-Banjac-Neveral-
2016_Mapping-structural-conditions-of-journalism-In-Eqpp-t-Kenya-Serbia-and-South-
Africa.pdf

AFRICA, SUB-SAHARAN


*Cette étude présente une évaluation du développement des médias à Madagascar dans un contexte de retour au fonctionnement démocratique des institutions suite à la crise politique des années 2009-2013 qui s’est traduite par une forte instabilité politique et un marasme économique. Elle est basée sur les indicateurs de Développement des Médias (IDM) de l’UNESCO. Son intervention devrait constituer un outil pour la promotion du développement des médias.* (résumé exécutif)

subjects: media landscapes & media systems; media legislation & regulation; media diversity & pluralism; journalism training & education; access to media - Madagascar
http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002469/246906e.pdf


*Estudio cuyo objetivo fue recopilar información proporcionada por el Ministerio de Transportes y Comunicaciones (MTC) sobre los principales indicadores de radio y televisión en el Perú: número de estaciones, número de titulares, estaciones según finalidad (comercial, educativa, comunitaria), titulares de radio y TV pública/estatal, situación de los Códigos de Ética de los titulares de radio y televisión, y sanciones por incumplimiento a la Ley de Radio y Televisión.* (pág. web CONCORTV)

subjects: radio landscapes; television landscapes; public service broadcasting - Peru - statistical data
http://www.concortv.gob.pe/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Estudio-estadisticas-radio-tv-
2017.pdf


subjects: media landscapes & media systems; media legislation & regulation; media diversity & pluralism; journalism training & education; access to media - Bolivia
http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002469/246906e.pdf


*The media landscape in Nicaragua has suffered substantial setbacks in recent years since President Daniel Ortega assumed power in 2007. With his government having taken hold, the number of independent media has shrunk, access to public information has become scarcer, and a new governmental communications strategy drives official messaging and funding through a mix of public and private media. These outlets are controlled by members of Ortega’s family and the ruling political party, Frente Sandinista de Liberación Nacional (Sandinista National Liberation Front, or FSLN). As an example of the climate of secrecy and opaque governance that Nicaraguans experience today, President Ortega has not participated in a press conference since he retook power. Authorities prevent independent reporters from participating in many of the official events held in public institutions. Business associates close to President Ortega bought key television stations (among them Channels 2 and 8), and now their news programs are overseen directly by Ortega’s family, according to independent news reports. Ortega’s family also holds interests in Channel 13, Viva Nicaragua. Completing this near-monopoly of television stations are Channel 4 (Multinoticias) and the state-owned Channel 6. FSLN also controls dozens of radio stations in the country and several online news portals. It follows that independent media operate in what can be called at best a semi-permissive environment: one that does not foster its sustainability.* (introduction)
https://www.irex.org/sites/default/files/pdf/IREX_MSI_Nicaragua_10-17-16_FINAL.pdf


En Ecuador escasean tanto los análisis de los medios de comunicación privados, públicos o comunitarios, como del consumo mediático o de la formación periodística. Los pocos datos disponibles han impedido que se puedan realizar estudios complejos y exhaustivos. El presente informe se centra en Ecuador y pretende profundizar más allá de la propagación mediática y considerar en qué medida estos medios peruanos se mantienen en el marasme económico. Elle est basée sur les Indicateurs de Développement des Médias (IDM) de l’UNESCO. Son intervention devrait constituer un outil pour la promotion du développement des médias.* (résumé exécutif)

subjects: media landscapes & media systems; media use; media legislation; internet access; working conditions of journalists; journalism training & education; freedom of the press; media assistance - Ecuador - country surveys


Contents: Itinerario del periodismo paraguayo – Periódicos -- Periodistas – Géneros periodísticos. subjects: newspapers; journalists; journalism; journalistic genres - Paraguay - subject dictionaries & encyclopedias


subjects: internet; social media; weblogs; internet & social media use; telecentres / internet cafés - Peru

ASIA & PACIFIC


*Afghanistan has made great strides in establishing media and communications outlets. However, very little is known about the ways in which Afghans actually engage in information exchange. To inform work with the media and effectively enhance access to information in Afghanistan, Internews commissioned Sayara Research to map information ecosystems in three areas of Afghanistan. The information ecosystem in Afghanistan is vital to understand how Afghans make decisions about everything from personal security to health, migration, and livelihoods. Using a systems approach to analyzing information within and across communities is a powerful way to uncover deficiencies in current approaches and opportunities for future work.* (Internews website)
https://www.internews.org/sites/default/files/resources/Internews_Afghan_Information_Ecosystems_2016-09.pdf


*Despite political and economic progress, the media face increasing political influence and financial instability that threaten the future. This year panelists affirmed the current financial crisis that the media industry is facing. They noted its impact on media freedom and progress, as it relates to ownership and transparency. Panelists also highlighted the evolution of digital technology, a proliferation of online platforms, and a lack of accountability as the emerging issues affecting the industry.* (p.1)
https://www.irex.org/sites/default/files/pdf/media-sustainability-index-asia-2017-sri-
lanka.pdf


There is not a sufficient advertising market to sustain a free and independent media that witness the rapid social transition. (Palgrave Macmillan website)

Ordinary citizens directly affected by these changes in everyday life collaborate to media professionals, and opinion leaders in other fields of expertise, together with five years of Weibo reflect a dramatic change in Chinese society, where journalists, topics on the platform, the tightening state control, and nationalism on the rise. The first mobilizing collective remembering of these events, in a society with rapidly changing worthiness of remembrance highlighted on Weibo. Journalism plays a significant part in kinds of public events are shared, debated, and their historical significance and events in the rapidly changing age of social media? Eileen Le Han examines how various prism of transitional China in a globalizing world. How does society remember public development of sustainable independent media in Europe. At present, there is not a sufficient advertising market to sustain a free and independent media that can both serve the public interest and withstand intense political pressures. Development actors are in a position to help address this market failure if they invest in an independent, Nepali-rooted media that enables difficult and challenging debate to take place. (BBC Media Action website)

This book offers an in-depth account of social media, journalism and collective memory through a five-year analysis of Weibo, a leading Chinese micro-blogging platform, and prism of transitional China in a globalizing world. How does society remember public events in the rapidly changing age of social media? Eileen Le Han examines how various kinds of public events are shared, debated, and their historical significance and worthiness of remembrance highlighted on Weibo. Journalism plays a significant part in mobilizing collective remembering of these events, in a society with rapidly changing topics on the platform, the tightening state control, and nationalism on the rise. The first five years of Weibo reflect a dramatic change in Chinese society, where journalists, media professionals, and opinion leaders in other fields of expertise, together with ordinary citizens directly affected by these changes in everyday life collaborate to witness the rapid social transition. (Palgrave Macmillan website)

This briefing explores some of the key challenges facing the Nepali media. It outlines growing concerns over politicisation and co-option, particularly of the mainstream Kathmandu-based traditional media as well as other economic and technological challenges facing the media. The briefing further outlines how Nepal’s historically diverse and decentralised media market is increasingly showing signs of fragmentation and discord. It also examines the role that the international development community has played in supporting the Nepali media. The briefing finds that for all the challenges outlined in this report, the media – both nationally and locally – continues to constitute one of the most important and effective mechanisms available to improve accountability. Despite rising threats to journalist safety and growing concerns over politicisation, the media is the most trusted institution in Nepal. The media provides both a growing problem for and a potentially vital solution to the challenges of social cohesion in the country. At present, there is not a sufficient advertising market to sustain a free and independent media that can both serve the public interest and withstand intense political pressures. Development actors are in a position to help address this market failure if they invest in an independent, Nepali-rooted media that enables difficult and challenging debate to take place. (BBC Media Action website)

The NUJ believes that the development of discriminatory language and the demonisation of the working poor and benefit recipients, through the use of stereotypes and misinformation, is an insult to workers, trade union organisations and readers. The NUJ reaffirms its total opposition to censorship, expressed through the mass media. The NUJ reaffirms its total opposition to censorship, but equally reaffirms its belief that press freedom must be conditioned by responsibility, and a resolution by all media workers not to allow press freedom to be abused to slander and a resolution by all media workers not to allow press freedom to be abused to slander a section of the community. (p.8)

http://www.nju.org.uk/news/pressroom/stigma/nuj/njsguide

The NUJ believes that the development of discriminatory language and the demonisation of the working poor and benefit recipients, through the use of stereotypes and misinformation, is an insult to workers, trade union organisations and readers. The NUJ believes that its members as trade unionists cannot avoid a measure of responsibility in fighting stereotypes of the working poor and benefit recipients as expressed through the mass media. The NUJ reaffirms its total opposition to censorship, but equally reaffirms its belief that press freedom must be conditioned by responsibility, and a resolution by all media workers not to allow press freedom to be abused to slander a section of the community. (p.8)

http://www.nju.org.uk/news/pressroom/stigma/nuj/njsguide
Bewertungen und Entscheidungen der Geflüchteten in Bezug zum Zielland Deutschland - Einwanderer aus kulturell ferneren Ländern (z. B. Asien/ Naher Osten und Afrika). Deutschland aufweisen (z. B. Südosteuropa) werden tendenziell negativer framed als Nationalitäten. Einwanderer aus Herkunftsländern, die eine größere kulturelle Nähe zu minorities - Germany - interviews / surveys Willkommene. Einige dieser Frames korrespondieren stark mit bestimmten Welt, FAZ, SZ und taz aus dem Jahr 2014 inhaltsanalytisch untersucht. Mittels Herkunft unterschiedlich dargestellt werden. Dazu wurden Artikel der Tageszeitungen Ruhrmann: "Anhand einer repräsentativen Umfrage mit 404 Flüchtlingen, die vorwiegend aus Syrien, Irak, Afghanistan, Pakistan und Iran kamen, liefert die vorliegende Studie erstens "Emerging literature highlights that in the Pacific, the use of participatory video (PV) is a new trend in research and community action. It can be employed as a tool to empower communities to have agency over their media outputs, meaning that they have full control of the content creation, production and distribution processes. But to date there is still a dearth of studies that fully explore its potential use in different contexts, especially within diasporic networks. To address this gap, a pilot project was undertaken where PV methodologies were tested in collaboration with a diasporic Pacific community group based in West Auckland, New Zealand. This report feeds back on the overall process of developing the pilot project." (abstract) http://www.unitec.ac.nz/epress/index.php/participatory-video-and-the-pacifica-mamas-a-pilot-project/

This study contributes to the limited literature on race and crime in a multicultural Asian context. Based on a survey in Singapore, where multiracialism is a fundamental political pillar and yet discourse about race is mostly shunned, the findings suggest a relationship between media consumption and racial perceptions. Respondents who consume more race-specific media have less negative racial perceptions of their own race, and more negative racial perceptions about other races. Respondents who consume more crime-related media content on TV, newspapers, and social networking sites tend to be more racially prejudiced against other races. Those who pay more attention to crime-related media content are more likely to hold negative racial perceptions of other races, and have higher criminal culpability judgments of other races while holding a diminished culpability judgment of one’s own race.” (abstract) EUROPE


"Feminization of migration has emerged as a common livelihood strategy to alleviate poverty and escape difficult socioeconomic, cultural, and familial situations. Mobile phones have become the most crucial and pervasive communication device that enables migrants to be simultaneously mobile and connected, anytime and anywhere. Is the mobile phone empowering or disempowering as a new form of social control? Based on a longterm ethnographic research on global nannies in Paris, this study presents a case for the importance of the detailed investigation of everyday contexts and power relations to better understand the complexities of mobile phone use in work life. This study will argue that, far from an instrument of empowerment, the mobile phone can work to reinforce already existing power relations and mundane social structures, leading to more unequal and enslaving relationships in work life.” (abstract)

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**MIDDLE EAST / WESTERN ASIA & NORTHERN AFRICA**

"The argument offered in this book is that new technology, as opposed to traditional media such as television, radio, and newspaper, is working against the national grain to weaken its imagined community. Online activities and communications between people and across borders suggest that digital media has strong implications for different articulations of identity and belongingness, which open new ways of thinking about the imagined community. The findings are based on transnational activities by Kurdish diaspora members across borders that have pushed them to rethink notions of belonging and identity.” (Palgrave Macmillan website)

"Drawing on fieldwork among Kurdish broadcasters in Turkey and Europe, this article shows how ethnic media mediate nationhood in a conflict context. Despite rising interest in the media-nationhood nexus, and the expansion of studies on ethnic media, little is known about ethnic media in conflicts involving state and non-state actors. This study investigates three Kurdish broadcasters, Rji-TV, Gün-TV, and TRT-6. The collected data include expert interviews and informal conversations with employees. Through a grounded theory approach, a model is developed that proposes four modes of mediated nationhood, in which the relation to the state and the role of ethnicity are key elements. Next, it is demonstrated how mediated nationhood in conflicts is characterized by multiple constraints, and how this affects the perceived roles and ethnic belongings among media professionals.” (abstract)

**Public Relations, Strategic Communication**

293. [59 useful mobile apps and online tools for nonprofits. Nonprofit Tech for Good, 2017](http://www.ntechforgood.com/2017/05/02/59-useful-mobile-apps-online-tools-for-nonprofits/)
The number of low-cost or free apps and online tools available to nonprofits today is astounding. Provided you take the time to explore and experiment, your nonprofit can use the apps and tools listed below to significantly improve your web and email communications and your social media campaigns."

also published in French and Spanish subjects: nonprofit public relations; nonprofit organizations / NGOs; online marketing / public relations - Africa; Asia; Europe; Latin America; Oceania / Pacific Islands; USA - interviews / surveys

297. **Mecodify tool for twitter data analysis and visualisation.** Media, Conflict and Democratisation (MeCoDEM), [2016]

"Mecodify is an open-source tool created as part of the Media Conflict and Democratization Project (http://mecodem.eu) to help gather, analyse and visualise Twitter data for use by social science scholars. The name describes what it does, i.e., Message Codification by converting messages to systematic structures, tables, graphs and quantifiable content. The platform remains in constant development and the first version (v0.1) is currently used for research purposes in the webpages above. The software mainly uses PHP and Javascript and has used several open-source libraries including but not limited to HighCharts, TwitterAPIExchange, D3Js for various components of the platform." (https://github.com/wsaqaf/mecodify)

https://github.com/wsaqaf/mecodify


"This document takes an in-depth look at the conversion to 100% solar power operation at a small community radio station called Mayardit FM in Turalei, South Sudan. Since the installation of the solar system in March 2016, the station has operated on 100% solar power (including its transmission), broadcasting up to 16 hours a day, every day of the week. To date, the system has had zero downtime. This report was written to share learning with others who may be considering whether solar power would be suitable for their station(s). The first section describes the South Sudan context, background, and purpose of the project. The second section provides a case study of the solar power conversion at Mayardit FM, including technical specifications, user-centered design considerations, costings, and lessons learned from the first months of operation. The third section serves as a "how to" manual, which can be used by anyone interested in designing a solar system and weighing its feasibility for their own radio station." (executive summary)
