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# THE FUTURE OF JOURNALISM 2019

## Innovations, Transitions and Transformations

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# ABSTRACTS

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## NEWS ON STAGE

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Journalism's various crises have been well-documented, such as lack of credibility and a decline in its active role in the democratic process, but there has been a lack of constructive response or research into solutions to its problems. There is evidence of a growing audience for live, face-to-face events. This article reviews past and present relationships between journalism and the stage and uses them as a springboard to introduce the concept of News Theatre. It configures a version of Habermas's public space/sphere as a new locus for this kind of open journalism, performed to the public. In an age of confused news literacy, it presents examples to show how face-to-face journalism might be successful in helping to re-establishing its status and role in society as truth-teller. It argues that human intervention is now required to restore journalism's authority and contends that journalism should consider communicating face-to-face, in order to rediscover its audience, by meeting them, in person. The paper points the way towards rebuilding communities of readers, strengthening the relationship between news, public and performance. The paper makes the historical connection between earliest known formats of News Theatre, from town crier, through revolutionary theatre in Russia and China and Living Newspapers of last century, to today's experiments in event journalism around the world. It uses a theoretical framework to consider the role of audience as activists. It redefines the boundaries between journalism, theatre and political activism, and proposes a model which might help towards sustaining journalism for the future, while rediscovering the public sphere, through 'News Theatre.'

**AIRTIME TAKES THE STREET:  
INTERSECTIONALITY AND  
SPACE MAKING THROUGH  
CROSS-MEDIA AND CROSS-  
CULTURAL INITIATIVES**

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This paper examines the strategies used by the Bilbao-based radio station Radio Candela and how they have progressively created a space for intercultural exchange for the Basque–Latin American community within the public sphere of the greater Bilbao metropolitan area. The main objective of this study is to identify and evaluate the approaches the station has developed and employed for creating a medium of inclusion through cross-cultural programming and activities—residencies and workshops in public schools—in order to foster a multicultural dialogue and integration within the immigrant communities in Bilbao. The station’s major achievement is thoroughly studied which consists of the creation of a multi-ethnic comparsa (festival group) into Bilbao’s Great Week Festival, a major eight-day city-wide festival celebrated at the end of every August. The Basque Country provides a fitting scenario for a study on immigrant-focused media due to its socio-cultural context within Europe and Spain and the marked differences between the cultural traits and traditions of the region, making it an exemplary place to analyze an ethnic radio station’s strategies thriving in a complex linguistic landscape. Qualitative analysis techniques have been applied to define what Radio Candela has done to build spaces of inclusion and to identify specific points of encounter and confrontation between the Latin-American community and the local residents. Results demonstrate that although a dialogue between opposing communities promoted by a medium and that has reached the streets of the city has begun, there is still a lack of more systematic and less anecdotal strategies for a true intersectionality.

### ROBOT-EMPOWERED SOCCER NEWS IN THE NETHERLANDS: A PERSPECTIVE ON READERS' EXPERIENCE

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Newsroom practices are slowly integrating automated AI-powered systems. Based on our four-year research project “The Automated Newsroom”, we had the opportunity to understand with clarity the impact of AI-powered systems in the reader’s quality of experience. After all, readers are the endpoint of the news production process. We developed a tool we called ‘PASS’ (Personalised Automated Soccer Text System), an AI-powered prototype automatically generating soccer news reports. We used PASS to study the impact of AI in readers’ experience, including the evaluation of credibility of PASS-generated sports articles compared with those written by journalists. How do Dutch readers perceive the credibility of news articles written by machines, compared with articles written by journalists? We defined “credibility” as a combination of “readability” and “reliability”, each quantified in five distinctive levels that we describe in this research. To understand and identify differences in perception, we selected short news articles in the field of finances, police reports, and sports to elaborate in a comparative study. We presented these short news articles to several user groups of 150 respondents. While we instructed some groups that messages were written by journalists, we announced to other groups that computers had written these texts. We found, among others, that the perceived credibility between computer-written and journalist-written news articles were similar. Furthermore, newsreaders valued credibility of short sport-articles less, compared to short police and financial articles. This research presents the results of these user groups, including a comparison of topics and the credibility of computer-written versus journalist-written articles.

### THE INSTITUTIONAL DYNAMICS OF POPULIST TIME: JOURNALISM, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND @REALDONALDTRUMP

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In earlier work, the authors proposed that there was an affinity between affordances of social media and styles of politics, an affinity which grounded itself upon the mediated nature of political time. Social media platforms like Twitter lend themselves to a populist political style, which, in terms of temporality, relate to the idea of short-circuiting notions of "democratic delay" that are built into liberal, representative political systems.

In this follow up paper, the authors begin an empirical investigation of the speculative claims they advanced in their initial paper. Specifically, they build a corpus of texts related to two major political incidents in the United States-- the neo-Nazi protests in Charlottesville, Virginia and their aftermath (2017), and the US government shutdown in early 2019. The corpus of texts consists of relevant Tweets by the President of the United States, @realdonaldtrump, during the time periods in question. They also analyze news media coverage of presidential tweets during the same time period, as well as broader coverage of the events and relevant hashtags. By coding this digital discourse to analyze the nature of political time, we hope to gain more empirically grounded insights into the following questions: How is the notion of "unmediation" or "immediacy" digitally constructed on Twitter? And, following that, how does the temporal aspects of populism feed into notions of populist politicians as more "authentic" or "pre-mediated? And, finally, how do these elements linked to the "real time" nature of twitter play into the construction of a broader political discourses?

### HOW COMMUNITY MEDIA CAN ACHIEVE THE GOALS OF STANDARDS? CASE STUDIES OF CCMC

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Cyprus Community Media Center (CCMC) as a community media have filled the important gap in the island of Cyprus. The Center have contributed to the media pluralism, freedom of expression and access to the information. Since there are polarized media landscape and political party journalism tradition in the Cypriot mainstream media, certain groups of the communities, such as women, children, youth, LGBT, refugees are underrepresented. In one hand, the 'community media' [CCMC] has offered a support and an access for a "diversification of voices in the Cyprus media landscape". In the other hand 'right based' media practices are getting more significant in this sense.

'CCMC promotes the benefits of community-based media by giving people the skills to be in control of their own messages'. The standards and outlets of the CCMC, we can reach to the following: The CCMC provided media training workshops such as "peace-building through listening" (Higgins, 2011) and "Community media for reconciliation" (Carpentier and Doudaki, 2013) and ... loans equipment and provides support (Drucker and Gumpert, 2018). Brief summaries of the available research and studies about gives a successful community-based media reputation. However, since 29 June 2019 CCMC is unofficially shutdown. The working space is emptied and rented to a company and all equipment of CCMC are bought by another NGO.

The closure of CCMC, which has made successful organizations and projects as a community media, will create a serious deficiency in the Cypriot media for pluralism. For the future of the community media at Cyprus, lessons from CCMC is taking important role. In this study, it is investigated why CCMC -which is shown as a successful example in the community media- is closed. For this, in-depth interviews were conducted with the executive staff of CCMC in 2019. We also used document analysis technique for analyzing the brochures, web site, published materials, videos etc. According to first findings, lack of management and therefore economic reasons are the factors leading to the closure of the CCMC.

THE CONSTRAINTS OF “THE DIGITAL” AND WHAT JOURNALISM STUDIES CAN GAIN FROM ENGAGING WITH NEOLIBERALISM

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Academic volumes and conferences keep telling us that the future of journalism is digital and, consequently, that a (new) technological framework is the key to understand changes in the news and its social impact. This paper argues that, while useful in some respects, this perspective significantly constraints journalism studies. As an alternative, the paper proposes a more thorough engagement with neoliberalism. It makes the case that switching the focus from (primarily) digital to (primarily) neoliberal enables us to deal more productively with crucial contemporary developments in journalism and to better address urgent calls for normative debates.

The first part of the paper examines the primacy of the digital in contemporary journalism studies. Although the literature acknowledges the existence of other socio-political factors shaping the conditions under which journalism operates, the dominant focus on technology obscures crucial socio-political forces. Moreover, the technological explanation tends to be a disruptive one that neglects historical continuities within journalism as well as relevant connections between journalism and other fields. The second part of the paper underscores the advantages of a neoliberal framework. There have been valuable efforts linking neoliberalism and the news. However, for the most part, journalism scholars have treated neoliberalism as a top-down economic force rather than a rationality of self-government, one that pervades a diversity of spheres and actors of society. The paper shows how the latter conceptualization is particularly useful to understand and critique current developments in journalism, including crucial shifts toward participation, de-institutionalization, innovation and entrepreneurialism (Kreiss & Brennen, 2016).

### JOURNALISM CRISIS OUTSIDE WESTERN CONTEXTS: SHATTERED HOPES OF TRANSFORMATION AND FRAGILE FUTURES

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Scepticism about the viability of classical journalism has dominated the discourses in both academia and practice for the past 10-15 years. In light of the structural and digital transformation of the public sphere and eruption of new "hybrid media systems" (Chadwick, 2017) old rules of the profession and financial viability models seemed shaken, yet new rules in the digital news ecology are not clear yet. However, most literature focus on the crisis of journalism in democratic societies, which presume a professional consensus on the roles of journalism; and witness a division in ownership structures (public service vs. market-regulated media) (Russial et al., 2015). Most importantly the majority of studies are conducted in democratic countries, where radical and populist fragmentation is relatively new, and media regulations and political economy show less partisan or authoritarian tendencies as in non-democratic systems.

Situated in the Egyptian field, this proposed study connects to a central question stated in the CfP. The first research question is: how is journalism evolving in a new ecosystem beyond the established Western democracies, as opposed to countries that struggle within autocratic polarized political environments? This ethnographic study is based on a long-year project funded by the German Service for Academic Exchange (DAAD) that started in 2012 and was entitled "Journalism in transition". The underlying premise back then was that journalism in Egypt would finally function as a reflective public sphere to help consolidate the newly found democracy in 2011. While this romanticized view does not capture what really happened in the aftermath of Egyptian failed revolution, the interviews were continued to witness the shifts in journalism, both in terms of practice as well as systemic constraints until today.



### A QUESTION OF PERSPECTIVE: EXPLORING AUDIENCES' VIEWS OF JOURNALISTIC BOUNDARIES

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The arrival of a wide range of new (quasi-)journalistic actors on social network sites has led to a growing number of studies engaging with peripheral actors, mostly exploring boundary discourses from a production perspective. This focus has come at the expense of how audiences may actually perceive these boundaries and how they may engage with these new actors' work. To better understand how audiences perceive journalistic boundaries, this paper explores how and why people interact with content creators on Instagram, YouTube, and online blogs, and what makes their content meaningful in everyday life. Drawing on Swart et al.'s (2016) four dimensions of public connection in digital spaces – inclusiveness, engagement, relevance and constructiveness – we reorient the framework to explore connections between publics and content creators and their content. This includes who and what users follow, how and why they engage, and the platforms' relevance and contribution. Data was collected through 11 focus groups with university students. Findings show that users tailor their content repertoires around specific interests, and access platforms for different purposes. Broadly, users expect consistency (genre), originality (content), relatability (personality), quality (technological know-how), and emotional connection (shared values). A content creator's level of authenticity is a key factor evaluated by users across these expectations. The paper contrasts these findings with existing conceptualizations of journalistic identity and values, and suggests where these platforms might sit in relation to the journalistic field, as understood through users' preferences and practices.

### TRANSPARENCY IN EUROPEAN JOURNALISM: AN EVOLVING PROFESSIONAL VALUE, A CURRENT POLITICAL ISSUE AND A FUTURE REGULATORY CHALLENGE

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This paper deals with the concept of transparency in European Journalism. Transparency is a long-discussed value in journalism practice and claims to change the “fortress newsroom” (Smith, 2005) into the “transparent newsroom” (Meier, 2009) are present in many journalistic ethical guidelines. Transparency is regarded as an openness of methods and processes and willingness to self-reflexion about professional choices and coverage. In the digital age, it became a criterion for journalistic quality and a sine qua non condition to build a credible relation with the audience based on trustworthiness. Yet, transparency understandings and instruments tend to vary significantly at various levels: according to each media system; within different political, economic and regulatory frameworks and at the level of the editorial culture of the news organization. According to the Media Pluralism Monitor 2016 report (a project developed at the Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom (CMPF) of the European University Institute) the lack of transparency of media ownership is the key risk factor to media pluralism in Europe. The report is based in an extensive comparative survey covering the 28 EU member states conducted by national experts teams. The lack of transparency of media ownership makes it difficult for the public to identify the potential biases in media content, compromises editorial autonomy and stands as one the most vulnerable aspects of media systems, susceptible to both commercial and political influences. The MPM also shows how the media regulatory authorities in Europe have not established a consensus about the way the transparency value should be addressed in its various implications.

Recently, the Portuguese media authority launched the “transparency portal”, where all registered media must provide information regarding its ownership structure, activity and financial reports and made it public available. Departing from this complex framework, we propose to present and discuss how the Portuguese case is contributing to the transparency debate in the European media landscape.

**MORE RELIANCE ON DIGITAL  
SOURCES, LESS SOURCE  
DIVERSITY – A LONGITUDINAL  
RESEARCH**

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Contrary to former studies, according to which newswork is characterized by overwhelming stability and following the inconclusive findings of former studies, this paper supplies for the first-time longitudinal evidence according to which there has been a dramatic increase in reliance on digital news sources in legacy media, mainly in recent years.

The study is based on four waves of reconstruction interviews with a representative sample of Israeli news reporters across four research periods (2001, 2006, 2011, 2016-7), covering digital (e.g. databases, anonymous social-media users) and non-digital sources (e.g. PR, government officials) (N=2,636). In addition to the quantitative item reconstructions, the recent wave of interviews includes for the first time a mix of qualitative reconstruction interviews and content analysis of final publications, to learn about the considerations behind reliance on digital and nondigital sources, and their impact on the published items. Findings indicate that digital sources serve to limit source diversity and strengthen authoritative and official voices at the expense of nonofficial and alternative ones. The share of alternative sources is significantly lower among digital sources than among nondigital ones. Furthermore, digitally oriented information is treated by journalists significantly less critically, using less rigorous epistemic practices such as verification and reliance on documents. These findings correspond with theories of continuity, according to which information technologies do not facilitate social change, as revolutionary theories expected, rather they serve to sustain the existing social order. When information technologies promote change, it is anchored in existing social dynamics and current power structures.

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE NEWSROOM: TOWARDS VALUE-SENSITIVE ALGORITHM DESIGNS IN NEWS RECOMMENDERS

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Debates about the use of AI in journalism frequently center around the (potential) impact for people's news usage (for example regarding "filter bubbles" (Pariser, 2011) and echo chambers (Sunstein, 2009)). However, the introduction of AI in the media sector also highly affects journalistic routines and the journalistic profession. Specifically, algorithmic news recommender systems (ANRS) allow – besides the possibility to structure news feeds according to e.g. readers' information preferences or popularity metrics – for a reassessment and (re)definition of media organizations' values, missions, and quality standards, and create the challenge of integrating them into new technologies. The paper bases on two case studies of traditional quality newspapers from the Netherlands and Switzerland. By conducting ~ 20 semi-structured interviews with employees from different departments (journalists, data scientists, product managers, audience researchers), it explores the costs and benefits of value articulation and a mission-sensitive approach in algorithmic news distribution from the newsroom perspective. Preliminary results reveal a high relevance and awareness of value-sensitive design of ANRS, including responsibilities changing distribution patterns come along with. However, interviewees express varying degrees of importance they attach to certain values. Trust and transparency play a central role from all perspectives and can be interpreted as shared values across professional backgrounds. Moreover, they see a high need for addressing audiences' needs (user agency). With regard to translating values and characteristics of the media organization, interviewees stress the importance of relying on the quality of human editors' work.

**THE TRADING OF JOURNALISTIC  
AUTHORITY ON SOCIAL  
NETWORKS: ONLINE MUSIC  
CRITICISM IN FRANCE ON  
TWITTER (2018)**

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The ability of journalists to defend their professional authority in the public sphere is challenged in many ways in the new media ecosystem. Various forms of « para— » or « ambient » journalism produced by amateurs on platforms such as Twitter (Hermida, 2010) have illustrated this paradigm shift for journalists, particularly in cultural journalism where new « cultural intermediaries » (Maguire and Matthews, 2012) are numerous. This challenge has until now mostly been studied as a matter of professional and cultural autonomy for journalists. The rhetorical arguments of both new players and journalists in this ecosystem have been studied as well as the boundary work performed among traditional intermediaries to secure their jurisdiction over cultural issues. We still need to provide empirical evidence that the journalistic voice is less and less heard and that amateurs are responsible for this situation. For that purpose, using a case study based on a collection of +/- 100.000 tweets sent during 16 music festivals in France during the 2018 summer, we propose to a) measure the weight of the journalistic voice as opposed to other voices dealing with the news; b) measure the influence and authority of that journalistic voice in the flux of interrelated people and texts that circulate on social networks. Using mentions (@) on Twitter as a proxy of a user's authority we will describe the trading of authority between journalists, amateurs, musicians and official sources as a relational game that can help us map the new public sphere. Social Network analysis will be used as an effective way to map this public sphere and provide metrics for the different actors' authority. If it is true that, as Eason already pointed in 1986 « Journalists always enjoy a precarious authority with their readers », social media have a specific impact on the trading of journalists' authority online. But as we will demonstrate it is not only the amateurs that have changed the rules of the game: official sources also play a prominent role in changing these rules and undermining the journalistic voice.

### LAGGING INNOVATION: POSITIONING CHANGE IN JOURNALISM

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Media scholars have lamented that journalism as a profession has been slow to adapt to technological changes. These scholars have relied largely on surveys of the field, analyses of news content, and observations of journalistic practice, all of which have helped inform practice and theory. However, a unified analysis of technology and innovation in journalism—specifically in the process of news production and distribution—remains relatively absent. Such an analysis could provide a historical lens through which to better understand the ways in which media scholars have approached technology in journalism as well as how technology has shaped the profession. Using a systematic sample of journalism research focused on technology's role in the profession from the last 80 years (434 peer-reviewed journal articles from 1945-2018) this study examines, among other aspects, (1) which innovations and technologies have been given the most attention by media scholars, (2) which theories have driven such research, (3) which prescriptives, if any, media scholars have offered to journalism practitioners, and, perhaps most importantly (4) whether or not these studies have indicated that journalism as a profession has been slow to adapt to technological changes. The findings offer an updated historical overview of news innovation research as well as a window into researcher attitudes toward changes in journalism as driven or hindered by technology. Such findings help to answer questions about the current state of technological adoption and change in journalism as well as scholarly approaches and attitudes toward changes in journalism wrought by technology.

**TURNING DIGITAL? NEWS MEDIA  
USE AMONG OLDER PERSONS**

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The news media structure has turned into a complex environment with numerous choices. One key function of the news media is to provide people with the kind of information they need to be free and self-governing. More and more news content is distributed digitally, while traditionally distributed content is decreasing. For large groups of older people, however, news consumption does not involve use of ICT's. The relatively small change towards digital news consumption in groups of older people combined with slowly diminishing legacy media sources, leads to a narrower range of news sources which in turn could affect information levels, engagement and the sense of belonging. Thus far research has mainly treated the group of 65+ as homogenous. Today's digital divide is, however, not primarily between pensioners and others, but between younger and older pensioners. This paper aims at analysing the transformation process into digital news consumption among different groups of 65+ people in the 2010s. To shed light on older people's orientation to news in contemporary media landscape, a longitudinal, representative survey of the Swedish population was used. Preliminary findings indicate that whereas 65 years old act as average people, those aged 75+ hardly engage in any digital news consumption at all. The contribution of web to printed newspapers, for instance, is half as large among pensioners as among younger citizens. In-depth studies of news use on social network sites indicate even bigger gaps between younger and older pensioners.

**PARTICIPATIVE GATEKEEPING:  
THE INTERSECTION OF NEWS,  
AUDIENCE DATA,  
NEWSWORKERS, AND  
ECONOMICS**

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The use of metrics and analytics is becoming pervasive in newsrooms the world over. However, ethnographic research in six newsrooms in three different countries revealed a dearth of distinctive terminology in scholarly literature in regard to such practice that limits understanding of how audience data is being used on the newsroom floor. This issue is addressed with the development of a new participative gatekeeping model that shows three previously unidentified channels of gatekeeping specifically related to the use of audience data: promotional, for the type of short-term gatekeeping done on news site homepages that involves tracking real-time metrics to position content, often tied to traffic targets; developmental, for longer-term use of analytics to discern how the audience consumes information that leads to hypotheses of audience behavior, shaping future coverage; and a third more porous channel of experimentation where such hypotheses are tested. Using a sociological bricolage, through the lens of media logic, this paper explores how the routines of individual newswriters, specific to the use of metrics and analytics, are moulded from the top down, primarily based on economics; how forces impacting the movement of information in the participative gatekeeping channels are experienced differently by individual newswriters depending on their habitus; how required routines can significantly limit the ability of a newswriter to make editorial decisions based on traditional journalistic standards; and how technology that results in shared audiences and platforms is limiting the influence of media systems on practice particular to the use of digital audience data.



### JOURNALISTS AND YOUTUBE: FROM RELUCTANCE TO NECESSITY

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YouTube is the second social network for news consumption (Reuters Institute, 2018) influencing directly on the information diet of citizens all over the world. The increase of online video viewing (Smith & Anderson, 2018) has provoked a reaction in the journalistic industry to attend the need to connect with an audience that constantly demands audiovisual content. It has been a challenging issue for the media industry to abandon their direct relationship with the audience, decentralize their production and disseminate content on channels such as YouTube (Peer & Ksiazek, 2011). On the other hand, they are aware of image allows to corroborate facts and, therefore, influences the credibility (Wardle & Derakhshan, 2017). This exploratory research analyzes, from a qualitatively and quantitatively perspective, the presence of journalists on YouTube with the aim of finding out if they benefit or underuse the platform. After a selection process with 207 profiles focus on Spain, 78 of them have been selected to study aspects such as genres, topics, structure, intentionality... In addition, ten in-depth interviews with the most successful journalists in the platform were conducted to understand how they interact with their audiences. Results conclude that the role of the journalists promoting their professional profile on YouTube is scarce: 3,32% of registered reporters in Spain maintain an active channel, and only 0,21% of them obtain satisfactory results developing journalistic content. Finally, youtuber journalists consider that traditional colleagues still perceive the platform as a lower level channel and related to the infotainment.

### HOW TO REACH THE PARTICIPATION UTOPIA? JOURNALISTIC PARTICIPATORY FORMATS BETWEEN ASPIRATIONS AND EVERYDAY EXPERIENCES

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Although participatory formats are a well-established feature of online journalism, research shows that newsrooms are still experimenting on which channels they open to user participation and how comments are handled in terms of different styles of moderation. How do online newsrooms envision their ideal form of user interaction and which moderation practices need to be implemented to achieve this goal? This question is still unanswered, despite many years of experience with user comments and role differentiations among online journalists and social media editors. Hence, we conducted a two-wave qualitative panel study before and after the election period with the social media department heads of 25 German online newspapers. The journalists reflected on how they evaluate challenges and benefits of user participation over time, how they imagine an ideal interaction with their online audience and to what extent they see this goal realized. All moderators would like to engage more in an open and interactive exchange; their ambitions ranging from offering meaningful exchange both among and with the users, giving insights into journalistic work, and educating readers on how to properly discuss online. Although all interviewees consider user participation to be essential for their media brands, they also face numerous challenges such as dark participation (Quandt, 2018), staggering amounts of comments and limited resources. The findings are discussed in regard to a beneficial integration of participative formats in journalistic platforms.

### JOURNALISM VIA WHATSAPP: A NEW LEVEL OF ENGAGEMENT WITH NEWS?

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The use of WhatsApp for news rises (Newman et al. 2018). Journalists increasingly use the messaging application to distribute their content and engage their audience. For journalism, WhatsApp has advantages over other social media: Because of its broad user base and low usability barriers, it has the potential to democratise citizens' engagement with news. Furthermore, its broadcast-channel design without visible comments renders moderation unnecessary. However, studies about the journalists' use of WhatsApp for journalism are rare. We ask how journalists adopt WhatsApp for audience engagement with news. Previous studies on changes in the newsroom showed that relational and cultural change are slower than technological change (Ekdale et al. 2015) and journalists are challenged by the paradigm change towards a dialogue approach (Meier, Kraus, and Michaeler 2018). Combining survey and content analysis we analyse whether and how news outlets in Germany, a country with average WhatsApp use, have adopted the platform for editorial purposes. Results show that 32% of German news outlets have WhatsApp channels and an additional 18% use it to receive audience input only. However, only 7% of the messages coded in the content analysis contain evidence of audience engagement. The study illustrates that news outlets have identified aspects of the potential of WhatsApp for news. However, the fact that journalists rarely engage their audience emphasizes the need to discuss one important effect of WhatsApp's rise: for comments and feedback, the significance of journalists' gatekeeping function is restored.

LOCAL NEWS TIME ON THE WEB

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Speed and acceleration are important lenses through which we can understand contemporary digital news; yet, such perspectives fail to elucidate nuances of news sites not necessarily focused on speed. Following that, this paper analyses three local news sites in the UK (with varying relations to the local, regional and national) in order to investigate how time is co-constituted by space and place. We are, in other words, shifting away from the national in order to study how digital temporalities play out in types of outlets most often thought of in terms of place. The outcome of this study speaks to both journalism and internet studies as we raise broader questions about how the digital co-constitute time and space. This means, firstly, nuancing the prevalent focus on time within many studies of national news outlets; and, secondly, and linked to this, questioning the assumption within much research on digital (news) media that the (almost) “naturalised” affordances of the digital, e.g. speed, spatial extension, linking and interactivity, are always realised; or, put differently, that there is tendency to study digital media in which that is the case. An important point we make in this paper is that slowly updated, stand-alone local news sites are (also) a stable of digital news and as such a constituent part of the temporalities of the internet. Indeed, we argue that permanence is an overlooked and important digital affordance that distinguishes digital news from print just as much as acceleration and speed.

**ROBOT RELEVANCE AND  
COMPUTER COMPETENCE: UK  
MEDIA COVERAGE OF  
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

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This paper investigates how mainstream British news outlets are helping to constitute artificial intelligence as a public issue. As artificial intelligence becomes a major concern across research, industry, and public policy, there have been few empirical investigations either of how media cover AI or of the role outlets play in shaping public understanding and debate about the emerging issue. Through a qualitative framing analysis and a quantitative content analysis of a corpus of 760 articles from six U.K. news outlets published in the first eight months of 2018, this project asks who speaks for and about A.I.; what topics and themes predominate; and how the discussion is framed. Findings reveal that outlets are experimentally connecting AI to a range of topics, including automation, international competition, and algorithmic bias. While all outlets consider a range of issues, politically right-leaning outlets often emphasize issues of economics and geopolitics, while more left-leaning outlets emphasize issues of ethics and discrimination. Findings also show that all outlets consistently frame AI as relevant to a wide range of problems—from cancer to coffee delivery—and competent in addressing those problems. In positioning AI in this way, outlets imply that AI will have massive effects across our lives: reshaping everything from global economics, to politics, to healthcare. However, outlets rarely interrogate the limits to AI's competency or the role that humans continue to play in its design and implementation, perspectives that would benefit the developing public discussion of AI.

**CAMERAMEN AND  
CONGRESSWOMEN:  
HOW PHOTOJOURNALISTS  
FRAMED FEMALE CANDIDATES  
IN THE YEAR OF THE WOMAN**

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This paper explores how female politicians were visually depicted in the 2018 midterm elections in the United States. Through a content analysis of published photographs of female candidates from both winning and losing campaigns, this work adds to the body of literature on visual framing in American politics, with a specific focus on women. 2018 showcased a record number of female candidates varying in age, race, sexual orientation and political party, so it is important to understand how women in politics are being visually depicted. This extends to the photographers themselves, especially in gender and race. The demographics of journalists can impact their coverage and while female photojournalists have been around for many years, the field is still traditionally seen as male-dominated (Lowry, 2015), though that is changing (Lyttle, 2017). The areas of interest in our content include the nonverbal behaviors depicted in the image (see Coleman & Banning, 2006), the demographics of the photographers, and the media outlet the image was made for (wire vs. non-wire). Images in the sample include congressional and gubernatorial candidates across the country during the 2018 midterm election. The results will show how the demographics and source of images can impact the content of political imagery, and to make newsrooms and scholars more aware of how women in politics are visually represented. While American politics makes strides to mirror the demographics of society, our newsrooms can make similar efforts, now and in the future, to bring about equality in their coverage.

### THE VALUE OF DIGITAL LOCAL JOURNALISM: USER PRACTICES, PREFERENCES AND EXPECTATIONS

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Local news consistently forms one of the top categories in terms of people's topical news interests (Nielsen, 2015). Not only do local news stories tend to feature people, places and issues that are easy to recognize, such news also has a high perceived relevance for and impact on users' everyday life. Thus, it plays an important role in facilitating people's engagement within their social, cultural, civic and political networks (Swart, Peters & Broersma, 2017). Yet, paying intent for local journalism is far lower compared to national and international media: four in five Dutch people indicate they are unwilling to pay for local news (Landman & Kik, 2015). Faced with severe budget cuts, this raises the question how news organizations can create products that are both profitable and valuable to users.

This study explores under what circumstances users consider local news worth paying for, focusing on digital journalism in particular. Starting from the everyday life of the news user, it asks what people expect from online local journalism and when local news is experienced as valuable to engage socially and democratically. Employing semi-structured in-depth interviews combined with visual elicitation techniques, we asked people living in a rural municipality in The Netherlands (N=55) to draw mind maps of what they perceive as their local news ecology. This non-journalism centric approach allows us to analyze how people interweave local news with other information sources and everyday conversation to establish public connection, and to assess the value of local journalism in their daily lives.

### (HOW) IS THIS JOURNALISM? HOW THE URGE TO DEFINE IS HAMPERING INNOVATION IN (ENTREPRENEURIAL) JOURNALISM PRACTICES

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Is this journalism? is a simple, yet infinitely complicated question. Indeed, it has proven quite difficult and even controversial (Malik and Shapiro, 2016, 16) for both researchers and practitioners to define what journalism and news is (Young and Carson, 2018). Even more so because new forms of journalism are constantly forming and ‘flourishing’ next to one another (Deuze and Witschge, 2016, 121). Still, practitioners constantly appear to be engaged in ‘boundary-building discourses’ (Eldrige, 2018, x) centering on what journalism is (not). However, as I will show in this paper, such discourses may have an unintended harmful effect on developing practices of entrepreneurial journalism.

My research studies practices of entrepreneurial journalism through an auto-ethnographic approach (Ellis, 2014). In 2016 I co-launched the entrepreneurial journalistic venture called PodGront, an audio production company. Drawing on the diary entries and daily audiologs collected from February 2016 until October 2018, here I explore why we ultimately renounced the label of journalism in our venture. Allowing rich insight into specific lived experiences of entrepreneurial journalism, I show how questions of how your practices relate to journalism are experienced. Subsequently, I illustrate how they eventually may limit the innovative character of developing entrepreneurial journalistic practices. Ultimately, I suggest that to respond adequately to the myriad of changing practices in journalism and the existing desire for innovation (Vos and Singer, 2016), we should not ask ‘is this journalism?’ but rather ‘why are you doing it?’ —that is the more productive question, for both journalism practice and studies.



IN A "POST-TRUTH ERA",  
TEACHING IMPARTIAL  
JOURNALISM REQUIRES  
LOOKING BEYOND "FACTS" AND  
"BALANCE" TO DEEPER  
UNDERSTANDINGS OF "TRUTH"

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Journalistic codes preach honesty, accuracy, fairness, facts vs. opinion. But even "good" journalism struggles with truth. Setting aside the distortions of much 'popular' journalism, the truth's complexity -- in both factual and philosophical senses -- frequently eludes journalism. Clarity is impeded by identity politics, social media, time constraints, journalists befriending politicians, intrusive media ownership and unconscious bias. In Brexit and #MeToo -- important cultural events -- truth suffered. BBC Brexit coverage convinced many that it is no longer a benchmark of balanced reporting. Attacks came from credible voices including Gavin Esler and Robert Peston. Peston said the BBC aired people "with diametrically-opposed views" without giving "any help in assessing which was the loony." "...Impartial journalism isn't giving equal airtime to two people, one saying 'the world's flat' and the other saying it's 'round'."

Regarding #MeToo, accusations on social media circumvented media 'gatekeepers' and legal checks, arguably doing unfair damage to alleged abusers. The World Journalism Education Council says journalism education must "help perpetuate an informed society with a balance of conceptual, philosophical and skills-based content." But on British journalism degrees, skills teaching dominates, enforced by professional accrediting bodies. Few degrees give two thirds of their emphasis to the philosophical & social. How must journalism education change? By urgently engaging with epistemology and the philosophical and psychological understandings of liberty, humanism and liberalism that underly the traditions of tolerance on which democracy depends.

**JOURNALISM AND HATE  
SPEECH IN TIMES OF CONFLICT**

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Journalists make difficult decisions every day about whose views should be included and elevated by their reporting. These decisions take on particular significance during times of conflict, especially when sources are making extreme or hateful statements. Reporting these statements may exacerbate conflict and in-group fighting (Ismail & Deane 2008). This paper explores how journalists navigate this issue, drawing on semi-structured interviews conducted with 25 international journalists based in Sudan and Kenya. These interviews asked journalists to reflect on their experiences of reporting on extreme views and hate speech.

The interviews found that journalists do not have clear guidance on when a statement can or should be considered “hate speech”, or when it would be reasonable to exclude it from reporting. Indeed, very few newsrooms have formal policies – or even informal norms – around this issue. The paper concludes by suggesting a possible intervention to help this situation: a ‘hate speech’ toolbox developed by the Ethical Journalism Network. This toolbox prompts journalists to consider the status of the speaker, the content and format of their speech, as well as its context, intent and reach. The paper argues that the introduction of this protocol may help journalist reporting on some of the most complicated and important issues of our time.

**PREDICTING AND IMPROVING  
ONLINE NEWS ARTICLE  
SUCCESS BEFORE  
PUBLICATION: A VIEW FROM  
THE NEWSROOM**

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An increase in social media editors and digital platform subeditors shows media companies find value in optimizing news articles for an online audience. These editors employ various approaches to make articles more popular, such as changing headlines and article descriptions. However, some studies show article popularity can be best predicted by the text of the article body. We use a large, tagged article corpus from a national, English-language newspaper to fit linear regression models for categories of news based on the term frequency-inverse document frequency of articles' n-grams.

Our approach results in continuous scores for page views, visitors, subscriptions, and time-on-page rather than the single popular/not-popular classification proposed by papers which rely on logistic regression or machine learning models. We show how our models fit into the editing workflow and explore how our technique can be used to evaluate and improve stories.

**REARTICULATING WAR  
REPORTING AND EDITORIAL  
IMPARTIALITY IN THE ERA OF  
STRATEGIC MEDIA  
INTERFERENCE**

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Focusing on the crisis reporting in the Syria War and the contemporary 24hr news cycle of networked global news eco-systems, this research compares databases of five international newswires (AP, AFP, ITARR-TASS, RIA Novosti, Thomson-Reuters) to examine their differential coverage of state-planned sieges and citizen led accounts of chemical weapons attacks. By applying the embodied and materially-mediated lens of 'practice-theory' (Schatzki 2001, Couldry 2004) to the analytical framework of 'global media events' (Dayan & Katz, 1992; Hepp & Couldry, 2010), these news databases are rearticulated in terms of on-the-ground reporting and witnessing practices in contrast to editorial performances of impartiality. While the former facilitates opportunities for global audiences to witness 'suffering at a distance' (Peters, 2009; Ellis, 2009; Chouliaraki, 2006, 2013), the latter centres upon journalistic work itself conducted at distance, decontextualizing reporting through the inclusion of governmental and non-witness commentary.

Building comparative timelines of such coverage reveals the apertures for 'strategic narratives' (Miskimmon, O'Loughlin and Roselle 2014) to influence and skew patterns of global news reporting, where the timely engagement of government sources and state media within global-linked yet also linguistically-specific regional news eco-systems (Anglo-American, French, and Russian) misdirects journalistic and audience attention alike away from responsible news-gathering practices: contradictory governmental sources openly undermine reporting practices with accusations of bias, denials of recent events, as well as the premediated political posturing of potential conflict - a staging and threat of imminent humanitarian crisis - that serves to blanket the media landscape usurping coverage and attention from reporting on-the-ground in Syria.

**MALTESE POLARIZED MEDIA: A  
CASE STUDY**

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This case study looks at the impact on the Maltese polarised media and political environment when an independent, investigative journalist is murdered. It uses the slaying of blogger Daphne Caruana Galizia to examine hostile media perceptions in Malta. It presents a timeline of political developments, media regulatory changes, appearance of new media outlets and response from the European Union after Galizia's death. While these impacts are well known, there is no research on the public's perceptions of the Maltese media since Galizia's murder. Through focus groups and a survey, this study will explore those public media perceptions to determine if the murder of an independent journalist can change people's expectations and satisfaction with the media they consume.

### 'THE PARADOX OF NEW LEFT MEDIA'

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The rise of a varied group of ideologically left-wing political/journalism online sites in the context of the political turmoil of the UK in the last few years, collectively dubbed the New Left Media (NLM), raises interesting and important questions about the state and nature of UK news media in particular, and journalism practices and values more generally. Building on some recent comments (Campbell, 2018) on the rise of the NLM, this paper explores what might be seen as a potential paradox between the values and practices of the NLM, and their implications for journalism. Tensions between values of wanting to deliver previously marginalised/excluded ideological viewpoints from the UK news media landscape, and the development of more problematic practices often paralleling the practices of right-wing media (both mainstream and online) raise questions about what a shift to a more nominally pluralistic but advocacy-oriented journalistic environment actually signifies for journalism in the future. The paper will argue that a consideration of the practices of the NLM reveals something of a paradox in terms of both the reproduction and maintenance of many of the underlying practices of mainstream and right-wing media that they were, at least in part, established to attempt to counter and oppose, and also in terms of their persistence of focus on mainstream media as dominant subjects for their own content.

**JUST NORMAL JOURNALISM?  
JOURNALISTS' CONCEPTIONS  
OF INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING  
ON A CONTINUUM BETWEEN  
BASIC REPORTING AND  
IDEALISTIC ENDEAVOR**

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This paper examines how professionals define investigative journalism and how its legitimizing function takes place in their narratives and positionings. Based on 20 in-depth interviews with journalists working in French-speaking Switzerland, the research sheds light on their biographical trajectories, normative assumptions, as well as on the professional conditions and structural attributes of the national and international media landscape. As a starting point, we assume that investigative journalism is important to the field because it is the subject of symbolic struggles over the very definition of journalistic activity. Our first results show that contemporary investigative reporting is more than a journalistic genre, format or even discipline. The observed journalistic discourses and practices suggest that it concentrates a set of shared values and epistemologies (definitions, methods, concepts, individual attributes...) which operate around core values of journalism. Analysis of the implicit and explicit definitions used by professionals reveals that they rely on a gradual and multilevel definition, while experiencing it at the same time as a dichotomic category. This suggests a continuum between a full-fledged investigative endeavor and the most basic reporting. Interviewees' narratives build on a mix of various elements regarding what constitutes investigative journalism. We distinguished three types of defining criteria: matter, approach and processes involved. These hardly materialize altogether in practice and they can be used to fill in for and counterbalance each other. These gradual conceptions allow for adjustments between a clear-cut ideal and the actual work context.

**WHAT IS NEWS TO THE  
AUDIENCE? COMPARING  
PROFESSIONALS' AND  
AUDIENCES' NEWS VALUES**

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Empirical research (Boczkowski & Mitchelstein, 2013; Bright, 2016) confirms an old suspicion of journalism: the disconnect between what journalists propose as news and what kind of news audiences seek and share. This disconnect questions the ability of media to set the agenda (Tandoc, 2014), but also points towards a discrepancy between media and audiences about what is news (Harcup & O'Neill, 2017), questioning the traditional news values (García-Perdomo et al, 2018), and what journalism is (Steensen & Ahva, 2015; Sherwood & O'Donnell, 2018).

The objective of this paper is to identify the differences in news values among the content prioritized by journalists and those news which are most read, most commented and most shared by readers. In order to fulfil this objective news published by the four most read news sites in Spain (two pure players and two online media with print counterpart) have been analysed, as well as the most read, most commented and most shared news (n=1200). The analysis was carried out in two different timeframes of fifteen days each.

The news values were identified using Harcup & O'Neill's taxonomy. Results confirm divergences between what media and audience consider newsworthy, but also detect changes in news values depending on the use given to the information by audience. The results suggest the need to change the classic perspective of news values, focusing on institutional and professional criteria of media, to move to a perspective that takes into account what the audience considers newsworthy, as a previous step for a review of the news concept.



### TRUMP AND TRUMPISM: THE SYMBOLIC DIMENSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS OF DONALD TRUMP FOR US JOURNALISM

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For journalists in the US, Donald Trump has been a destabilizing force. Beyond his political positions, his unwillingness or inability to follow the conventions of traditional powerful news actors complicates journalistic routines and challenges normative understandings. Simultaneously, a constant onslaught of news – including Trump’s attacks on the press – prevents sustained reflection by the journalistic community. To make sense of Trump’s impact on the US press, this paper examines journalistic discourses surrounding two phenomena: Donald Trump as an individual and Donald Trump as a symbol. As an individual, Trump invites scrutiny as an elected official and for his open disdain for journalists. But Trump also functions as a particular symbol that collapses together interlinking forces, including a network of conservative media outlets, a turn to populist politics, vocal attacks on journalists, and the decline of mainstream journalism. For journalists, Trump-as-symbol encompasses ongoing concern around journalism in the present era of increasing uncertainty about the continued viability of journalism, the unchecked proliferation of public voices, and fears over the circulation of false information. The response to Trump – and particularly Trump as a symbol of intermingling forces – is about the protection of journalistic authority. What’s important about this response is how it shapes and constrains potential reactions to Trump in terms of what this discourse acknowledges as the scope of the problem. Trump the individual signals an isolatable and idiosyncratic threat while Trump the symbol pertains to a more complex environment. This paper assesses journalists’ responses to a particularly challenging time.

**THE DIGITAL SPOTLIGHT:  
APPLYING A CONNECTIVE  
ACTION FRAMEWORK OF  
POLITICAL PROTEST TO GLOBAL  
WATCHDOG REPORTING**

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Digital technologies have transformed advertising markets causing disruption to the funding of traditional media. Yet, paradoxically, the digital age also provides new opportunities for journalism, enabling innovations in investigative reporting on a global scale. However, the transition of investigative journalism from a single newsroom to multi-newsroom model involving: large-scale transnational collaboration; social media networks to extend audience reach and impact, and data journalism to analyse mass data leaks, is not well understood. This paper redresses this gap by adapting a theoretical framework usually applied to global protest movements to global collaborative investigative journalism. It aims to show how Lance Bennett and Alexandra Segerberg's (2013) 'logic of connective action' has application beyond political protest and is useful for studying global collaborative watchdog reporting. Bennett and Segerberg identify three distinct types of protest movement formations, and these can be approximated to fit case studies of large-scale transnational collaborative investigative journalism. This paper uses this framework with a case study methodology to explain why transnational investigative collaborations like those of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists succeed in exposing global injustices and inequality. At the same time, the framework also helps us understand why WikiLeaks's transnational collaborations with established media ultimately fell apart. This paper is the first to connect this political science theory of political protest to journalism to advance our understanding of global watchdog reporting in the digital age.

**ARRESTING THE DECLINE:  
INITIAL RESULTS FROM A  
PIONEERING PROJECT TO  
INCREASE COURT COVERAGE**

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There is a widespread perception of a collapse in court reporting in the England and Wales as local legacy media battles falling revenues and shifting audiences. This paper will present the initial findings from a pilot project which seeks to address this collapse. Court reporting is seen by journalists and the judiciary as demonstrating the media's function as a civil watchdog. Court reporting is a recognised 'beat' which requires specialist training as the penalties for getting information wrong can be severe; whether accidental or not. With fewer resources there have been fewer reporters attending court hearings because they can be more productive in other areas. The specialism required has limited the take-up of citizen reporters and the judiciary themselves has a poor reputation for accessibility and transparency. Research from UWE demonstrated the range of potential court stories being missed and identified opportunities to cover them. A following pilot proposes a new model of court reporting – justice reporting – and has developed an App to be used by citizen reporters to enable them to report legally safely from court. The pilot was developed by a cross-disciplinary team involving journalism, law and computer science and in partnership with external media and judicial organisations. The results will inform a wider roll-out of this pilot. It has the potential to allow the growing field of hyperlocal and citizen reporters to start covering the estimated 15,000 court stories which go unreported each week.

### DIGITAL MEDIA UNIONISM

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Although they are rarely the focus of contemporary journalism scholarship, journalists' unions are important collective actors in the project of reimagining the future of journalism. In this presentation, we report on the ongoing wave of unionization in digital newsrooms in the United States and Canada. Since 2015, journalists have unionized at 38 newsrooms, mostly digital outlets such as VICE, Vox, Huffington Post, and The Onion, but also legacy media, including The Los Angeles Times, The Chicago Tribune, and The New Yorker. Taking a political-economic approach and drawing on 44 interviews with union staff and journalists leading the unionization campaigns, we provide an overview of why and how these media workers organize. Journalists are unionizing in response to pressurized working conditions, precarious employment, and a lack of management transparency. Beyond bread-and-butter issues, journalists are also organizing to protect editorial integrity and enhance social equity in their newsrooms. We also identify features of the union drives that have contributed to their success, including a high level of worker participation and cross-shop solidarity. These features have been especially apparent in public-facing communication, reflecting how digital media workers are strategically positioned to mount counter-publicity campaigns on social media to pressure employers to recognize unions. Aiming to raise standards across the sector, the digital media union movement provides a counter-narrative to that of journalism in crisis, while collective organizing provides journalism studies with an entry point for researching the future of journalism from below.

### AUTOMATION IN THE NEWSROOM: TOWARDS A MULTI-LEVEL TYPOLOGY OF COMPUTATIONAL AUTOMATION IN PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM

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As automation has become a multi-interpretative concept, it has become increasingly important to distinguish its various levels since it has changed professional journalism in recent years. Hence, little is theoreticized of the medium-specific aspects and functioning of automation in professional journalism. Following Frey and Osborne (2013), we will create a typology of five various levels of automation - also categorising the points of overlap and divergence. Based on an extensive literature review, we will set five levels of automation and evaluate their epistemological and professional dimensions. The second part of the study will distill a framework out of the aforementioned levels that will be applied on the implications of computational journalistic trajectories on quantitative and qualitative micro-processes in the gathering, production, distribution and the ability of fact checking in a newsroom. In doing so, we bridge the gap in the existent literature by reviewing the various levels of automation. We argue that this typology and its framework should be taken into account in order to understand evolving patterns and the upcoming challenges of automation in journalism research and education at the intersection of technology and big data.

**#AIDTOO: SOCIAL MEDIA SPACES AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE REPORTING OF AID SCANDALS IN 2018**

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In 2018, the aid agencies, Oxfam GB and Save the Children UK found themselves in the midst of sexual abuse scandals. Media coverage culminated in senior staff resigning, investigations by the Charity Commission and the International Development Select Committee and donors deserting both agencies. Yet these stories had been known in the aid industry and media for several years. What changed in 2018? Interrogating Greer and McLaughlin's (2017) scandal model, this paper uses original, in-depth interviews with the key whistleblowers, legacy media journalists, and those who created alternative media spaces at the centre of the 2018 stories, in order to analyse changing aid-journalism relationships, and the potential democratising effect of different mobile platforms. The findings suggest the stories were previously kept out of the public domain for several reasons: aid agencies' aggressive use of deflective media strategies and legal threats; fears by whistleblowers that such stories could perpetuate the right-wing media's anti-aid agenda; but also repeated and unsuccessful approaches to media outlets known for covering aid stories. The move from latency to activation came about because of sustained investigations by journalists outside the aid community, but also due to the emergence of the #AidToo hashtag and media spaces such as the Fifty Shades of Aid Facebook group and NGO SafeSpace. These allowed these women to share stories, form connections and utilise their own media ecosystem. The paper examines this transition, and examines how the transformative effect of the interplay of legacy and social media may be used in future.

### NEWS ORGANISATIONS, ALGORITHMIC POWER, AND THE MEDITATING ROLE OF BUSINESS MODELS

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News organisations increasingly rely on social media platforms, especially Facebook, to distribute their news and reach large audiences (Bell, 2016; Nielsen and Ganter, 2017; Newman et al., 2018). In doing so, they have to cope with powerful and often opaque algorithms, which play a central role in selecting what information is considered most relevant to social media users (Bucher, 2018; Gillespie, 2014; Tandoc and Maitra, 2018). Based on 21 semi-structured interviews conducted in 2018 with senior editors and managers at a strategic sample of 12 newspapers and commercial broadcasters in six European countries (Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Poland and the UK), we analyse 1) how interviewees describe the power of Facebook's algorithm, 2) how they empirically investigate how it works, and 3) how they respond to major algorithmic changes (the January 2018 change to EdgeRank is taken as a case study). We find that interviewees predominantly describe the algorithm as a 'black box' and try to cope with its 'opacity' by adopting trial-and-error approaches. In this context, business models strongly affect responses to algorithmic change. On the one hand, organisations focusing on paywalls tend to perceive themselves as less reliant on social media platforms and thus react by changing little or nothing in their social media strategies. On the other hand, outlets focusing on digital advertising tend to be more sensitive to platforms' incentives and significantly adapt their strategies to algorithmic changes. These findings contribute to our understanding of algorithmic power and the mediating role of news organisations' business models.

### TWITTER MAKES IT WORSE: WHEN JOURNALISTS REPORT ABOUT MIGRATION IN ITALY

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Given the increasing importance of Twitter in political communication, but also the establishment of a digital status, sense of hierarchy and prestige for journalists who are active online, it's important to better understand journalists' experiences of threats and impediments to practising their profession. This study explores the current state of journalism in Italy, through qualitative data analysis with digital methods (Rogers 2013), and especially discuss the needs and requirements of digital journalists to continue practising safely their profession. In depth interviews with journalists who are specialized in migration, or who have covered the topic on a regular basis will support the digital dataset analysis collected. The nature of Italy's position as a high-profile receiving country of refugees and other migrants using the Mediterranean route to enter Europe has also meant that many journalists have specialised on the topic of migration and asylum. In recent years, trolls and bots have stoked online debate around migration, both distributing vast amounts of false information but also targeting journalists for covering the topic. Aggressive trolls have created a feeling of fear among journalists, causing them to stop making migration-related news online. Other studies show that trolls' impact may lead to people become silenced or confused. (Aro 2016) These acts of intimidation are clearly designed to cripple democracy and threaten journalism. To what extent does online trolling influence how journalists do their jobs? And to what extent it can be considered as harassment? Finally, what strategies do journalists use to survive or deal with it once it has occurred?



### PREPARING JOURNALISM GRADUATES FOR LIFE AFTER UNIVERSITY

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Two Australian Federal government reports on the future of work (2017 and 2018) reveal that graduates will experience multiple occupations over the life of their careers in a degree of discipline mobility not seen in previous generations. The complexity and uncertainty inherent in a graduate's future presents particular challenges for educators and students. For journalism graduates, this will be a period of their lives imbued with some anxiety and many questions. What does the industry expect of them? What options are available? How big is the step to the next rung on the ladder? How will they manage without the networks and structures that have supported them through their studies? Also, in the ever-changing world of the media, the graduate skills tick-box list is continually growing. It includes competent research and analytical skills, broad general knowledge, practical industry skills, multi digital skills, well-developed personal and professional identities, solid reflective practices and life-long learning skills. The focus of this paper is on the critical 'transition out' stage and the journey that follows. It provides examples of how to adopt strategic and practical approaches to enhance the 'transition-out' graduate experience. What is required is not a new set of units in an already overcrowded curriculum, but rather the ability to highlight what already exists and how it relates to personal and professional development and employability. The ultimate goal is to prepare journalism graduates for a lifetime of learning and work, not just for their first professional job. It's a degree for life.

**CATALYST FOR JOURNALISTIC  
IMPACT: A PROPOSED  
REPORTING MODEL**

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In response to such forces as industry disruption, economic erosion, and diminishing audience trust coupled with compassion fatigue, academia has a responsibility to seek out and formulate transformative journalistic approaches that hold true to the journalistic mission of seeking truth in service to democracy. While investigative reporting is foundational, Kovach and Rosenstiel (2007) argue that solely uncovering problems does not fulfill the journalistic role in a democracy: “How can the press purport to monitor the powerful if it does not illustrate successes as well as failures?” (p. 174). An increasing number of journalists and their news organizations are writing stories that do just that: illustrating how problems might be solved. In 2018, for example, The Guardian launched “The Upside,” a series that reports on “innovative solutions to the world’s most pressing problems.” While these types of stories (generally referred to as constructive or solutions journalism) provide evidence of workable responses, they do not typically put heat on leaders who have failed to act or who need to respond in the present (Benesch, 1998). Given the value, mission, and limitations of both of investigative and response reporting practices, the foundation of this study is that by combining an investigative and solutions reporting approach—using the rigor and techniques of investigative reporting to uncover and report on problem responses—journalism can create measurable impact by putting pressure on leaders to solve problems and by showing readers that problems are not intractable. Drawing from news article analysis and newsroom observations/interviews, the paper will present a conceptual approach for this innovative journalistic practice.

**DIGITAL CONVERSATION AND  
HIERARCHICAL CLUSTERS  
AROUND BREXIT IN SPAIN AND  
THE UNITED KINGDOM**

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The Brexit is an issue that is attracting the interest of the media for the historical consequences it may have for Europe. Every day there is news about the negotiations between London and Brussels to manage the exit of the United Kingdom from the European Union. According to a study carried out by the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism of the University of Oxford together with the consultancy PRIME Research, in many countries, the media have adopted a neutral position when reporting on the Brexit negotiations. However, the results of the study reflect that the Spanish media showed a position contrary to the separation, unlike the British press that played an important role in the triumph of Brexit (Gómez, 2017).

This research is based on an analysis of social networks around Brexit (Polonski, 2016). It focuses on the discourse analysis and studies the tweets and responses about the departure of the United Kingdom from the European Union published in that country respectively and in Spain in the last few months in which a large part of the speeches has been created on the Brexit. This work uses the DMI-TCAT software for the extraction of tweets (Borra and Raider, 2014), and leaves aside the structural analysis of networks and is oriented towards a hierarchical clusters research - method of analysis of specific groups- which seeks to build a hierarchy of groups and leaders to identify them.

### 'MEDIA FREEDOM EVENTS'

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This paper will consider the rise of what I call 'media freedom events'. Distinct from simple metajournalism, which can be considered as routine instances of journalism on journalism, as well as 'ritual media events', such cases highlight more the media's reactionary questioning and defence of the role and regulation of the media, performatively participating in the contestation of their own legitimacy as a reflector or influencer of public opinion. Problematizing both the concepts of 'media events' (as well as 'media rituals' and 'media happenings') and that of 'media freedom', and critiquing the liberal democratic assumptions that often inform research into such issues, the paper will draw on examples such as the Leveson Inquiry in the UK (and debates on the extent of press freedom, privacy and state intervention), the 'Charlie Hebdo event' in France (and debates on the limits of free speech and the visibility of the public/s following an attack on journalists), and the reaction of mainstream media in liberal democracies to 'fake news' (as well as Trump's accusations that the liberal media themselves are the real fake news) to illustrate the diverse ways in which the media respond to unplanned happenings that are beyond their control but which concern their very *raison d'être*. Ultimately, the paper will argue that such 'events' suggest a normative crisis in contemporary journalism and liberal democracy.

### IMMERSIVE JOURNALISM AND THE ENGAGED AUDIENCE? A MULTI-METHOD STUDY ON IMMERSIVE JOURNALISM AND ITS EFFECT ON THE AUDIENCE

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Media organizations are seeking innovative ways to reach and engage the audience (Deuze & Beckett, 2016; Watson, 2017). With immersive journalism, such as Virtual Reality productions, media organizations allow the news consumer to engage with and be part of the story (De la Pena, 2010; Sánchez Laws, 2017). Using a multi-method study, we get a better understanding of this type of storytelling and its effect on the audience. First, a comprehensive interdisciplinary literature review resulted in a conceptual model of immersive journalism. Subsequently, the elements of the model were used to conduct a content analysis of journalistic immersive productions worldwide (N = 190), followed by in-depth interviews with producers of a selection of the productions (N = 10) to understand how the productions came about. Building on these results, four experiments were conducted to test the effect of different immersive elements on the public's knowledge and understanding of the story (total N for four experiments = 320). The following immersive elements are tested: (a) inclusion (i.e., the extent to which the user is cut off from the real world), (b) type of audio, (c) first- vs. third person view, and (d) presence of interactivity. The project shows that the level of immersion is generally quite limited in journalistic productions. This study contributes to research on the emerging field of immersive journalism with advancing technologies. These new technologies do not only pose new questions on journalistic storytelling, but also on the role of the user in relation to the journalist.

**A TRANSITIONAL MOMENT:  
COMPUTERS AND DATA IN THE  
NEWSROOM (1960S-1980S)**

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When did the recent transformations of journalism start? Journalism studies research has devoted a lot of scholarship to the understanding of the changes brought about by the internet, social media platforms, or the datafication of society—showing that they all have affected news production processes, distribution, labor as well as the relationship between journalists and their audience. In this paper, we argue that it is worth to jump back in time and look at another key moment: the introduction of computers in the newsroom that started during the 1960s and the 1970s. This transition from the analog to the digital also affected many aspects of journalism, and its consequences remain little known.

Drawing on STS (science and technology studies) approaches, we argue that it is necessary to explore the genealogy of current developments in computational and datafied journalism. In order to do so, we describe this pivotal moment that happened between the 1960s and the 1980s by analyzing metajournalistic discourse (the archives of the magazine published by the Fédération Professionnelle des Journalistes du Québec, the trade association for journalists in the province of Québec, Canada) and interviews with journalists who were active during the transitional decades of the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. Results highlight the changes in labor and working conditions, as well as the materiality of digital technology in newswork that both echo contemporary issues in journalism.

**POLITICAL TWEETS AS A NEW  
EXAMPLE OF CYNICAL  
JOURNALISM BASED ON  
STATEMENTS. A COMPARATIVE  
STUDY OF THE BREAKTHROUGH  
OF THE FAR-RIGHT IN  
ANDALUSIA**

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New technologies allow politicians to spread their messages omitting the role of mediators. In this context, journalism is characterised by merely collecting statements, moving away from its traditional function of providing keys for the interpretation of reality. The question is whether social media, and in particular Twitter as a new communication tool, give politicians the chance of providing direct information, carrying out the long-awaited feedback or is only used as a sounding board for their statements.

Bearing this in mind, the objective of this research is to explore the communication on Twitter in the framework of the election for the Spanish region of Andalusia in 2018. Since a far-right party entered for the first time in 35 years in a Spanish regional parliament, this election can be considered a political turning point. In this paper we analyse the effects of the unexpected outcome of VOX in the flow of messages from the candidates of parties that obtained parliamentary representation: PSOE (S&D), PP (EPP), Citizens (ALDE), Adelante Andalucía (GUE/NGL) and VOX (ENF). Through its significant number of seats, VOX determines the new conservative Andalusian government. For this reason, it is also interesting to study representatives of civil society affected by its policies, such as the feminist movement, the animalists or the rural communities. Using content analysis on Twitter as a method, this research expects to find how social networks act as an amplifier of not mediated political statements (or not passed through the media) before the emergence of a populist party.

### WHEN APPLE MEETS DARWIN. HOW JOURNALISM STUDENTS LOOK TO THE FUTURE OF JOURNALISM

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The future of journalism is pre-eminently described in terms of change (transformation, disruption) rather than continuity. Change causes uncertainty; one way to deal with this is to “imagine” possible future scenarios. In 2015, the Dutch Journalism Fund presented four scenarios for the future of Dutch journalism in 2025. They differ from each other to the extent that they embrace technology and to the degree of trust in institutions. We analyzed how master students in journalism (“tomorrow’s journalists”) look to them: Which scenario for the future is found the most likely? Which scenario is the most desirable? And why? In November 2017, 27 students wrote a blog essay about the future of journalism. In November 2018, another 24 students repeated this writing. The essays were analyzed qualitatively (likes, dislikes, trends) and quantitatively (scenarios).

The results show that students consider the future in terms of continuity rather than change. The present and the future of journalism are equally discussed in most essays and are sometimes even equated. The most likely scenario (A Handful of Apples) is one in which only a few tech giants (e.g., Google, Facebook) become the main news sources for passive consumers. The most desirable scenario (Darwin’s Game), however, is a world in which the professional news media maintain a leading role, admittedly with more attention to the public than is now the case. Scenarios that opt for a thorough do-it-yourself mentality (Wisdom of the Crowd, The Shire), students do not consider as likely or desirable.



### WEIGHTING BALANCE IN TELEVISION NEWS: HAS THE RITUAL FALLEN INTO DISUSE?

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Now more than 45 years ago, Gaye Tuchman wrote about balancing news sources as part of the rituals of objectivity journalists tend to follow in their daily work. Having a voice from both/two sides of a case or issue when making a news item about them, was considered as routine practice for journalists. Since then, television news journalism has changed a lot. Both in terms of the meaning and value of objectivity (as a principle component of journalism), and potentially considering the dominance of routines in journalism. Various studies have pointed at elite dominance, the (biased) use of news sources as opportune witnesses, and the individual, organizational and extra-media pressures/constraints on journalists (not) to give voice to two sides of a story. This study will look into the changes in the application of balance of voices in television news in the context of Flanders (Belgium) over a period of 15 years. The ENA-database provides the necessary (already coded) data about voices in every news item made by the two main (public and private) flagship news broadcasts in Flanders since 2003. The study looks into changes over time (more or less 'ritual' balance), by topic, broadcaster and even in the sourcing pattern of individual journalists. Taking into account contextual changes in Flanders during this time period, like e.g. various parties in (coalition) governments, the study aims to get more insight in when and how balance in the news occurs, and which evolutions are observable in political journalism in this respect.

**A MEDIA MONITORING OF THE  
REPRESENTATION OF FEMALE  
POLITICIANS IN BELGIAN NEWS  
MEDIA FROM AN  
INTERSECTIONAL APPROACH**

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Previous research in the field of feminist media studies has repeatedly demonstrated that female politicians are underrepresented and represented in a biased, stereotypical way (e.g. attention to looks, personal life) compared to male politicians (Campus, 2013). Nonetheless, some studies have reported divergent findings (Atkeson & Krebs, 2008), as such underlining the importance of taking contextual factors into account when studying representation, such as the type of news and a political candidate's competitiveness (Wagner et al., 2017). Following from this observation, researchers are also increasingly putting forward an intersectional approach, assuming that 'identity markers' such as age and ethnicity may also explain divergent findings for certain groups of women politicians. For example, a study by Gershon (2012) pointed out that minority female candidates for US Congress received less coverage than Anglo-American female candidates.

However, despite these new insights, a large-scale intersectional study on female politicians' representation that monitors several media types and accounts for multiple factors of influence is still lacking. This study wants to address this gap by studying the representation of female politicians from an intersectional approach in Dutch-speaking Belgian news media. It will study newspapers, net-native news sites, magazines and television broadcasts. The research will be carried out using a quantitative content analysis during the month of May 2019, when regional, federal and European elections take place in Belgium. The analysis will be proceeded in June-July 2019 in order to present the findings during the Future of Journalism conference.

**IMMEDIATE RELIABLE?  
CHANGING INFORMATION  
GATHERING PRACTICES IN  
HIGH-SPEED NEWSROOMS**  
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Journalism's reliability is heavily debated in the discussions on fake news and misinformation. Striking at the heart of journalism's raison-d'être, these discussions bring to light the tension between reliability and immediacy. In both academic and trade literature the erosion of reliability in journalism is generally assumed, especially in online journalism, where 'not-wrong-for-long' seems to become the standard for information gathering. However, little empirical evidence supports this claim. This study questions how immediacy relates to reliability in changing practices of information gathering. It focuses on information gathering practices of newsrooms with a high level of immediacy. Data were collected through micro-observations of gathering activities of individual journalist at eight Dutch newsrooms. Since the flexibility of the deadline shapes the rhythms of information gathering practices, the selection of cases contains both online newsrooms with a fluid deadline and radio and television newsrooms with fixed deadlines.

Analysis of these micro-observations show an intertwining of gathering and verifying activities. Reliability seems to crystallize differently in the journalistic information gathering process depending on the liquidity of the deadline and the level of immediacy. Fluid deadlines are changing the rhythm of information gathering practices, making it a practice of ongoing incremental updating and are breaking the process in primary and secondary activities. Primary information gathering activities are guided by the immediacy related new principle of freshness. Reliability guides the secondary gathering activities. The main activities after first publication are checking of simple facts and language errors and adding more detailed factual information and other opinions.

### VNEXPRESS AND VIETNAMPLUS ONLINE NEWS'S INNOVATIVE APPROACHES IN APPLYING BIG DATA AND AI TECHNOLOGY TO JOURNALISM IN VIETNAM

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This research sets out to provide an overview in which Vietnam's newsrooms are adapting Big data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to journalism. It also discusses the directed future for Vietnamese journalists when digital innovation threatens their traditional role. The paper recognises the adaption of Vietnamese journalism through two case studies of VnExpress and Vietnamplus online news. (1) For the case of VnExpress: in terms of development, content and form, the author examines the DataSpeaks category, launched on VnExpress International in 2016, through a preliminary analysis of how data-driven stories are being presented. In terms of technical view, four optimal solutions of VnExpress Technical Center to bring the best experiences to users and editorial staffs, including Recommended system; Personalization; Automation of content production; Monitoring system in performance, are mentioned through in-depth interviews with technical experts. To help journalists "survive" in the age of big data, newsroom's leaders and practitioners recommend them to pay attention to data trends so that they can create tomorrow's headlines, leading the trend of predictive journalism. (2) For the case of VietnamPlus: it has become the first official news organisation in Vietnam using Chatbot to connect with readers in November 2018. To investigate the Chatbot development and investment strategy of VietnamPlus, the author interviewed the Editor-in-Chief and some journalism experts there. Regarding the predictions, these people pointed out three key statements that journalists should consider in the future: the machine has no ethics; journalists need to master and control thinking themselves in teaching machine the commands and algorithms; they also still need to cross-check, verify and doubt the results from the machine.

### WHAT IF NEWSPAPERS AREN'T DYING?

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The spring of 2019 will mark a decade since the onset of the so-called newspaper crisis, which was precipitated by a steep drop in ad revenues brought by the 2008-09 recession. After several long-publishing U.S. dailies folded or went online-only in early 2009, predictions grew that newspapers would go extinct within a few years. A decade later, however, almost all continue to publish. One study examined financial statements of newspaper companies in the U.S. and Canada from 2006 to 2013 and found they all remained profitable throughout, with some enjoying profit margins as high as 20 percent (Edge, 2014). A replication which studied UK newspapers found similar but more varied results (Edge, 2019). Some, such as the Times, are now profitable for the first time in years since they introduced a paywall to charge for access to online content. The proposed paper would attempt to reconcile widely mistaken perceptions of their economic viability with newspaper industry pleadings of poverty in a seeming quest for regulatory relief and even government financial assistance. Implications for journalism education are also considered in light of widespread curriculum revision to focus on digital media, which unlike newspapers have largely failed to find a viable business model.

**THE HEAD AND HEART OF NEWS  
AVOIDANCE: HOW ATTITUDES  
ABOUT THE NEWS MEDIA  
RELATE TO NEWS  
CONSUMPTION**

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du

Today's high-choice media environment enables some individuals to consume more news, while others can avoid news all together (Prior, 2007). The latter have been described as 'news avoiders' who, depending on the measurement, reflect anywhere from 20 to 50 percent of the U.S. population (Edgerly, 2015; Ksiazek, Malthouse, & Webster, 2010). The focus of this study is to better understand to why some individuals exhibit habitually low levels of news consumption. Much of what we know about news avoidance comes at the hands of qualitative research identifying the obstacles to news consumption that certain groups face (i.e., young adults, the working class). These studies point to the role of news fatigue, lack of self-efficacy, and social identity in explaining why some people build habits that largely do not involve the news media (Costera Meijer, 2013; Lindell & Sartoretto, 2017; Toff & Palmer, 2018). But which of these factors matters the most among certain groups and across a population? Are there specific attitudes related to the news media that are especially powerful in explaining news avoidance? This study will use a nationally representative survey of U.S. adults to identify which news-related attitudes correspond to lower levels of news exposure. Results from this study will provide some structure for efforts to convert news avoiders into more regular consumers of news.

### FROM MACHINE LEARNING TO DEEP LEARNING IN THE BOTS OF THE NEWSROOMS: SECTIONS AND PREFERENTIAL TOPICS FOR AUTOMATIC NEWS WRITING

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The possibility of writing news by introducing algorithms into bots places us before a new journalistic model (Jung, et al., 2017) that, within the frame of the fourth industrial revolution, allows the editors to cut back the work done by journalists. In addition to the works on bots (Bucher, 2017; Hil, 2016; Morozov, 2014; Seaver, 2013; Steiner, 2012; Hussain and Kumar, 2012; Pariser, 2011; Evans, 2011, amongst others), we can find articles about automated journalism (Jung et al., 2017; Lokot y Diakopoulos, 2016; Diakopoulos, 2015; Larsson y Moe, 2015; Lecomte, 2015, etc.) that present new perspectives and ethical uncertainties. There are positive aspects as well as negative effects and the future is focused on the prospect of unsupervised learning, a higher stage closer to the cognitive human process or deep learning that is already being examined by some companies. Nevertheless, the bots currently used in the media act upon the base of a machine learning, so we ask ourselves some questions: Q1: What sections and topics are more adequate for the automated production of news? Q2: What level of quality can be achieved? Q3: Would it be possible to write complex stories without the intervention of journalists and what would the consequences be? To answer these questions, we have selected a sample of media and automated stories to which we have applied a template with the characteristics of the news as an informative genre and textual element, completing it with semi-structured interviews to the media editors. A greater technological development of the bots could damage the essence of journalism if the quality and reliability standards needed in a democratic society are not achieved.

**THE EPISTEMOLOGIES OF  
BREAKING NEWS**

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The study analyzes the epistemologies of online breaking news, focusing on the distinctive epistemic practices and challenges in the production of continuous news updates and online live broadcast. The analytical framework identifies three central aspects of news epistemology: the articulation of knowledge claims; how journalists know what they claim to know; the justification of knowledge claims. The study draws on data from ethnographic research at a Swedish online first. Participant observations and interviews were carried out during spring and summer 2018. The study shows how epistemic efforts are calculated and how commitments to facts are carefully balanced in the enactment of discursive resources. The implications of different temporalities in news production are analyzed and the study identifies forms of epistemic dissonance that ultimately jeopardize the authority of the news media as a provider of valuable public information.



**EGYPTIAN JOURNALISTS AND  
THE STRUGGLE FOR CHANGE  
POST-UPRISING: THE  
AMBIGUOUS JOURNALISTIC  
AGENCY BETWEEN CHANGE  
AND CONFORMITY**

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The Egyptian media displayed a high level of diversity in content in the final years of the Mubarak regime before the 2011 uprising. This diversity extended considerably after the uprising when national media – including the strictly controlled state media – embodied expressions of dissent with unprecedented openness, in defiance of the entrenched identity of the journalist as the regime’s guard. This identity resurfaced after the military coup of July 2013, when the national media resumed its role as the favourite platform for excluding dissent in the name of the regime’s stability. This paper looks at the short-lived ‘revolts’ within Egyptian traditional newsrooms searching for new identities, investigating the challenges, hopes and trade-offs of a painful process of transformation in a troubled transition to democracy. The paper argues that the ambivalent journalistic agency gained unprecedented dynamism and helped supporting trends toward democratization in media and politics in the immediate aftermath of the uprising, while it also acted as powerful platform in “othering” opponents preparing the ground for the return of autocratic practices and ultimately the fall of the democratic experiment. The paper explores the agentic dynamics in the journalistic practice in an uncertain time within a highly context transition to democracy. It is rooted in ethnographic research with journalists and media stakeholders in Egypt from the 2011 uprisings until the phase immediately following the military takeover.

**JOURNALISM IN THE SPACES  
BETWEEN: JOURNALISTIC  
OUTSIDERS AND PUBLICS AS  
CRITICAL DEFINERS OF  
JOURNALISM**

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When members of the public find digital content useful for navigating the world around them, they treat it as news – regardless any official ‘stamp of journalistic approval’, and sometimes because it lacks such a badge. Similarly, when digital actors see their work as journalism, they identify as journalists – regardless peer approval, and sometimes because of peer disapproval. These dynamics continue to emerge in studies of digital journalism, yet they complicate understandings of what journalism is (Eldridge 2018). In exploring the relationship between those who produce news and those who consume it, this paper focuses on the contextual relationship between publics and journalists where each has a stake in defining what journalism is. It specifically engages with news from non-traditional, sometimes disapproved-of, digital spaces. It aims to contribute to discussions which reflect on the nature of journalism, its boundaries, and its core demands (Boczkowski and Anderson, 2017), by working from the outside in.

This paper presents results from a project exploring non-traditional digital actors ranging from agonistic ‘critical friends’ of journalism to antagonistic ‘enemies’ of the field, and audience reactions to their work. The study utilises WhatsApp to gather perceptions of digital news content, interviews with digital journalists in the US, UK, and Netherlands, and analysis of interactive comment threads beneath digital content. From its findings, it argues journalism can be found not only in the self-presentation of journalists, or in the form of news content, but also in the engagement between critically reflexive digital journalists, their content, and their self-aware publics.

**DEFINING 'FREEDOM OF THE PRESS': A CROSS-NATIONAL ANALYSIS OF PRESS COUNCIL CODES OF ETHICS**

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'Freedom of the press' has always been a contested concept: whether posited in terms of market rationality or as the lifeblood of an idealised democratic community. This paper examines key issues of central concern to press freedom and this conference: the changing definitions of journalism and the news ecology, technological liminality within journalism practice and of course how journalism ethics that underpin the boundaries of press freedom are reconfigured within these new spaces. Moreover, questions regarding the transformation of journalism in terms of its functions, role, ethical bases and how these might be regulated, are central to our AHRC-funded interdisciplinary research project: Defining Freedom of the Press (AH/R00644X/1). This paper presents initial findings focussing on cross-national comparisons of journalism ethics and regulation in thirteen countries that score highly on measures of press freedom. Drawing on a critical discourse analysis and concepts from the field of applied ethics, our interdisciplinary findings emphasise the extent to which the ethics codes and regulatory culture of each of our thirteen countries claim to serve four functions common to professional codes of practice outside of journalism: to be action-guiding, disciplinary, public-facing and to encourage solidarity among members of the professional community. Given that the protected status of journalism as a profession hinges on the maintenance of boundaries, this research furthers our understanding of how codes of ethics contribute to the discursive construction of journalism as a profession.

### SOCIAL MEDIA EDITORS: GATEKEEPERS FOR THE DELIBERATIVE DEBATE

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In countries all over the world users consume their news via Facebook (Newman et al. 2018, 10), therefore, it is important to explore how social media editors select content and what they see as their main purpose for posting on Facebook. Despite the changes in distribution channels caused by digitalization, it seems journalism's practices has not changed much, journalism is seen as a finished product when 'printed' (Haak, Parks, and Castells 2012, 2924; Deuze and Witschge 2018, 172), though journalism when shared and discussed online, is made part of the public deliberative debate. Theoretically, this paper builds on a Habermasian point of view, that the important part of the public debate is making sure every point of view and factual information is shared in an accessible public sphere. This paper shows in which ways and to what extent social media editors at newspapers consider deliberative practices, when using social media, and what barriers there are for carrying out Facebook's deliberative potential. The paper builds on qualitative interviews with social media editors, both editors working on strategic level and with hands on experience, from major Danish newspapers. The results show, that the interviewees mainly see Facebook as branding of their products and a way of driving traffic to their websites. Because of the amount of comments made on Facebook, they struggle utilizing the deliberative potential, but see the unexploited potential for using Facebook for journalistic and deliberative purposes for the public good.

### DATA JOURNALISM IN TELEVISION NEWS: A CASE OF GLOBO'S NEWS PROGRAMS

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It is now almost a decade ago since Adrian Holovaty, an American developer and journalist, Started a debate about the role of computer programming in journalism ( Holovaty, 2009) . During this period, data journalism emerged as a new practice that uses technology, journalism, and design to innovate the way news organizations tell stories, which reinforce the position of journalism as a society's watchdog (Stalph & Borges-Rey, 2018). After the viral dissemination of hoax political news in the run-up to the US presidential election in 2016, followed by the Brazilian election in 2018, showed the relevance of data more than ever (Silverman & Singer-Vine, 2016; Phillips, 2018). However, most of the studies have investigated the practice focused on digital news reporting and on the early-adopter nations in the Western hemisphere (Gray et al, 2012; Coddington, 2015; Young & Hermida, 2015; Young & Hermida, 2017; Appelgren & Nygren, 2014). Few pieces of research have concentrated, however, on the practice of data journalism in television, and also, in non-Western countries.

Following on from a literature review that highlights what has been studied in the data journalism practice, the paper presents a carefully devised content analysis from the three main news programs of TV Globo (Jornal Hoje, Jornal Nacional and Jornal da Globo) between November 2018 and January 2019, to point out how the channel is experimenting with data journalism in television news reporting. This study also uses a number of semi-structured, in-depth interviews with professionals working with data journalism across TV Globo who are working with projects focused on television news to get a deeper understanding of how the practice is being explored. Interviews will be carried out in two major newsrooms of the network (São Paulo e Rio de Janeiro) via video conference in early 2019 to study the status quo and future challenges of data journalism in television reporting and to help shed light on how other news organizations can enhance their data competence. Finally, the paper concludes with an agenda for future research.

### FOUR APPROACHES TO GAMIFYING THE NEWS MISUNDERSTANDING INNOVATION FOR THE GOOD AND BAD OF JOURNALISM

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This study explores how and why news organizations and newswriters attempt to innovate with gamification in digital news websites and analyzes the objectives behind its implementation in news production. Studying gamification of journalism is relevant due to the opposing roles that digital games and news have in contemporary media. While journalism is often regarded as the main source of information for the public to act as citizens (Costera Meijer, 2001), digital games predominantly remain considered as entertainment media (Quandt & Kröger, 2013). The inclusion of gamification signifies an attempt to blur the separation between serious journalism and entertainment journalism (Ferrer-Conill, 2017). Drawing from new institutionalism and adopting a socio-technical approach (Lewis & Weslund, 2015), this study engages with scholarship on converging processes of popularization and professionalization of journalism, and discusses how different institutional logics of gamification and journalism interact. Methodologically, this qualitative multiple case study analyzes four diverse news organizations (the Guardian, Bleacher Report, the Times of India, and Al Jazeera), interviewing 56 newswriters, and conducting game-system analysis of their respective gamified systems. Findings suggest that gamification is a misunderstood innovation that depends on a complex interplay between the professional and commercial logics of journalism and the hedonic and utilitarian logics of gamification. The study presents four different uses of gamification that attempt to organize reader participation, journalistic production, user loyalty, and storytelling techniques. This paper contributes to a larger debate on the friction between professionalism and the market, and the increasing transgression of institutional journalistic boundaries due to innovation.

THE AUDIENCES OF  
ALTERNATIVE-PARTISAN  
ONLINE NEWS SOURCES IN THE  
UK, USA, AND SWEDEN

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In recent years we have seen the emergence of alternative-partisan online news sources like Breitbart and Infowars in the United States, The Canary and Westmonster in the United Kingdom, and Fria Tider and Nyheter Idag in Sweden. Although many believe that outlets like these have greatly influenced recent political events, we still know remarkably little about their audiences. In this paper, we use data from the 2018 Reuters Institute Digital News Report to profile the audiences of a sample of 16 alternative-partisan online news sources across three countries (UK, USA, Sweden). We find that, despite their prominence in contemporary political discourse, (i) most online news consumers (around 70% on average) have not even heard of these outlets, and that (ii) they each typically reach fewer 10% of the online population each week. In contrast to many established news sources, we find that (iii) audiences do not have a consistent profile in terms of demographic variables like age, gender, education, and income—but instead are each held together by specific political attitudes, high levels of interest in the news, and low levels of trust. Our findings therefore caution against the assumption that alternative-partisan news outlets have a large direct influence over the public, despite concern from many observers. Furthermore, they suggest that the influence they do have is not confined to specific, oft-maligned demographic groups.

### THE ELEMENTS OF JOURNALISM: A FOUNDATIONAL TEXT OR A MOMENT IN HISTORY?

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For many journalism students and teachers, and indeed working journalists, Kovach and Rosenstiel's nine elements of journalism, as set out in their book *Elements of Journalism* have become veritable tablets of journalistic stone. Their elements are seen by many as the definitive statement of ethical journalism practice. The book, first published in 2001, was based on the findings of an inquiry by the Committee of Concerned Journalists who gathered some of America's "most influential news-people" and, according to the book's blurb: "Through exhaustive research, surveys, interviews, and public forums, they identified the essential elements that define journalism and its role in our society." This paper asks whether Kovach and Rosenstiel's work should be regarded as a foundational text for journalists across the world or is just an interesting reflection on the state of journalism in the United States at the turn of the century? For four basic reasons this paper argues for the latter. First, in 2001 we only had glimpses of the impact that web 2.0 would have on almost every aspect of journalism and whilst some of their elements remain valid, in a world in which the very notion of who is a journalist has come under intense scrutiny, they need to be questioned. Second, do the elements help in combatting 'fake news' however defined? Third, the book's subtitle "what newspeople should know and the public should expect" implies a division between news producers and news consumers that is no longer appropriate. And finally, behind the elements lurks the shadow of 'objectivity' which, unspoken as it might be, still lies at the core of American journalism practice and education but which is highly contested elsewhere. The paper will argue that whilst Kovach and Rosenstiel have made an important historical contribution to the debate about journalism ethics – they have not produced universal and enduring tablets of journalistic stone (indeed, given the changing dynamics of contemporary journalism such an artifice would be outdated even before publication).



WHAT IS ALL THE BUZZ ABOUT?  
CHANGING DISCOURSE ON  
'AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT'

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Over the past few years, audience engagement as concept and practice has become increasingly relevant in journalism. Its ambiguous use however, also as a professional domain, has turned it into a complicated buzzword. Nevertheless, its wide use has resulted in particular conceptualizations of engagement that, however fragmented and dispersed, inform on relevant issues, such as the editorial influence of user-focused technological innovations, the organizational values of the news organizations, the professionals' normative boundaries, and the questioning of the social function of the profession. This paper critically addresses how audience engagement has been used and operationalized over the last 10 years through the analysis of the discursive practices of 83 academic articles published in peer-reviewed journals involved in journalism studies. The suggestion is that the scholarly conceptualization of audience engagement seems to have taken a turn within journalism studies. 'Engagement' used to be linked to people's civic engagement understood as the ability of media to connect audiences with civic life and democracy. Currently, in the wake of social media giants, it is often approached from a commercial point of view where engagement is referred to as the newsroom's ability to keep customers' (audiences') attention through the offer of a product or an experience (the news) and often with unspecific purposes. Nevertheless, in both stages, the evaluation of audience's online contributions was assessed, among other factors, in accordance with journalists' expectations of their attitude as citizens.

### CONTENT VERIFICATION: AN IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS OF FACT-CHECKING DATA FROM WORLDWIDE JOURNALISTS AND NEWS ORGANIZATIONS

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In the face of disinformation and its socio-political impact (Nielsen and Graves, 2017; HLEG Report EC, 2018; Wardle and Derakhshan, 2018), many organizations have set up fact-checking sites -161 according to Duke Reporters' Lab. These fact-checking operations require training and specific tools as research in automated processes is not mature enough (Wardle, 2018; Zampoglou et al, 2019; Nixon et al, 2019). In this paper we provide an in-depth analysis of the activity supported by the verification plug-in InVID. Launched in a First Draft News event on July 3rd 2017 and funded by the eponym 2020 Horizon European project, InVID provides journalists and news organizations -such as AFP and DW (partners of the InVID project), BBC, France Info or The New York Times, as well as international fact-checking sites- with tools to verify content from social media (Author et al, 2017; Papadopoulou et al, 2019). By analyzing the data of 9297 InVID users\* from 144 countries (19/11/2017 to 19/11/2018), we were able to identify trends in current fact-checking and debunking practices, as well as specific verification problems faced by today journalists (RQ1). The map's axes were: (1) type of activity (search for contextual information, perform reverse images, fragment videos, explore keyframes and images, read metadata, check video copyrights and apply forensic filters), (2) topic (news category) and (3) type of content (video, still image or Twitter query). The quality of the user experience (RQ2) was also examined through in-depth interviews with ten users from top news organizations.

**THE PRECARIETY OF THE  
PENCIL: THE FUTURE OF  
POLITICAL CARTOONING**

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Political cartoons are a universal form of journalistic commentary whose basic, elemental form gives them exceptional power and versatility. However, they also have a precarity that renders them vulnerable to multiple threats. Based on interviews with more than 20 cartoonists on five continents, this paper analyses contemporary risks to political cartooning. As with the wider field of journalism, cartooning faces political, economic and cultural threats to their freedom; but the precise workings of these forces differ. Most cartoonists are not full-time employees of the media they work for, which tend to offer them much less protection from political risks than reporters. The rise of identity politics around the world has created special challenges for cartoonists: their language of symbols and stereotypes makes them prone to accusations of racism, for example, even when no such offence is intended. Many media owners and editors shy away from the controversy that may be sparked by a provocative cartoon, which could result in inconvenient and costly run-ins with newsmakers as well as vocal groups of readers. Artists are increasingly asked to produce illustrations for articles rather than opinionated stand-alone cartoons. Such trends appear to be combining to weaken the traditional role of news media as the main home for political cartoons, which are now more likely to find a venue on social media, which many cartoonists describe as a mixed blessing.

**THE LOSS OF EXPERTISE IN  
CAMPAIGN COVERAGE:  
POLITICAL AFICIONADOS AND  
EXPERTS IN POLICY NEWS**

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Expert voices in media coverage facilitate a well-functioning democracy by informing public debates about policy issues. In an election campaign, experts can fill knowledge gaps in reporting, fact-check statements, refute 'misinformation', and offer non-partisan perspectives on policy problems. However, scholars argue that expert knowledge is increasingly devalued in the twenty-first century (for example Nichols, 2017). According to this view, there is less expertise in media coverage and more anti-intellectualism in the public sphere (Nichols, 2017). This paper examines this proposition through a longitudinal study of expertise in Australian election reporting. It provides an Australian perspective on this empirical puzzle and addresses an important gap in the largely US-centric scholarship. Drawing upon a content analysis of 1270 newspaper articles, this paper analyses news coverage of policy issues from the first five Australian election campaigns of the twenty-first century (2001-2013). It finds that there were fewer experts quoted in policy news over the 2000s, with political actors quoted more frequently than non-partisan experts. The findings suggest that policy news has become more politicised. It is largely a platform for powerful partisans to be heard. With the decline of mainstream media, reporting standards of quality, balance and fairness are being displaced by political coverage that preferences partisanship and political personalities over expertise. These findings imply that the diversity of viewpoints in election coverage is shrinking thereby limiting the information available to citizens when casting their votes.

THE (POST)COLONIAL OTHER –  
HOW JOURNALISM  
TRANSFORMS NATIONAL  
IDENTITIES IN INDIA AND THE UK  
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Journalism is a central institution for constituting collective memory and shared identities in contemporary societies. Taking the “nation” as a starting point, journalism is essential in supporting and enhancing the constitution of shared memories, grand narratives and “imagined communities” (Anderson, 1991; Zelizer & Tenenboim-Weinblatt, 2014). This turns especially relevant when looking at the intertwined past of the United Kingdom and India. Their shared history as colonizer and colony, as former British Empire and subordinate colonial subject reflects essentially within their public and media discourses, which are marked by mutual observations, references, emotions, and interpretations of a common (post)colonial history. Seen from a decolonizing perspective, the Indian sphere uses these references to the UK and its current politics such as Brexit to emancipate from the former colonial power and as reference to determine one’s own identity (Mishra, 2019; Nandy, 1983; Tharoor, 2017). On the British side, the year 2017 was marked by journalistic remembrance of the partition of the Indian subcontinent in 1947. Both events appear as traumatic; constituting turning points in each nation’s re-examination of what national identity constitutes and how it is shaped by the other. The conference paper looks precisely at these tensions. How does journalism (re)shape national identities in two interlinked countries? The study draws on a sample of opinion pieces, talkshows and news reports of major British and Indian print and television outlets, which will be analysed using Foucault’s Critical Discourse Analysis. The cross-national comparative approach incorporates two very different media settings and elite discourses, with India being known for a dramatization and sensationalism of news while the UK follows a more reserved approach.

**BOUNDARIES OF JOURNALISM  
IN TURKEY IN THE 1990S:  
JOURNALISTIC DISCOURSE  
AROUND COVERING HUMAN  
RIGHTS ISSUES**

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Journalism in Turkey in the 1990s has come under fire in the 2010s due to mainstream media's treatment of the Gezi Protests in Istanbul 2013 (Arsan, 2013) and of human rights violations in the Kurdish cities following the end of peace process between the Turkish state and the PKK in 2015 (Tüzer, 2015). These instances led to some segments of the society question the credibility of the mainstream media (Tunç, 2013) as to whether and how they covered human rights violations in Turkey in the 1990s, a period when grave human rights violations were rife in the Kurdish cities (Casier, 2009). Consequently, journalistic community in Turkey have started to reflect on journalistic practices in the 1990s in columns (i.e. Kıvanç, 2015), interviews (i.e. Arslan, 2015) and books (i.e. Karakaş, 2016). Journalists often have recourse to defending their profession and engage in boundary work when their profession comes under criticism (Bishop, 1999). Based on a round-table meeting with 16 journalists and in-depth interviews with 18 journalists working both in the mainstream and alternative news organisations during the 1990s and drawing on the studies on metajournalistic discourse (Carlson, 2016), journalistic authority (Zelizer, 1992; Zelizer 1993; Carlson, 2017), paradigm repair (Bishop, 1999; Berkowitz, 2000) and boundary work (Carlson, 2015), this paper will analyse the journalistic discourse around covering human rights issues in Turkey in the 1990s. It will demonstrate how journalists draw and negotiate the boundaries of journalism in Turkey as they recount their human rights news making practices in the 1990s.

### THE 'NEW' ETHICS OF PHOTOJOURNALISM: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

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Each year students in the UK graduate from more than 200 degree courses in photography and look for work in the media and in the creative industries sector. Employers in the sector, together with commissioning editors, have however started to implement new rules and regulations on what is acceptable professional practice when it comes to publishing visual imagery in the digital era. These industry guidelines include prohibitions against the over-manipulation of images and the staging of photographs and detail the acceptable limits of processing and pre-processing, among others. These guidelines are not common knowledge even in the industry, as evidenced in 2015 when 40% of the finalists in the World Press Photo of the Year competition were disqualified for being in breach of the rules (Hadland 2015). This article considers the research question: to what extent do photography students in the UK and US understand the 'new' ethics of visual communications? Data for this study was collected online and in focus groups from photography students from 8 Higher Education Institutions, the universities of Harvard, Boston, Berkeley, and Kansas in the United States and the universities of South Wales, Strathclyde, Stirling and London Metropolitan in the UK. The data confirms a low level of understanding among students in these institutions of the critical ethical challenges that are emerging in the digital era around the photographic image. This, in turn, raises questions about the sustainability of employment in the creative industries and the heightened vulnerability of photojournalists to risk and precarity.

### **PUSHING JOURNALISTIC INNOVATION FORWARD: EXPERIMENTATION AS DISCURSIVE STRATEGY**

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This paper focuses on experimentation as a way to push journalistic innovation beyond technological or commercial solutions. It scrutinizes how innovation is envisioned within Dutch journalism as a background to examine the new journalistic actors' emphasis on the need for experimentation. Building on Bourdieu, scholars have shown that conservative forces in the journalistic field are geared towards maintaining traditional professional practices, thereby delimiting the extent of innovation. Moreover, research indicates that journalistic innovation is still often only conceived in terms of technology or commercial models, tacitly accepting and perpetuating the traditional professional practices and boundaries. This paper argues that the claim of experimentation is an important discursive strategy for new journalistic actors to break out of the traditional frameworks and rethink journalism's professional core by claiming the need to freely formulate, test and adjust new ideas on journalism's practice and role in society. By interviewing approximately 10 entrepreneurial journalists and conducting a discourse analysis of the innovation debates on the website of the 'Foundation for the Stimulation of Dutch Journalism' [[www.svdj.nl](http://www.svdj.nl)] between 2017 and 2018, this paper analyzes how journalistic innovation in the Netherlands is envisioned, and which role experimentation plays in this 'innovation discourse'. It ultimately argues that experimentation is a way for new actors to gain the freedom to reconceptualize journalism as part of a longer ongoing process of trial and error, which is affected less by the need for (immediately) commercially and/or professional success.



### VR & JOURNALISM

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As a project to conduct practice as research, we produced a short journalistic VR film about the fight of activists to keep live music venues in Cardiff open. In this film we aim to look at the use of narrative in a short VR journalistic film, at what aspects of narrative people are interested in, and which aspects they will stay with to watch a VR story. Marie-Laure Ryan proposes that certain characteristics of narrative are medium free. These are character, events, setting, time, space and causality. In this study, we decided to look at character, the sequence of events and the subject matter of the event (music) to investigate which of these narrative characteristics were the main actors in driving a VR story. Viewers could follow each narrative and we asked a random selection of viewers to fill in a questionnaire to indicate which narrative characteristic they followed. Our findings will both examine which are the dominant narrative characteristics followed in this VR film, but also discuss the problems and issues that we discovered in making a piece of VR journalism, such as the restrictions on the participant and their immersive engagement when he cannot be active in the outcome of the story, as it is news; common journalistic problems of having to use a 'character' who is boring, as they too are the reality of the story; and how to tell the background and context of a story when the viewer is situated in the present time of the VR experience.

**THE ACTIVIST JOURNALIST AND  
THE NORM OF OBJECTIVITY:  
THE CASE OF #METOO**

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This paper examines the role of the journalist in the coverage of the #metoo movement in neighbouring countries Denmark and Sweden. The #metoo moment unfolded differently, even in countries that are both considered among the most gender equal in the world. Drawing on qualitative interviews with journalists and activists who took part in this coverage and participant observation at #metoo events, we investigate the journalistic professional cultures behind the coverage. The analysis is informed by a theoretical framework of role-theory (Bro 2008) and objectivity as a strategic ritual (Tuchmann 1972) and the article finds that the norm of objectivity is stronger in Denmark, with a strong emphasis on hearing both sides of the story leading to a critique of #metoo as ephemeral or a witch hunt against men and less stories of harassment as the other side could not be heard. In Sweden the journalists took a different path, judging the importance of the story to be more important than sticking to a norm of objectivity, leading the journalist into a more activist role than their colleagues in Denmark. The article also reveals that in Denmark an almost toxic environment for both activism and reporting on gender issues resulted in coverage focussing on celebrities and #metoo as an individual problem, whereas in Sweden the reinforcing links between policy makers, media and the public on feminist issues created an environment for pointing out structural reasons and solutions to the problems initially pointed out by the movement.

**THE NETWORKED NEWSROOM?  
DIGITAL LABOUR, PRECARIETY  
AND WORKING CONDITIONS  
FOR STAFF JOURNALISTS.**

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Changing work practices leading to more deskbound journalism and the concept of 'churnalism' has arguably been enhanced by the digital revolution. Similarly, the advent of social media has given rise to both new questions and considerations around journalistic practice and working conditions for journalists. Scholars have described how the increased casualisation of labour in journalism, has seen news work become more precarious and market driven (Deuze 2009); marked by declining incomes, loss of control over one's work, intense workloads, long hours and limited access to labour and social protections (Cohen 2016). This paper considers the concept of 'digital labour' and how this may be applied to the contemporary, often precarious, staff journalist. Digital labour is defined as the study of how both digital and networked technologies act to shape contemporary labour markets, work processes and the boundaries of work (Neilson, 2016). Digital labour is not solely considered in a techno deterministic fashion but also includes broader issues such as contractual conditions and work/life balance. This research follows an earlier paper (Hayes & Silke 2018), which explored the working conditions of freelance journalists through the lens of digital labour. Our research will now broaden the parameters to include the experiences of staff journalists in the Republic of Ireland in the context of increasingly casualised work and changing work practices, with the eventual goal of a comparative analysis of changes in working conditions for both cohorts.

### SERVING A PAN-EUROPEAN PUBLIC SPHERE? PRACTICES AND OUTCOMES OF THE "EUROPE'S FAR RIGHT RESEARCH NETWORK"

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Transnational collaborations among journalists have become a growing trend. By combining resources and skills, and in some cases by investing into technical infrastructure to make collaborative data analysis more efficient, cross-border journalistic collaborations promise to enable investigations that individual newsrooms would be unable to conduct otherwise. This is seen as a way to address many problems facing journalism today, like the spread of misinformation or the continued economic crisis of journalism combined with growing global interdependencies that are difficult to tackle by national news media with dwindling resources. Transnational journalism networks not only affect the scope, but also the ways in which journalism is practised and readjusts itself to hybrid communication environments. While there is research examining how journalism networks create transnational publics, we know little about whether and how they also help to create transnational practices among journalists themselves and how such collaboration translates into the journalistic products and thus the structures of public communication. To address those questions, we present findings from a mixed methods project examining the "Europe's Far Right" network, a collaboration between newsrooms from five countries on the strategies of far-right parties ahead of the European Parliament election 2019. Examining the practices of collaboration, the self-understandings of the journalists involved and the journalistic outcomes, we show how pan-European ideas manifest across this network and discuss the implications in relation to theories about 'global journalism' and the transnationalization of public spheres.

### REDRESSING TENSIONS AFTER THE AUDIENCE TURN

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Since the early years of modern professional journalism, newsrooms and universities have hosted different ideas about audiences (Schlesinger 1978; Napoli 2008; Livingstone 2005). As tools for algorithmic audience analysis have been introduced to newsrooms, we are now witnessing a structural break between two forms of knowledge about news use(r)s. The academic tradition drawing empirical evidence from people's self-reports through surveys, interviews, media diaries, or experimental research settings is pushed towards the margin by Big Data analytics. Instead of relying on potentially unreliable self-reports of people, or adjusting to slow knowledge production cycles at universities, news organisations are now able to monitor audience behavior directly and in real time. This paper provides an extensive review of research after so called "audience turn" in journalism studies (Costera Meier & Groot Kormelink 2016) to discuss the problems of algorithmic audience analysis. The criticism encompasses the following themes: (1) the lack of historical self-reflexivity on the part of news organisations and data analytics experts, (2) ethical vagueness with regard to relations of audience monitoring and surveillance, and (3) the neglect of contexts in understanding news uses and changes thereof. Rather than suggesting the abolition of audience metrics, this paper strives for dialogue and looks for terms of division of labor between the two camps. A basic outline of this pact suggests that audience metrics should focus more in journalistic quality control, whereas academic research should make sense of how people live their lives in the media-saturated environment.

### FIGHTING FAKE NEWS: BEST PRACTICES TO COUNTER MISINFORMATION

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This paper aims to explore emerging practices to counter misinformation. While current scholarship is increasingly paying attention to the study of trust, credibility, and fake news (as thematic issues of journals such as Digital Journalism show), we are only beginning to understand how the circulation of misinformation impacts the profession journalism in democratic societies. But how do newsrooms tackle fake news? What strategies can be employed to debunk misinformation and how to ensure the public does not only get a truthful picture, yet also has trust that it is not the journalist who's faking stories? As we are at the dawn of a new era of journalism in which algorithms impact what people see online, where transparency emerges to become the new mantra of the profession and where public trust appears to be no given for legacy news outlets, it is of vital importance to develop strategies of resilience in the face of fake. This paper will use case studies to discuss emerging practices of fighting misinformation. The focus will lie on three ways to fight fake: 1) fact-checking sites solely dedicated to debunking fake news (e.g. StopFake.org, a site exposing misinformation on Ukraine); 2) Artificial Intelligence tools created to reveal fake news (e.g. the AI tool FakerFact); and 3) dedicated fake news sections operated by legacy news media such as BBC or the German Tagesschau with their column 'FaktenFinder'.

### AI, ALGORITHMS AND JOURNALISTIC ETHICS

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Traditional normative approaches to the media and the ethics and values of journalism are not prepared to deal with the increasingly important role of data and data analytics, the arrival of new roles in newsrooms and the automation of (part of) the journalistic process. This situation leads to calls for algorithmic transparency and accountability (Diakopoulos & Koliska, 2017; Ananny & Crawford, 2016). So far, there is no encompassing theoretical framework that could serve as a point of reference for determining the societal impact and ethical and normative consequences of the use of algorithms in the realm of journalism. Thus, we propose a theoretical framework building on algorithmic news distribution as a highly topical example for the integration of algorithms in the journalistic sphere, arguing that the journalistic algorithmic process consists of several steps of which each one comes along with different ethical challenges. For example, after a journalistic entity has identified and formulated goals and values, these (sometimes vague and abstract notions such as diversity) have to be translated into input and output metrics, causing new organizational and ethical challenges. Based on this framework, the growing body of literature on algorithmic ethics from other sectors, the new legal obligations from e.g. the GDPR, but also accountability theory and theories about the democratic role of the media, we will propose a first set of principles of algorithmic journalistic ethics.

**BROADENING THE MEDIA  
INNOVATIONS LANDSCAPE FOR  
LOCAL JOURNALISM: AN  
AUSTRALIAN CASE STUDY**

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This paper investigates the interplay between the fields of politics and media in generating a space for innovation to bolster rural and regional journalism throughout Australia. In 2018, a \$A48 million, three-year Regional and Small Publishers Innovation Fund was established to pave the way for sweeping national media reform. The package provides support to commercial news outlets serving rural areas for equipment, software, training and some funds to employ cadet journalists. Large media conglomerates based in metropolitan areas were eligible to apply but smaller, independent proprietors with turnovers of less than \$150,000 were ineligible for the program, even though they are considered a particularly endangered species within the sector. The innovation policy push came on the back of a series of Senate inquiries into the nation's news and information services, and was developed as a short-term initiative, under tight time constraints in a heated political environment. Through critical analysis of policy and media documents and a survey of rural newsmakers, we explore the narrow, top-down and prescriptive logics that informed the policy initiative and argue that a reliance on dominant, technological determinist approaches to innovation failed to capitalise on geographic, social and cultural contexts and opportunities. Ultimately, we contend that innovation at the local level must find a stronger balance between continuity and change in order to meet the specific news needs of local communities.



**INCLUSIVE SOURCING ON  
DIFFERENT MEDIA PLATFORMS  
DURING LOCAL ELECTIONS IN  
THE NETHERLANDS**

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An important role of journalism is to link citizens to society and political processes. This role is especially important in election time during which journalists strive to inform people about subjects that are relevant to the audience using a diversity of sources. Technological changes have created a range of new platforms and thus more and different possibilities to inform people. Parallel to the technological development some important socio-cultural changes have taken place which have led to a call for more audience and civic centered approaches in journalism with more inclusive and diverse use of sources. This paper will focus on the following question: To what extent do Dutch local news media report about subjects that are relevant to local audiences and are they using a diverse range of sources during the 2018 local election campaign? Data were gathered doing a quantitative content analyses of all active news media in seven municipalities, coding the subjects and the use of sources during a constructed week (n=1032). A survey amongst citizens (n=5000) was used to tap citizens subject preferences. Results show that the extent to which media covered issues of importance to citizens varied considerably among municipalities of different sizes. Furthermore, news media still depend on institutional sources to a large extent, although this depends on type of platform. Online text messages use less institutional sources and more civil society sources than the other platforms. In audio and video messages more citizen sources are used than in online text and print media.

**WHAT JOURNALISTS WANT AND  
WHAT THEY OUGHT TO DO:  
DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN  
JOURNALISTS' ROLE  
CONCEPTIONS AND AUDIENCES'  
EXPECTATIONS**

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In the course of media change, journalism's production and distribution routines, genres, and the usage practices of journalistic content are diversifying and altering, as are – apparently – audiences' expectations towards the craft. While to some extent we understand what citizens' criticisms of journalists' work are, we know very little about what roles they actually expect journalists to perform, whether they should act as detached observers, critical watchdogs, and so on. Moreover, we know even less about how audiences' expectations relate to what journalists themselves consider to be their professional tasks. In this light, this study will explore for the first time through a representative CATI-survey (n=1,000) the tasks German citizens ascribe to journalists and then compare them with existing representative data on German journalists' role conceptions as collected in the "Worlds of Journalism" study (Steindl et al. 2017). The core of our questionnaire is the internationally accepted item battery on journalistic role conceptions which we adapted for the audience's perspective and complemented with potential new journalistic tasks such as hosting and moderating public discourse online. The data will be collected in the first quarter of 2019. Our findings will provide a reflective picture of the population's (general and segment specific) preferences as to what tasks journalists should perform. The comparison with journalists' self-conceptions will demonstrate the extent to which both sides' views differ, that is, what journalists should do and what they want to do. We will discuss the findings' implications for audiences' trust in and use of news, the further discursive constitution of journalists' self-conceptions, and the future of journalism in general.

### OUTSIDER ENACTMENTS PERIPHERAL JOURNALISTS AND ENACTMENTS OF JOURNALISM

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An increasing number of non-traditional journalists are challenging the standards, norms, and practices by which those signals are selected, constructed, and shared. In doing so, these non-traditional journalists are forcing a re-examination of what constitutes “news” and who gets to provide news orientations for the public. Disruptive, technologically-oriented actors in news production are not new, including IT specialists, coders, bloggers, microbloggers, web analytics suppliers, and artificial intelligence specialists. What is new is the role of external actors shaping news production directly, most recently through web analytics companies and those crafting artificial intelligence for use in news production. This critical essay offers the position that media scholars should work to conceptualize these non-traditional journalism actors less by their self-perceptions or by labeling them as “outsiders” and more by the roles and acts of journalism they commit. Collectively, these actors should be considered as part of a global information flow that is fundamentally changing the news process. This essay has scholarly and practical implications as it provides a framework for how the enactments of these journalists parallel and depart from traditional enactments of journalism. This allows for the consideration of the position of these peripheral actors within the news process and journalism more broadly and provides a platform for reconsidering traditional definitions of journalism. Conceptually, this essay develops a vocabulary that allows for the recognition of acts of journalism on the part of peripheral journalism actors while moving from a staid conception of the profession to a more fluid and evolving one.

**'A VERY PROFITABLE  
CONSPIRACY': THE 2009 SWINE  
FLU, THE WORLD HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION, AND THE  
'PANDEMIC THAT NEVER WAS'**

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In June 2010, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) issued a damning report of the World Health Organization's handling of the 2009 swine flu pandemic. Dubbing swine flu the "pandemic that never was", the PACE rapporteur and Labour MEP Paul Flynn accused the WHO of manufacturing the pandemic for the benefit of the pharmaceutical industry. "It might not just be a conspiracy theory," he told the Daily Mail. "It might be a very profitable conspiracy." Flynn was not alone in suspecting collusion between the WHO and Big Pharma. A joint investigation by the British Medical Journal and the Bureau of Investigative Journalism found that several of WHO's expert scientific advisors had declarable financial ties with vaccine manufacturers, raising questions about the organisation's transparency and the impartiality of its scientific assessment of the risks of a pandemic. The controversy over the WHO's handling of the 2009 swine flu pandemic raises important questions about the media's response to uncertain scientific risks and the border between investigative journalism and conspiracy theories. Rather than viewing the WHO's decision as "suspect", as WHO's critics on the Council of Europe, the Bureau of Investigative Journalism and BMJ believed, this paper contends that the decision is better seen as a product of shifting scientific understandings of influenza, the uncertain risks of a pandemic, and insufficient transparency within the WHO. In this respect, the controversy over the WHO's handling of the 2009 swine flu pandemic resembles other complex scientific risks, such as climate change, where the contestation of scientific knowledge has fueled the uptake of similar conspiracies in the media.

**AT THE CROSSROADS OF  
HOBBY, COMMUNITY WORK AND  
BUSINESS – NORDIC AND  
RUSSIAN HYPERLOCAL  
PRACTITIONERS**

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Research shows that the aims, functions and work practices of hyperlocal start-ups and citizen or community initiated information sharing vary (Konieczna & Robinson, 2014, Ahva, 2017). We know less about how hyperlocal practitioners' perceptions on their roles are constructed as a part of wider media ecosystems and journalism cultures. In this article, we examine how Nordic and Russian hyperlocal practitioners define their roles and aims, focusing on the possibilities, needs and limits given by the different media ecosystems and models (Dobek-Ostrowska, Glowacki, Jakubowicz, & Süközd, 2010; Hallin & Mancini, 2004). Of special interest are the notions of authorship, critical local information, community engagement and political participation. The data set, covering Finland, Sweden and Russia, allows comparison between media in democratic and non-democratic countries and answers the call for inclusion of non-Western countries in comparative studies on journalism (Hanusch & Vos, 2019). The data gathered includes surveys and in-depth interviews with hyperlocal practitioners. The data is analyzed using statistical and qualitative methods. Global trends seem to affect local media in similar ways in all of the countries studied. Most practitioners actively re-envision how and what kind of 'journalism' can be locally meaningful. The perceived roles vary and intertwine, including those of (alternative) journalists, hobbyists, community activists, civic leaders and media entrepreneurs. According to our tentative results, differences between the roles and tasks imagined are embedded, among others, in the specificities of country's media model and media ecosystem.

**CHALLENGING JOURNALISM  
FROM WITHIN: ALTERNATIVE  
MEDIA, ETHICS AND  
INSTITUTIONAL BOUNDARY-  
WORK**

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In this paper we address the question of boundary-work in journalism. Our point of departure is the rise of what has been termed far-right media (Atton 2006), far-right alternative media (Authors 2018), right-wing media (Benkler et al. 2018) and immigration critical alternative media (Holt 2016). These alternative news providers are often motivated by a common skepticism against immigration, Islam and left-wing elites including the 'mainstream media', and actively engage in public discourses about the shortcomings of professional journalism. The study analyses how the boundaries between mainstream and alternative media is negotiated in the context of the Nordic media model (Hallin and Mancini 2004; Syvertsen et al. 2014). The Nordic model is characterized by broad consensus around The Code of Ethics of the Norwegian Press and the self-regulatory system. In the paper we examine the public discourse after the editors of two leading far-right online alternative media sites in Norway, Resett.no and Document.no, applied to become members of The Association of Norwegian Editors in 2018. This caused a public controversy and only one of the editors succeeded. Acceptance imply adherence to the self-regulatory system and could be understood as a form of professionalization of the actors in question. Acceptance could at the same time, represent a risk of weakening the system from within. Based a discourse analysis of the public debate, as well as interviews with the involved actors (editors of alternative media, leading mainstream media and press organizations), the paper contributes empirical and theoretical perspectives journalistic boundary-work within media systems with strong consensus around institutional frames.

**(RE-)PRESENTING THE  
PARALYMPICS: SPORTS  
JOURNALISM, MARGINAL  
BODIES AND THE 'ABLE-  
DISABLED'**

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The relationship between sports journalism, nations and nationalism is well established, yet, we know relatively little about how these discussions relate to contemporary para-sport. This omission is particularly significant considering the rapid commodification of the Paralympic spectacle, exacerbated by the entry of Channel 4 (C4) as the UK Paralympic rights holders, that has seen the games become an important site of disability (re-)presentation. In this presentation, we focus on the specific journalistic construction of national, normative, disabled bodies in Paralympic representation drawn from an analysis of three integrated datasets from Channel 4's broadcasting of the Rio 2016 Paralympics, including: interviews with C4 production and editorial staff; quantitative content analysis, and qualitative textual analysis. We highlight the strategic approach taken by C4 to focus on successful medal winning athletes; the implications this has on the types of sports and disability classifications given coverage; and the role and importance of affect in the narration of athlete backstories. As the Paralympic games becomes an increasingly visible global sporting spectacle, we reveal the commercial and editorial tensions that broadcasters face with respect to which disabilities / bodies are made hyper-visible - and thereby those which are marginalised - as national disability sport icons that inculcate preferred notions of disability and the (re-)imagined nation. Our findings also suggest that while the Paralympics offer a site of progressive social change for one group (the disabled), they have an uncomfortable relationship with other forms of marginalisation, particularly race and class.

**ARE WE CLOSE ENOUGH?  
DIGITAL CHALLENGES TO  
LOCAL MEDIA JOURNALISTS**

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The newsmaking process and dissemination are increasingly occurring through digital platforms. This is a challenge for both the media and journalists, who try to make this transition by seeking new ways of interacting with people who have previously been seen as just audience. Such is the specific case of regional media journalists who work and live in territories shared with their audiences. The emergence of social media and mobile devices has strengthened and challenged this relationship of proximity that previously occurred only at the geographical level. The present study - part of a larger research project - intends to identify the tools and content used and produced by the local media of the central region of Portugal, in order to understand the role played by digital technologies in this transition. To achieve this goal, a survey will be applied to a sample of journalists (n=153) from 47 newsrooms belonging to local media outlets (press and radio). The choice of Central Portugal is due to the fact that it is the region with the more significant presence of local and regional media in the country.



**COUNTERING FAKE NEWS  
THROUGH MEDIA LITERACY**

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As the fake news phenomenon, aided in recent times by the multiplicity of online platforms threatens the fabric of society, the need for measures to combat it becomes even more urgent. One of the ways to combat fake news is through massive media literacy which this paper assumes is largely lacking in the Nigerian environment. To be able to read and write is not synonymous with media literacy especially with the surge of online platforms. Attempts by Twitter, WhatsApp, Facebook and similar platforms to stem the tide of fake news have largely proven to be inadequate thereby showing the need for more concerted efforts by stakeholders. This paper therefore attempts to apprehend some major fake news, the cause and course of their spread and propose ways of combating them by critically examining best practices as suggested by corporate bodies, think tanks and major media outlets worldwide. Through qualitative content analysis of these best practices, a domesticated set of recommendations to suit the Nigerian media ecology can be reached and advocated. These recommendations are expected to provide a basis for action by various stakeholders including advocacy groups.

**HOW THE USE OF THE TERM  
'FAKE NEWS' IS USED AS A  
RHETORICAL STRATEGY BY THE  
POPULAR PRESS**

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This paper is based on the findings from a study examining how the term 'fake news' is being used as a rhetorical strategy in the UK's popular Press. It does not consider what constitutes fake news, but instead takes a new perspective by examining uses of the term 'fake news'. A data corpus was gathered from the four top-selling national papers during three random weeks in the early months of 2018. Forty-six articles containing the term 'fake news' were identified. A discursive analytical approach (Te Molder, 2015) was adopted and this identified three prominent themes, termed morality and trust; repudiation and mockery; and threat to democracy. Through these themes, this paper shows how the term 'fake news' is used to highlight moral differences between the Press, regulated by law and an ethical code, and the largely unregulated internet platforms such as Google and Facebook. It also shows how, in news reports, the term is used by American president Donald Trump to dismiss criticism and by the Press to deride him; and how it is used as a warning about what is deemed to be a sinister threat by Russia to undermine Western democracies. The findings demonstrate that the term 'fake news' is prevalent in newspaper discourse but does not have a single purpose, instead changing strategically across the Press for different purposes, such as within the identified themes. Although these newspapers do not share a common audience or political affiliation, they share a common purpose in defending their journalism and role in democracy as the opposite to 'fake news'.

### RESPECTING THE FANTASTIC: SUGGESTIONS FOR A NEW MEDIA ETHIC IN FUTURE JOURNALISM

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Western modes of thinking are usually associated with logic, reason, rationality and the positivist scientific paradigm (Tomaselli, 2015). In South Africa, however, as in many other non-Western countries, this is juxtaposed against “spiritual” ways of perceiving the world and different world beliefs and views. This paper explores negotiations of differing ontologies where the positivist paradigm fails to explain phenomena, other than by dismissive ridicule and/or disbelief. Following Tomaselli’s (2015) argument, the possibilities of ascribing truth and reality to such an encounter may be found here in literary theory of the fantastic and notions of the surreal. To this end, the paper also uses Todorov’s (1973) literary theory of the fantastic, incorporating the uncanny and the marvelous. Using newspaper coverage of the national South African soccer team Kaizer Chiefs’ use of umuthi (traditional medicine) as the primary case study and starting point, and including other umuthi-related incidents in the country in 2018 and 2019, the paper argues that journalists reporting on such events need to take into account the feelings and nuanced experiences of those involved in such cases. It argues that future journalists need to understand the importance of historical understanding in trying to make sense of the present. If, as McCracken (2018) states, history exists in myth, in practices and in assumptions, and is always present even if it seems absent, press coverage of “the Fantastic” becomes integral in current South African journalism as part of cultural understanding. However, it is an extremely politically sensitive – and potentially divisive – subject, not least because of the potential racial tension which may result. The paper concludes with an argument for the need to map a media ethics that creatively seeks to guide journalists into both binding people together, and exposing what is wrong between them, in order for all of us to participate in the crafting of a new moral order. Three things need to be accomplished: the bringing to public attention serious instances of systematic breakdown and institutional disorder; demanding an account of the situation from those responsible, or holding them accountable; and the whole issue of solidarity, of establishing an empathetic link between those who have suffered in a situation and the rest of us (Jones, 2004; Jones, 2019).

### AI & JOURNALISM: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA

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Public service media are increasingly using machine learning (ML) for news production, spurred by advances in computing power, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and increasing availability of training and audience data. The BBC is no exception and anticipates that in the next few years “machine learning will support and underpin every aspect of our audience offer” (BBC 2017: 6). Whilst the application of ML promises clear benefits for the delivery of public service news, it simultaneously presents new challenges and potentially threatens to undermine existing processes that support transparency and accountability in journalism. Increasing unfettered use of ML and AI without adequate scrutiny has become a pressing issue, prompting responses across industry (e.g. BBC, EBU and Tech UK), the academy (e.g. AI Now, FAT ML), government (e.g. Lords AI Committee) and regulatory bodies (e.g. the ICO). Concerns include ‘liable by algorithm’, a lack of scrutability and accountability, and the potential for bias and discrimination, which can compromise the trust on which public service news is built. This paper analyses how ML is transforming public service journalism at the BBC, charting ML use for news and interviewing journalists and technologists about these changes. This grounded case study at a moment of flux regarding AI and ML in the industry provides a basis from which to better understand implications of these technologies for public service journalism.

### DATA JOURNALISM AND CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT – ADDRESSING ISSUES OF CLIMATE CHANGE

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The transition towards a digital media landscape is often said to increase the possibilities for interaction by those with access to the web and the needed skills. Several studies have analyzed how this could lead to an increased audience engagement in and through the news. The last couple of years data journalism has been acknowledged as a practice that often feature a high level of interactivity, user participation, multimodality, interconnected processes and choices for the audiences and compared to more static forms of reporting, data journalistic projects have the potential to engage the public on a larger scale than before. Challenges caused by climate change are among the most pressing issues in contemporary societies. Recently, studies have indicated that there is a lack of engagement and concern among the public. While studies have found that digital-native media and legacy media cover climate change differently, there has been little study into how traditional climate change reporting differs from more recent forms of journalism, such as data journalism. In this study, we investigate climate change reporting in Swedish data journalism projects and how these are perceived and used by the audience in terms of forms and levels of (political) engagement. We analyze different interactive features and how these relate to engagement. Preliminary results indicate a merger between science communication and traditional journalism, with some features of user-generated content. Interactive features may indeed facilitate engagement, but immersive digital functionality also makes individuals perceive themselves as being partly responsible for climate change.

**NEWS DIVERSITY  
RECONSIDERED: TOWARDS A  
POSITIONING FRAMEWORK FOR  
NEWS DIVERSITY IN THE  
DIGITAL ERA**

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The move to an increasingly digitized and globalized environment has offered citizens new ways of participating in news production and distribution (Fenton, 2010) and of finding and accessing diverse information (Papacharissi, 2002). Although scholarly debates mainly focus on the implications of these developments for democracy in general or news diversity in specific (e.g. Dylko et al., 2017; Flaxman, Goel, & Rao, 2016), less attention is being paid to what these developments imply for advancing theory on the concept of news diversity. This is, however, important as it determines whether the assumptions underlying this concept are still relevant and adequate enough to build research on. In this study we propose a positional framework for news diversity within the current news ecology. To do so we draw on widely used conceptualizations of news and media diversity (e.g. McQuail, 1992; Napoli, 1999; Voakes, Kapfer, Kurpius, & Chern, 1996). We use their strengths to forward a framework that enables researchers to make informed decisions when studying news diversity. It consists of four subsequent choices ranging from explicitly formulating the normative position to deciding on what kind of dimensions to measure (see Figure 1). Based on this framework, we also present a systematic literature review in which we map the current literature on news diversity. Challenges such as the under- or overrepresentation of particular dimensions and the relevance of other dimensions and their relation to computational methods are demonstrated and discussed.

**A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF  
INEQUALITIES IN ONLINE AND  
OFFLINE NEWS CONSUMPTION  
ENVIRONMENTS**

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Journalism has a long history of interviewing vulnerable people caught up in natural disasters, conflict or tragedy. While it is widely recognised that journalists have an important role to play in telling the stories of those traumatised by such events, the concepts of 'peace journalism' or 'journalism of attachment' have often elicited a negative reaction in traditional journalistic circles. Drawing on the authors' research project working with young people embroiled in Colombia's civil conflict, this paper sets out an alternative and innovative approach to the retelling of the stories of others. It outlines how the research team engaged with the young people, some of whom had operated as child soldiers before Colombia's peace accord with FARC rebels, and encouraged them to narrate their own stories in their own style. Through a series of workshops, the team experimented with oral and visual representations of their experiences, staying close to their accounts, enabling their voices to be heard. The participants combined traditional narrative with animation to produce a short documentary setting out their hopes for peace and reconciliation. This project, with its focus on immersion and listening, offers an alternative approach for journalists trying to relay the experiences of traumatised individuals marginalised in society as a result of their participation in the armed conflict. While the project was located in the specific context of Colombia, the paper argues that the journalistic approaches used could be applied more widely to the reporting of trauma in post conflict or marginalised communities.

### A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF INEQUALITIES IN ONLINE AND OFFLINE NEWS CONSUMPTION ENVIRONMENTS

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During the past two decades the way we consume news has radically changed. People increasingly consume news in the websites and apps of news organizations, as well as via social media, search engines, and news aggregators. While citizens now have more choice when it comes to news sources, they are also faced with more non-news alternatives. Previous studies (Prior, 2005; Hindman, 2009) have indicated that the move from a low- to a high-choice environment in the US was associated with greater inequality: those who prefer news consume more, while those who are less interested in current affairs consume less. In this study we use data from multiple countries to ask: Is the online news environment more unequal than the offline one? Our next question involves the role of social inequalities in online news consumption. Previous research has highlighted how social class shapes online news consumption patterns (Lindell, 2018). Thus, we ask: What is the role of social inequality in online and offline news consumption? Using survey data from six countries (US, UK, Germany, Denmark, Spain and Italy), we find that in all countries there are significantly greater inequalities in the online news environment than in the offline news environment. Further analyses show that while more privileged individuals tend to use more news sources both in the online and the offline environment, these differences are more pronounced online. These findings reveal a future challenge in news consumption as we move to an increasingly digital world.



**FUELING HATE: THE ROLE OF  
JOURNALISTIC CHOICES IN  
INCITING HATE SPEECH  
CONTENT IN ALBANIAN ONLINE  
NEWS MEDIA**

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This paper investigates hate speech content in four major Albanian online news websites by focusing on journalistic choices. Findings from data gathered in a recent monitoring study (October-December, 2018), show that there is a growing number in news items containing hate speech targeting women. Most of these items are social media posts of celebrities, picked up by journalists and presented to the public in the form of news items. As a result, the category Art/Media/Culture counts for 28.8% of news items containing hate speech or discriminatory language, in online media. Additionally, 74% of all articles containing hate speech include hate speech in their titles, as a way to attract readers. Only 7 out of 212 articles with hate speech content, have an author. Furthermore, there is an increase in hate speech content used in op-eds or analysis. In this respect, the goal of this paper is to identify the role that journalistic choices play in reinforcing such occurrences. By using a combination of qualitative and quantitative analysis, this paper aims to present a comprehensive inquiry on the role of online news websites in inciting hate speech content targeting vulnerable groups in Albania. Insights provided in this paper could be beneficial for online media professionals to gain perspectives on their potential contribution to addressing such issue. Furthermore, as hate speech is reported to be a controversial issue undermining freedom of speech, such chapter aspires to contribute to the current and ongoing debates – in Albania and abroad- on online media regulation.

### EXPERIENCES AND PREFERENCES OF IMMERSIVE JOURNALISM: COMPARISON OF CURRENT AND FUTURE MEDIA FORMS

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From the written word to televised news, the progression of journalism has seen many different forms. Now, with the increasingly mainstream use of Virtual Reality (VR), journalists are embracing yet another news delivery form; although, the execution of the experiences are still in infancy and often experimental at best (Shin & Biocca, 2017; Sirkkunen, 2016). Just as journalists carefully choose each word as they craft an article, such care must also be taken when creating VR experiences, and perhaps even more so due to its immersive qualities. However, the equation for a top-notch experience is not so simple; contributing factors range from pragmatic issues such as video quality and hardware abilities to more hedonic qualities like the effectiveness of storytelling and emotional impact (Sundar, Kang, & Oprean, 2017). Further, there is now the question of where VR fits into the news consumption dynamic: how and when do users prefer to view immersive content? In this study (N=30), we investigated the experiential factors of journalistic content in four different forms: an online article, audio podcast, 360-degree video viewed on a mobile phone, and 360-degree video viewed from a VR headset. Through this set-up, we explored the elements of user experience, the impact of storytelling and content, and most interestingly, the differences in preference for each media form. Our results highlight how VR might best be used in the journalistic context, where it fits into the dynamics of digital news consumption, and in which form viewers prefer to experience the presented media. (250/250)

### **NARROWED POLYSEMY: INTERACTIVE-VISUAL STORIES AS A FORM OF KNOWLEDGE**

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The digital environment has given rise to innovative modes of visual storytelling, such as clickable infographics, immersive journalism, and multimodal stories. However, beyond their affordances, these visuals represent new forms of knowledge that have barely been studied so far. To fill this lacuna, the current paper focuses on interactive-visual stories – clickable graphics and photographs that enable users to explore provided data and affect the presented information. The paper is based on qualitative content analysis of 150 items sampled from six leading legacy news and financial news sites (The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Guardian, The Economist, Haaretz and Calcalist). Findings show that despite their capacity to allow users to construct their own narratives and derive their own interpretations, most visual-interactive items convey rather closed, linear narratives, dominated by a single viewpoint and narrowed polysemy. Even prize-winning stories are circumscribed this way. These findings indicate that the practice of narrowing-down potential interpretations, known from traditional journalism, framing studies and Hall's 'Encoding/Decoding' theory, prevail even more rigorously in the visual realm. However, unlike traditional news formats (i.e. print, online and broadcast), interactive-visual stories are made for, and excel at, communicating large data sets and eliciting one's own sense-making. We conclude that to inspire high quality journalism, and serve the information needs of their audiences, producers of interactive-visual stories must embrace a new ethos of visual storytelling. One that allows users to explore rich data, compile their own narrative, and derive their own insights.

### THE NORMALIZATION OF ACTORS WITHIN JOURNALISM IN EMERGING MEDIA PLATFORMS

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The present study focuses on three emergent platforms, each of which took on news production with a different point of view from their legacy peers: a co-op owned by citizens but run by a group of young founders who seek an alternative to traditional financing models within journalism, Bristol Cable; a Google innovation-funded platform whose developers believe in actively establishing a new media ecology in order to revitalize the fourth estate locally and nationally, The Bureau Local; and a commercial tech company with a global reach for its journalistic products, BuzzFeed. The study finds that these actors start out by distancing themselves from traditional journalism but, as they enter into cross-organizational collaborations of various sorts, they tend to normalize and blend into traditional journalism in a process which previously has been referred to as 'normalization' by Jane Singer (2005, see also Wahl-Jorgensen 2014). Little research has applied an empirical approach to who these horizontal collaborators actually are, what motivates them and how they operate and generate their content. Domestic cross-organizational journalism has the potential to address 'black holes' (places where there is no longer any media organizations to report information) within local journalism. It is also associated with the ability to engage citizens and create a more democratic participation in the craft of journalism (Berglez 2013). How, then, do the actors in this newly established media ecology perceive their roles, particularly in contrast to more traditional modes of practice? Relatedly, while horizontal alignments are typically associated with an egalitarian structure, is any journalism in fact free of hierarchy?

### FROM TRIAL TO HABIT: HOW NEWS USERS (START TO) DEVELOP A NEWS HABIT

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In the attention economy, news media compete for a spot in people's everyday routines. Less often discussed is how – faced with boundless opportunities for distraction – news users struggle to commit their attention to that which they find important but may not provide instant gratification. This paper therefore explores whether and how people that have recently subscribed to a news medium (start to) develop a news habit. Whereas previous research has looked at whether and how (young) people acquire news habits (Diddi & LaRose, 2006; Edgerly et al., 2018) or form news repertoires over time (Peters & Schröder, 2018), this paper focuses specifically on people that have decided to use a particular news medium, following them during the crucial first weeks of use. Three different approaches are employed, each of which has participants subscribe to a news medium of choice. First, new subscribers' initial encounter with the news medium is studied through the think-aloud protocol. How do they experience its usability as well as the content and form of the news? Second, new subscribers use a diary to keep track of the circumstances under which they do (not) use the news medium, and are interviewed afterward. In the third approach, new subscribers use a habit tracking app that nudges them to use the news medium; they, too, are interviewed afterward. The results will provide insight into how and under which circumstances the use of a new news medium starts to develop into a news habit.

### AUDIENCE METRICS: OPERATIONALIZING NEWS VALUES INSIDE THE DIGITAL NEWSROOM

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media companies supplying the digital newsroom with analytics software to monitor audience preferences in the form of for example; number of visitors to an article, time spent reading an article, and number of clicks (Petre 2016, Usher 2014, Vu 2014). In addition to this, several media companies have developed their own information systems (Nielsen and Cherubini 2016). As a result, audience preferences are increasingly a part of evaluating journalistic content in digital newsrooms (Karlsson and Clerwall 2013). The empirical basis for this analysis is a case study of the largest regional media company in Denmark, JF Media. The article examines: How does the company implement and articulate user metrics, and specifically: What metrics are chosen in order to reflect the goals of the journalistic output of the newsroom? To answer these questions, the study utilizes a multi-method approach combining participant observation in strategic meetings to follow the process of designing analytics dashboards for the newsrooms and a critical analysis of the categories available in commercially available analytics software. The article concludes by discussing: What does audience analytics mean for the manner in which journalists and editors make sense of the concepts of newsworthiness and news value in a digital age?

### IMMERSIVE JOURNALISM: SPATIALITY, ENGAGEMENT, AND THE DISTANT OTHER

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Virtual Reality (VR) and other immersive technologies introduce new opportunities for emotionally compelling narratives and user agency. Virtually mediated environment lies at the heart of immersive journalism experience foregrounding the sense of presence and bridging the connection between the user and the distant other. Mediated environment in VR stories is more than imagery since the user can interact and respond to the surroundings, and, above all, experience an event. Drawing on the theory of affordances, which suggests that values and meanings can be directly perceived from the environment (Gibson 1979), game theory literature on spatiality, and debates on media morality (Silverstone 2007; Chouliaraki 2006), this article examines the role of space in VR news stories in engaging the user to distant suffering. The study aims to expand the discussion of space and morality in journalism studies. First, the study examines the characteristics of spatiality in VR news stories. Second, it explores the ways in which mediated environment functions to engage the user with the distant other. The data consists of VR stories produced by the New York Times (NYT), which are analysed using a close reading method. The study argues that location is a central dimension in VR news story since the user is in constant dialogue with the surroundings in order to understand the events and form connection to the other. Even though virtually mediated environment is a prominent platform for journalism to engage the user to distant suffering, it may also evoke improper distance.

**IT'S A BUMPY ROAD TO  
AUTOMATED SPORTS  
REPORTING: THE STRATEGIES  
OF DATA PROVIDERS,  
SOFTWARE PROVIDERS, AND  
MEDIA OUTLETS REGARDING  
AUTOMATION IN GERMAN  
SPORTS REPORTING**

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This paper analyses how algorithmic processing affects sports journalism practices in Germany, studying in a multi-level perspective which strategies data providers, software providers, and media outlets devise regarding the development of automated reporting. While automated journalism has been studied widely, sports journalism is side-lined despite its richness in data. Both academe and journalists often emphasize that sports reporting needs (human) creativity and emotions, unlike other data-intensive beats. However, as practice in the US shows, outlets do use automation successfully in amateur sports reporting. We studied the perception of sports data providers, software providers, and media outlets in Germany regarding automation with guideline-based interviews, allowing for views of the whole news production line. Results show that while data and software providers work on refining data collection and software, the journalists are wary of automation, and only reluctantly admit to its potential. We found that their wariness is not only due to ideological, but also to economic reasons: for one outlet, automating amateur sports reporting was not timesaving at all due to quality concerns, so they went back to human-written reports. The journalists' critical view is echoed by the data and software providers, who say that despite data richness and developing software capabilities, automated reporting is economically viable for only very few sports. These findings lead to whether the "run to automation" is really a straightforward process as often claimed. All in all, automation in German sports journalism is met with hesitance, showing that the transformation to automation is a bumpy road.



**DO METRICS DRIVE POLITICAL  
JOURNALISTS? RESULTS OF A  
BELGIAN SURVEY**

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As newsrooms are increasingly using analytics to monitor news behaviour, journalism is likely to become increasingly 'metrics-driven' (Loosen, 2018). A significant body of research has already uncovered the influence of metrics on the placement, packaging and planning of stories (Tandoc & Jenner, 2016), yet, our understanding of how individual journalists beyond the editorial board are exposed to metrics is still insufficient. What level of access do regular reporters have to these metrics and to what extent do they integrate them in their news practices? This study seeks to discuss journalists' perceptions and attitudes towards the role of metrics into their daily work through a survey of political journalists in Belgium that was fielded between in June and September 2018. We consulted an official list of political journalists that consisted of 300 journalists from all types of news outlets. Eventually, 168 journalists participated in the survey. First results indicate that the majority of political journalists are nowadays exposed to audience metrics (74%). While over thirty percent of the journalists recognise that metrics make it easier to get to know their audience, the majority actually refutes that metrics make their journalistic work better. Further differences in journalistic attitudes towards the use of audience metrics will be explored in conjunction with type of medium, role orientation and level of seniority.

**“WE ARE NOT THE ENEMY”: THE  
2018 ANTI-TRUMP EDITORIALS  
CAMPAIGN AND THE  
INFORMATION POLITICS OF  
JOURNALISM**

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In mid-August, 2018, in an effort spearheaded by the Boston Globe, hundreds of newspapers around the US published editorials defending journalism against attacks by President Trump that characterized the press as “the enemy of the people.” This coordinated effort took place against a backdrop of economic and technological disruption, declining public trust in the news media, and a rising sense that the country has entered a “post-truth” era. How, in this context, did the press attempt to defend their (waning) authority?

The press’s coordinated pushback offers a unique window into what Carlson (2018) calls the “information politics of journalism.” From the perspective of theories of journalistic norms and roles, the editorials showcase contemporary “discursive constructions of journalism’s institutional identity” (Hanitzsch & Vos 2017, 116). A key question is to what extent journalists seized this moment to not simply reinforce traditional arguments for journalistic legitimacy, but to redefine journalism’s practices and value to adjust to an era of profound economic, technological, political and epistemic disruption.

Through quantitative and qualitative content analysis, this study examines the themes and arguments in the corpus of over 280 editorials published on August 15-16, 2018. It examines how explicitly the editorials addressed Trump’s attacks and the political context that gave rise to them; how they articulated journalism’s value in terms of institutionalized practices and roles; and whether they included a “self-critical stance” (Carlson 2018) that might open the door to serious reconsideration of reigning journalistic norms that, in a post-truth era, may not rescue journalism’s cultural authority.

**IS THIS WHAT JOURNALISTS  
DO? EVALUATING THE RETURN  
ON INVESTMENT IN HOW  
REPORTERS SPEND THEIR TIME**

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During the past decade, two converging trends have complicated the workload for many journalists. First, weakened business models have resulted in layoffs and thus fewer reporters to do the work, exerting significant time pressure on those remaining (Reinardy, 2013). Second, a shift in distribution control away from newsrooms and toward users and especially technology platforms has meant that journalists have new responsibilities in sharing and promoting the news, primarily via social media (Tandoc & Vos, 2016). As a result, journalists have struggled to reconcile a continued focus on reporting, the best forms of which are assumed to require significant investment in time and resources (Hamilton, 2016; Kovach & Rosenstiel, 2014), with emerging responsibilities associated with audience engagement, community-building, and social media management (Lawrence, Radcliffe & Schmidt, 2018). At this critical juncture, this study investigates journalists' evaluations of their time and effort, connecting these assessments with perceptions about journalistic purposes and practices. Through structured interviews with journalists chosen to represent a cross-section of North American newsrooms, we ask them to reflect on questions of "return on investment." As such, this study contributes to the broader study of temporality (Bødker & Sonnevend, 2018; Zelizer, 2018) as well as the valuation of worth (Stark, 2011), and it builds on previous research suggesting a relative lack of scrutiny regarding the return on investment in news organizations' use of social media (Lewis & Molyneux, 2018). Ultimately, this study advances normative discussions about where and how journalists should spend their time as they seek to perform those functions that are deemed necessary for public life.

**CHALLENGES OF JOURNALISM  
IN NEW INFORMATIVE  
TECHNOLOGICAL  
ENVIRONMENT BASED BY  
COGNITIVE SYSTEMS**

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With the development of hardware technologies, big data and the artificial intelligence algorithms, various smart systems are proposed to provide services with high quality of information, as Virtual Agents (VA), that deliver a speech interface for question-answering and actively engage the user in a spoken conversation with the ability to interpret Natural Language. These Cognitive Systems were gaining scaling and already are starting to belong to an information ecosystem in which the journalism also compounds it. Before, the journalism almost was a unique way to get information about socially relevant. Journalism suffered a strong technological influence from the Industrial Revolution and centuries later, another major Revolution their ways of doing, the introduction of computational machines and telematic networks. This technology is the basis for a computational man-machine relationship, named master- slave by cybernetic scope via the Human-Computer Interaction (HCI). However, nowadays, the Cognitive Systems are providing another way of relationship between computational machines and human being: Human Information Interaction (HII). This area of study investigates how humans interact with information, requiring an understanding of human interaction in all its complexity. The relationship between computer-human machines, in this cognitive technological line, is in partnership in the exchange of information in a symmetrical way between two cognitive agents, one biological (human being) and other synthetic (computational machine). It will challenge Journalism to adoption of new type relationship with the its audience, because the boundaries between information objects, technology, and people are getting more and more blurry and allowing and creates new ways and services to provide information about social relevance.

PODCASTING –  
EXPERIMENTATION IN  
JOURNALISTIC STORYTELLING  
PRACTICES

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Informed by debates in constructive journalism and work on ‘social news’, this paper critiques how podcasting is responding to changing journalistic norms. The study combines practice-led research with content analysis of podcasts focusing on the global health threat of ‘superbugs’ (antimicrobial resistance), to interrogate if and how podcast storytelling can demonstrate the impact of critical and independent journalism with human interest at its core. Podcasting has afforded both traditional newspaper-style journalism and broadcasters an opportunity to attract new audiences and experiment with storytelling styles. New York Times’ *The Daily* podcast is one of many examples of ‘print’ journalism tuning into the power of audio reporting. Podcasting holds an enviable position in a fragmented media environment, consistently growing audiences year on year. In the US, 44% have listened to a podcast (Edison Infinite Dial, 2018), an almost 50% increase of podcast listenership in four years. In Australia, familiarity with the term “podcasting” is 78%.

**NORMATIVE PRINCIPLES IN  
NEWSROOM TECHNOLOGY  
ADOPTION**

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**Background.** News organizations developed a desire to constantly adopt technology and experiment with “all shiny news things” (Küng, 2017, p. 7). Creech and Nadler (2017, p. 182) criticise this “celebratory focus on innovation” because it “marginalizes normative concerns about journalism’s democratic purpose.” Editorial knowledge champions can take the role of a soul of fire or devil’s advocate for innovations (Meyer, 2000).

**Research question.** How do editorial knowledge champions consider normative journalistic principles in the technology adoption process?

**Method.** We use 360° videos as example of technology adoption and conducted interviews with eight editorial 360° video knowledge champions of Swiss news organizations with print, television, and online-only legacies, representing the Swiss news landscape. The sampling follows a criterion-based, purposive approach (Teddlie & Yu, 2007) covering experience diversity regarding 360° video production.

**Results.** The path of innovation adoption in news organizations consists of three steps: the awareness, the experiment, and the proficiency stage. Market condition, technology characteristics, and normative issues determine whether the editorial office enters the experimentation stage. 360° videos are normatively discussed regarding the disseminator role, journalistic autonomy, audience utility, and relevance of journalism in society. Driving forces into the proficiency stage is the experience of success or potential success on the audience or advertiser markets.

**Conclusion.** The genealogy of journalistic values imposes limits to innovation efforts in newsrooms. Journalists do not innovate “all shiny new things” (Küng, 2017, p. 7) at any costs but consider journalism’s societal purpose when assessing a new technology

HOW MUCH KNOWLEDGE OF AUDIENCES IS HELPFUL FOR JOURNALISM?  
ON THE INTERRELATION BETWEEN TRANSFORMATIONS IN JOURNALISM AND CHANGES IN THE JOURNALISM-AUDIENCE RELATIONSHIP

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The “audience” is one of journalism’s fundamental constituents and is a vital factor in the shaping of news(work). In this sense, the journalism-audience relationship represents a classical issue in journalism research but continues to re-emerge in different guises – currently with regard to increasingly sophisticated methods of audience measurement and their impact on editorial decisions. My contribution revolves around three general theses that condense empirical evidence from (own) research: (1) The relationship between the journalistic role and that of the audience remains essentially the same but substantially varies in quality. (2) Individual journalists and newsrooms as organizations face the challenge of coping with multiple and ever more granularly measured audiences. (3) Journalists’ reluctance to engage with audience participation should not obscure a gradual expansion of journalism’s main functions. Its primary function, to periodically provide society with current, independent, factual and relevant information is thus expanded to include the organization of follow-up communication which is subsequently generated. To differentiate the diverse levels in these processes, I delineate two theoretical approaches: a system-theoretical one, and a figuration-theoretical one. With the former, the journalism audience relationship can be distinguished regarding three levels of social systems: interaction, organization, and societal system. With the second it is understood as a communicative figuration characterized by a certain actor constellation that is rooted in (communicative) practices across a certain media ensemble that are orientated across particular frames of relevance. The comparison between these two theoretical perspectives offers an insight into the interrelation between transformations in journalism and the changing audience relationship as well as into the normative value that lies in the paradox of journalism's unwilling willingness to include audiences. There is a need, therefore, to rethink the apparently widespread assumption in both research and practice that ever-more knowledge about audiences would automatically lead to better journalism.

TRANSITIONING TO SOLUTIONS  
JOURNALISM: ONE  
NEWSROOM'S SHIFT TO  
SOLUTIONS-FOCUSED  
REPORTING

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Solutions journalism — rigorous news reporting on how people are responding to social problems — has gained much attention in the past five years as newsrooms have looked for innovative ways to increase audience engagement and public trust. Several news outlets have launched solutions journalism initiatives; for example, see The News York Times' weekly column "Fixes," the Guardian's series "The Upside" and the BBC's "World Hacks." The Solutions Journalism Network, an independent, non-profit organization that promotes the practice, has collaborated with more than 200 newsrooms on solution-oriented news projects. However, oftentimes news outlets separate their solution-focused news coverage from their traditional coverage. In 2018, in a move that was the first of its kind, Alabama's largest daily newspaper, the Gannett-owned Montgomery Advertiser, executed a complete transformation of its newsroom to focus on enterprise and solutions journalism. To examine its impact, we conducted a multiplewave survey of the newspaper's audience before and after the transition and collected community conversations via social media data from Twitter and Facebook. The results were mixed. Audience perceptions from the survey data revealed less engagement over time. However, the newspaper saw an increased number of page views and longer engagement times on their solution-oriented news stories compared to their traditional stories. Sentiment analysis of the social media data showed a significant increase in positive sentiment and significant decrease in negative sentiment. These results suggest that more research is needed to gauge the impact of solutions journalism.



**ZERO CONTROL AND MIRROR  
SCENE: A STUDY ON  
TRANSPARENCY IN CITIZEN  
JOURNALISM IN CHINA**

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New media technologies affect the journalistic production, which broadens the spectrum of news producers from the professional journalists to citizen journalists. Media transformations also challenge the established journalistic practices and norms. This paper tries to discuss journalistic transparency in citizen journalism in China. Firstly, it examines the rise of citizen journalism, the discussions of journalistic transparency and the studies on the relationship between citizen journalism and journalistic transparency based on the Chinese and English academic literature. Secondly, it discusses journalistic transparency by inductive examination of citizen journalism cases at the Chinese social media such as Weibo. It finds that empowered by new media, citizen journalists can report and share the news immediately in distant locations to the public without other intermediaries, which indicates the verbal transparency demonstrated by the zero control of the verbal narrative. Moreover, with the increasing use of video clips and mobile communication technologies, citizen journalists prefer to live broadcast the news event with the purposes of increasing CTR (click-through rate) and strengthening the reliability of the coverage, and such a mirror scene demonstrates the visual transparency. Thus, the reliance on the verbal and visual transparency enables the citizen journalists to discover the truth of the event, which further advances the transparency of the society. Nevertheless, given the non-professionalism of citizen journalists and the profit-driven social media, this paper finally calls for the closer and further examination of citizen journalism ethics, the collaboration between citizen journalists and professional journalists as well as the social media literacy of the public.

**SEARCHING FOR NEW  
CULTURES OF JOURNALISM IN  
THE DIGITAL AGE: A RESPONSE  
FROM PEACE JOURNALISM**

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By sticking to traditional ideas of detachment, journalism defines a precise deontological approach, which limits engagement with normative evaluations of socio-political change. However, the normative dimension permeates how information is produced, shared, and engaged with in the digital age. Profit-seeking entities such as Cambridge Analytica masterfully exploited moral polarisation online, potentially affecting processes of change beyond national level. In this context, journalism's deontological approach safeguards the identity of the profession, but is less effective in allowing journalists to play an effective role in engaging publics. This paper discusses how Peace Journalism can encourage new cultures of experimentation and innovation to respond to the current challenges of moral polarisations of consensus around facts and truths. Peace Journalism carries a strong potential in this direction, as it has successfully matched journalism and normativity in a range of conflicts. At the same time, however, recent literature examining journalism in context has highlighted the need to embed Peace Journalism into a wider and strategic approach to communication. This paper brings these analyses together to discuss the results of a pilot questionnaire with journalists who participated in Peace Journalism training at Sydney University. By relying on this material, the paper aims to draft a path for a shift from liminal to bold approaches, in which digital challenges serve as opportunity for the substantial rethinking of journalism and its role in shaping well-informed publics.

**BETWEEN JOURNALIST  
AUTHORSHIP AND USER  
AGENCY: EXPLORING THE  
CONCEPT OF OBJECTIVITY IN  
VR JOURNALISM**

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Virtual Reality (VR) journalism has brought many changes to the journalistic practice and norms, calling facticity, accuracy, objectivity and autonomy into question. The changes in journalistic norms coupled with the powerful psychological impact of VR raise huge concerns about potential user manipulation. This study examines factors influencing objectivity and its significance in VR journalism from the perspective of VR content creators. The researcher conducted twenty-six semi-structured interviews with VR content creators between November 2017 and May 2018. Purposive and snowball sampling techniques allowed the researcher to recruit fact-based VR content creators from production studios and media organisations, as well as freelancers. The findings showed the diverse understandings of objectivity among VR content creators and the growing acceptance of VR as a subjective experience. The 360<sup>0</sup> spherical view reduces the ability to frame the content. The different story-paths in interactive VR storytelling may add perspectives to the story. However, the VR user retains the ability to actively explore the virtual environment, deciding what to experience and what to dismiss. VR thus emphasizes user-induced subjectivity in addition to the already existing journalist-induced subjectivity, in which the journalist chooses camera placement and provides a guided experience. Subjectivity is inescapable in VR and its impact is magnified, suggesting extra caution from VR content creators to protect users and affirming the need for the notion of pragmatic objectivity.

**“OUR TEAM WOULD NOT EXIST  
WITHOUT SLACK”  
INNOVATION PRACTICES IN  
TECHNOLOGY-MEDIATED  
JOURNALISTIC WORK**

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Innovation in the media business is much about change and adaptation to a new strategic environment (Küng 2017). In this, media organizations depend largely on the creativity and skills of their employees (Malmelin & Virta 2016). The context for experimentation and innovation, as well as other journalistic work, is changing as work is increasingly done in distributed teams with the help of communication technology. These technologies, often referred to as Online Collaborative Software (OCS), include chat-based applications such as Slack or video conferencing tools like Google Hangouts. They allow journalists to work collectively despite geographical and/or temporal dispersion. Importantly, OCS has the potential to shape creativity practices, e.g. idea generation and information sharing (Razmerita et al. 2014; Turban et al. 2011). Utilizing technology-mediated creative work (Gibbson & Gibbs 2006) as a theoretical framework, we study how journalists working in distributed teams engage in innovation work when using OCS. By applying a multimethod approach, we collected data from two teams of journalists in a Finnish media organization. We conducted 14 in-depth interviews, observed team meetings and extracted data from their Slack workspaces (altogether 4000 messages). Our paper makes two contributions. First, we study technology-mediated creative work in the context of media organizations, which has not been done extensively before. Second, our findings have strong practical implications, as recognizing how creative work is carried out in technology-mediated environments can help improve innovation practices and encourage new cultures of experimentation and innovation in media organizations.

**NEGOTIATING THE  
CONVERSATION: HOW  
JOURNALISTS LEARN TO  
INTERACT WITH AUDIENCES  
ONLINE**

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This paper investigates how young journalists have developed their knowledge of online interaction strategies and how well they feel they manage the ethical and practical challenges of engaging with audiences in comments sections and on social media platforms. The paper presents the results of a snowball sample survey of recent Australian journalism graduates from six universities, working across print, broadcast and social media, which explores their educational preparation and on the job training for dialogic interactivity. The survey builds on a literature review that revealed gaps in journalists' understanding of audience diversity and minority expectations of interaction; and the need for increased research into community management strategies for sustaining conversations and heading off aggression. In the last decade industry and academic research has indicated that audience interaction is central to audience development, story research and civic engagement. However, in light of the difficulties of moderating participation and the increasing abuse of journalists online, we argue that it is critical to understand how well journalists are learning to talk with their audiences, and where they draw their cues from about right action in managing online discussions. In revealing graduate journalist's experiences of negotiating and nurturing digital conversations, this paper pinpoints areas of journalism pedagogy that need innovation and transformation for an age of digital disruption, in which securing audience engagement and subscription revenues is becoming an increasingly important part of media business models.

**CITIZENS' ENGAGEMENT WITH NEWS ACROSS WHATSAPP: A PROTECTED ENVIRONMENT OR AN OPEN DOOR TO HYPER-PARTISAN NEWS?**

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Research confirms the growing importance of social media in citizens' news engagement (Newman et al. 2018). According to the Digital News Report 2018, WhatsApp is the main social and messaging site in Spain, used by the 82% of the population, being the second source for news (36%) following Facebook (48%). In last years we have a seen a growing concern related to possible pernicious effects of social media because how easily disinformation, fake news and hate speech spread, as well as their lack of exposition to divergent ideas (Sharot, 2017; Khurana and Kumar, 2018), becoming spaces of incivility and impoliteness (Stroud, Scacco and Muddiman, 2015; Ruiz et al. 2010). As a result, users are moving discussion to messaging apps, such as WhatsApp and Facebooks groups (Frankel, 2018), where interactions between users are mostly private in an enclosed ecosystem of friends and acquaintances, in which media and journalists are excluded. This paper presents data from a survey (N= 1000) and 6 focus groups to study the use of WhatApp in relation with news in Spain. Results highlight the relevant role of WhatsApp as a source of news: although links to 'mainstream media' still dominate the platform, hyper-partisan media are also relevant. Spanish citizens do not generally differentiate among these two kinds of media. Furthermore, hyper-partisan and disinformation content easily spreads in WhatsApp due the fact that citizens tend to trust what they receive depending more on who sends it rather than what is being shared or their source.

**THE DOUBLE-EDGED NATURE  
OF SELF-EMPLOYMENT -  
WORKING CONDITIONS FOR  
FREELANCE JOURNALISTS**

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This study shed light on working conditions for freelance journalists. The flexibilization of work life is a current general trend towards individualization, involving employment insecurity (Beck 2000; Giddens 1998). Media business is an early indicator of these changes as the number of freelancers are increasing all over the world (Deuze and Fortunati 2011, Bridges 2017), and precarity has come to be part of the lived experiences in journalism (Deuze & Witschge 2017). Researching the labour conditions of freelancers might prove helpful in understanding important aspects of contemporary journalism (Gollmitzer 2014), as it raises discussions about de-professionalization of the journalist's role (Witschge & Nygren 2009). Former studies describe the double-edge nature of freelance work and contradictory experiences between autonomy and job satisfaction on the one side, and precarity and vulnerability on the other, as well as addressing ethical aspects (Cohen 2016; Mathisen 2016; 2018, Gollmitzer 2014). The purpose of this paper is to discuss the freelance role, by answering the research question what characterizes the working conditions for freelancers in times of downsizing and cost-cutting in media companies? Based upon a quantitative survey, we will shed light onto various aspects of freelance work, such as wages, job security, motivation, relation to the assigners and ethical dilemmas. The survey is distributed to 1500 respondents, recruited via the member list of the Norwegian union of Journalists. Theoretically, the discussion will draw upon the sociology of professions (Freidson 2001, Evetts 2003).

### RADICAL WITHOUT A CAUSE? RIGHT-WING ALTERNATIVE MEDIA IN THE DANISH CONTEXT

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The global rise of hyper-partisan media, especially on the political right, has been receiving increasing scholarly attention in the past years. While often being discarded as mere producers of fake news, these media outlets must be seen as a particular type of 'alternative' (Atton 2002) or 'radical' media, seeking to present an alternative to 'hegemonic policies, priorities, and perspectives' (Downey 2001). Especially for alternative media on the political right, their 'antisystemness' has been proposed as a meaningful way to study their place in the media landscape and public discourse (Holt, 2018). Much of this thinking is however inspired by contexts, in which far-right voices and positions have been marginalized or even excluded in legacy media content. Studying the emerging alternative right-wing news infrastructure in Denmark, the paper addresses this question in the opposite case, i.e. under national conditions where the public debate culture and tone has been described as generally very open, not least also to positions and rhetoric traditionally associated with the far-right (Hellström & Hervik 2013). Based on a content analysis of the website architecture, as well as more than 2,500 articles and videos published over a six-month period in 2018/19 by online news outlets *Den korte avis*, *24nyt.dk*, *NewSpeak Networks* and *Frihedens Stemme*, the paper sheds light on the role and positioning of this type of alternative media in a media and political environment that does not shun radical voices and viewpoints.



**JOURNALISM PRACTICE IN  
UGANDA:IN A NATION  
TRANSITIONING TO  
DEMOCRACY, CHALLENGES  
REMAIN**

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Many African countries have faced demands for democratic governance in recent decades (Mukhongo, 2010). Despite enduring “some of the worst political and economic chaos anywhere in the world” (Mwesige, 2004, p. 71), for the last quarter century Uganda has seen significant progress under President Yoweri Museveni, who has been credited with liberalizing the media and instituting a constitutional guarantee of free press (Kalyango & Eckler, 2010). Now, Uganda has “one of the more vibrant media scenes in east and central Africa” (Freedom House, 2017, para. 5-6). Despite this seemingly impressive transformation, however, journalists in Uganda continue to face challenges. This study utilized in-depth interviews to examine the challenges Ugandan reporters face and what could be done to alleviate them. Through the lens of Shoemaker and Reese’s (2013) Hierarchy of Influences Model, findings reveal that journalists’ challenges come from almost every level. At the individual level, journalists lack professionalism and engage in unethical behavior. But some of these challenges can be blamed on news organizations due to low pay and failed efforts to create a united professional organization to train reporters to act ethically. Extramedia forces, namely, government restrictions, also pose significant challenges for journalists. And some of these restrictions, such as limited access to information, are influenced by ideological factors. Critics say that as a semi-authoritarian state, Uganda’s ruling party implements just enough democratic policies to appear democratic but ultimately remain in power. As Tabaire (2007) suggests, “Only a much more democratic Uganda will ensure a freer press” (p. 208).

### THE AUDIENCE TURN IN JOURNALISM: A TRANSFORMATION OF THE DISCOURSE ABOUT JOURNALISM AND DEMOCRACY

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Although reckoning with audiences still evokes resistance, it appears to be a fait accompli in the evolving news ecosystem. What has changed in journalism that giving in to audiences no longer automatically associates with giving up on excellence? Through longitudinal participatory observation of key moments (editorial meetings, public debates) in the development of Dutch journalism and through informal talks and formal interviews with a broad range of journalists and editors during the last 20 years, the paper will trace four tipping points in the audience turn in commercial news and public service journalism: 1) Becoming familiar with the discourse of 'informed citizenship' (1997 – 2002). 2) Growing recognition of the decreasing news interest of younger generations as challenge for public broadcasters' societal mission (2003 – 2008). 3) Changing status of 'millennials' from marginal to 'forerunners' (2008 – 2015). 4) Increasing relevance of the attention economy as *raison d'être* for public service media and as business model of commercial journalism (2015 – now). Ann Swidler's concept of 'anchoring practice' (2001) will be used to understand how the audience turn in journalism touched upon various anchoring functions of 'quality journalism' threatening to make it less effective as a shield against unwelcome changes in the distribution of financial and human resources as well as in the selection and presentation of news. The paper suggests that journalism as a professional practice and discourse may have to look for alternative anchoring concepts (as substitutes for both quality journalism and audience engagement), if and when it wants to remain a vital and constructive democratic force.

THE FUTURE OF JOURNALISM IS  
COLLABORATIVE

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In the era of the re-emergence of authoritarian regimes all over the world, journalism is more important than ever. Yet journalism is under pressure in the evolving news ecosystem in terms of pressure on the business model, staffing and technical demands. One rapidly evolving and growing area which seeks to meet the challenge head on is collaborative journalism (Sambrook 2018, 8). Traditionally collaborative journalism involved journalists. In the hybrid media age collaborative journalism is an editorial collaboration between media organizations, nongovernmental organizations, universities, and other actors, which collectively bring to the public stories that could not be told in other ways (Sambrook, 2017; Stonbely, 2017; Graves & Konieczna, 2015; CollaborativeJournalism.org, 2017). This new collaborative journalism is a growing practice; typified by global examples such as the Panama and Paradise Papers and although collaboration among journalists is not new, the very institutionalization of the practice, through the experiences of ICIJ, Connectas, Investigate Europe, Convoca, Comprova, and many others, has demonstrated that is possible to practice quality journalism in a collaborative multi institutional environment. Yet many questions emerge as consequence of the spread of collaborative practices in journalism; both the motives and opportunities it presents for media organisations; as well as the response which it provokes in audiences. This paper focuses on the collaborators and through a series of qualitative semi-structured interviews in a comparative approach (Brinkmann, 2013, 49) seeks to move beyond understanding what supports or hinders collaborative journalism to unpacking the motivations and consequences of the various categories of actors. In doing so we hope to build to a typology of the practice.

THE LEGITIMATING POWER OF  
PLATFORMS: HOW  
JOURNALISTS TREAT TWEETS  
AS NEWS CONTENT

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Journalists often describe their work as a discipline of verification (Kovach & Rosenstiel, 2014) but recent studies have found that this maxim is forgotten or ignored frequently in the case of social media (Brandtzaeg et al., 2016). This raises the question, what is it about social media posts that leads journalists to treat them more like a police report (which needs no verification and can simply be repeated verbatim) and less like a spokesperson's claim (which must be verified)? In short, journalists treat tweets as content rather than treating their authors as sources. We argue that social media platforms have situated themselves as purveyors of legitimated content, a projection that journalists have not fully challenged. Instead, journalists rely on these platforms both for access to powerful users and as conduits to surface and amplify the words of "ordinary people." By treating social media posts as already legitimated, journalists continue to perform Tuchman's strategic ritual of objectivity, allowing enough transparency for audiences to see the original source and their words but without the more rigorous standard of verification that journalists proclaim as foundational. We provide evidence of this argument by examining a sample of news stories to observe the conditions under which journalists treat tweets as content or sources. Using a grounded theory approach, our analysis of this corpus builds an evidence-based argument about the power of platforms to legitimate speech and shape journalistic routines and journalism itself.

**SUBSCRIBING TO  
TRANSPARENCY: RANTT  
MEDIA'S USE OF PATREON AND  
SLACK TO BUILD AUDIENCE  
TRUST**

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Subscribing to Transparency: Rantt Media's Use of Patreon and Slack to Build Audience Trust In order to establish themselves in an already crowded environment, and one rife with scandal and uncertainty, online news outlets are experimenting with different formats, workflows and funding models, and often utilize external technological platforms to facilitate this (Vos & Singer, 2016; Usher; 2017, Naldi & Picard, 2012). One such platform gaining increasing traction is Patreon. Patreon allows it users to set up a funding page that offers consumers different tiers of financial commitment and, in return, different levels of access to content. In an era of unstable business models and rocky relationships between news consumers and producers, Patreon's offering appears to be an attractive solution. Other external platforms are being used by online news outlets to facilitate co-working and communication remotely—a necessity in an era of downsized physical offices and predominantly digital newsrooms. One such popular technological solution is the cloud-based application Slack which allows newsrooms to communicate online and in real time. This paper utilizes qualitative research methods to undertake a case study into one outlet using technological platforms to establish itself as a trusted actor and achieve financial stability. The chosen outlet—Rantt Media— utilizes Patreon to connect with its readership and fund its content. Furthermore, Rantt provides its Patreon subscribers access to the company's Slack channel. By offering readers insider access to their communications via these external platforms, Rantt utilizes technological tools as a way to build trust, transparency and social relationships with their readers. This research paper seeks to examine the motivations and successes of utilizing such external technological platforms and questions the extent to which the use of external platforms can allow online news outlets to tackle the core economic, engagement, and trust issues facing the news media ecology.

**DATA JOURNALISM IN THE  
GLOBAL SOUTH: COMPARATIVE  
PERSPECTIVES**

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When all is said and done, technology has continued to play a critical role in the global development of the new thinking in journalism research and practice. But up until now, very few have talked about data journalism in the Global South. At least not in academic settings, leaving many wondering if it exists. The watchword “data journalism” has continued to gather pace as journalists across the world are increasingly turning to numerical figures and data gurus in a bid to boost their innovative storytelling techniques and methods. The current study seeks to explore the practical, methodological and theoretical underpinnings of data journalism, critiquing various newsrooms’ growing reliance on structured pieces of data at the expense of traditionally organised news stories. This paper will not just challenge notions or suggestions that data journalism is a Western phenomenon but will bring critical, up-to-date deliberations and developments that have dominated an upsurge of discussions and dialogues surrounding what many in the ‘developing’ world consider an emerging form of journalism. The paper provides a historical analysis of data journalism aligning itself to key developments in non-Western contexts before discussing current and impending opportunities and challenges. It further establishes data journalism’ inherent potential before making a case for its sustainability, which the paper argues lies in its aptitude to comprehend the functions and role of journalism in a given society. Data journalism is, after all, journalism.

### DATA JOURNALISM PRACTICES IN PAKISTAN

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This paper is about current data journalism practices of Data Journalists in Pakistan. Most of the journalists informed that their respective organisations are not interested in data journalism stories as they require lots of preparation time. According to the journalists, the newspaper owners are mostly interested in profits than news values that is why they are not very keen in establishing special data journalism sections in their newspaper offices. That is why, most of the data journalists are doing Data Journalism either because of their own interest or they believe that doing data journalism can enhance their career prospects in future. They also reported that currently in most of the news organisations, technical capabilities are not very conducive for the preparation of data stories as most of the staff lacks technical skills. Those, working in technical sections of the Newspapers organisations are very good in technical skills but they clearly lack the journalism skills. An interesting finding is, that NGOs (Non-Government Organisations) are doing better Data Journalism stories than mainstream media such as Newspapers. This raises the question about the changing nature of journalism services in future. The NGOs in Pakistan have more skilled staff and are doing detailed data journalism stories which helps them in getting funding easily and they publish their data stories on their websites. This research also aims at understanding the perceptions and understanding of Pakistani Data Journalists about the concepts involved in Data Journalism, nature of sources used by Data Journalists, range of skills they possess in practicing Data Journalism. The qualitative research study used in-depth interviews for collecting data from Data Journalists across Pakistan. Almost fifteen journalists are interviewed.

**TRANSFORMATIONS IN THE  
INDIGENOUS NEWS NETWORK:  
DECOLONISING INDIGENOUS  
NEWS?**

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In 2018, The Guardian published Deaths Inside, a searchable database detailing every Indigenous death in custody in Australia since 2008. It was produced by a team including Guardian journalists and won the innovation award at Australia's Walkley awards for excellence in journalism. The issue of Indigenous deaths in custody has long been an issue, and 40 years ago precipitated the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (RCIADIC). Aside from specific recommendations relating to the criminal justice system, the landmark 1991 RCIADIC report cited poor relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians and included discussion and recommendations related to the news media's role in perpetuating racism and discrimination. The agenda-setting nature of the RCIADIC report contributed much to both journalism research directions and news production environments in Australia, with advances in theory and practice shaping the relational news ecology we define as the 'Indigenous news network'. In recent years, Indigenous digital news initiatives and new 'mainstream' outlets (such as The Guardian Australia) with strong editorial agendas relating to Indigenous coverage have created linkages between previously separate media sectors. Building on a collaborative action research project that seeks to analyse this space of transformation, this paper provides an historical and theoretical review of it, and draws on interviews with Indigenous news actors to consider how far these changes might be seen to be contributing to an amplification of Indigenous voices, a potential 'decolonisation' of news agendas and innovation in journalism.



**CAN ONE JOURNALIST CANCEL  
A MILITARY PROJECT? A ROLE  
MODEL FROM OLD JOURNALISM  
TO THE FUTURE**

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The question we address in the paper is: What is the role of an individual journalist in the ambiguous future envisaged for journalism? We suggest an innovative model centering on a journalist who leads a salient media discussion of complex and multi-resource projects that influenced public opinion and decision-making. Our research, based on Haim Frenkel's doctoral thesis, provides an affirmative answer to this question. The study examined the coverage of eight military-security topics, half simple and the other half complex, in two Israeli newspapers, Ha'aretz, and Yedioth Aharonoth, from 1994 through 2012. Analysis of 1,322 items found that the late Reuven Pedatzur, Ha'aretz commentator, provoked a lively discourse regarding the Arrow missile project among the Israeli scientific, political and journalistic communities by giving the Arrow missile project significant salience through negative framing. Contrary to the research hypothesis, Pedatzur made this topic more salient than many of the simple security issues examined. We used semi-structured interviews to discuss the research findings with journalists and commentators, yielding a journalistic model not found in previous research. The model is based on the journalistic work of Pedatzur, who adopted stopping the Arrow project as his mission, for he believed the project was detrimental to Israel's security. Over the years he became an expert on the topic, serving as a lecturer in at Tel-Aviv University and in the United States. With the support of his newspaper's editorial board, Pedatzur confronted the political establishment on topics relevant to Israel's national security.

### DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION, EMPLOYMENT INSECURITY, AND UNION REVITALISATION IN JOURNALISM

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The extent to which journalists' editorial autonomy is threatened by economic and technological forces, with potentially adverse consequences for democratic societies, has received considerable attention in journalism scholarship. Yet, we still have a limited understanding of the role that labour dynamics play in the digital transformation of journalism. This paper examines academic and industry research on ongoing digital restructuring to determine the current labour dynamics of Australian journalism, and how these dynamics influence journalists' capacity to have a say in the news work they can and want to do. The labour dynamics of concern are labour market re-composition, career restructuring, and changes in rights at work associated with declining workforce unionisation and growing employer prerogative in the context of escalating employment insecurity. Pierre Bourdieu frames the issue succinctly: 'Precariousness implies a form of constraint and censorship' (2005, p. 43). The paper includes a case study of recent job churn at new media companies, such as BuzzFeed and HuffPost, once seen as incubators of innovative journalism forms and practices. The paper argues emergent union revitalisation fosters and is fostered by journalists' limited, but persistent, pushback against precarity and other problematic employment practices. The paper thus advances our theoretical understanding of the changing material conditions of news work, and, importantly, of journalists' agency in the change process.

**JOURNALISTS COVERING  
JOURNALISM: A CASE FOR NON-  
GOVERNMENTAL PUBLIC  
REFORMISM**

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This paper presents findings on how the British press covered the media policy debate that arose from the News of the World phone hacking scandal and the Leveson Inquiry. The study of how the media cover debates on their policy is very important because of the susceptibility of the media to abuse their power when they cover themselves, and the danger this poses to democracy. Using interesting examples and statistical data from a content analysis of 870 newspaper articles, my study shows how sources are used; press freedom is interpreted; and in detail, how the media cover debates about their policies. This paper acknowledges that because bias is inevitable, it is difficult for the press to serve as a democratic public sphere in debates about themselves. To take care of this shortcoming, it recommends a more pragmatic participation of members of the public in media reform. The paper introduces the concept of non-governmental public reformism, a variant of Curran's (2011) Public Reformism. Non-governmental public reformism can be included in journalism curricula because of its high prospects for effective media reform. Despite the threat of oligopoly and manipulation of online platforms by corporate internet giants like Google and Facebook alongside other elite voices, the power of the public to serve as a force for media reform through online and other platforms is still very tangible. My paper will expand on this. My findings will enlighten the public on how to consume journalistic metadiscourse (news coverage of journalism) and inform recommendations on how to achieve an effective media policy.

THE PAYWALL  
TRANSFORMATION OF LOCAL  
MEDIA MARKETS AND ITS  
IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL  
NEWSPAPERS' VALUE  
CREATION

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Two major transformations have taken place in local media markets in Western democracies: An increase in sources of information and a decrease in audiences and revenue for local newspapers. These related developments have changed the supply and demand dynamics of local news. While audiences have gained unprecedented access to free, digital content from all over the world in social and search media, local newspapers are restricting access to their content by raising paywalls online. This paper asks how these dynamics of access and access restrictions shape audiences' perceptions of value and use of local news, and discuss the implications for local newspapers' democratic role. The paper combines normative perspectives on news media's democratic role from political philosophy with customer perceived value literature and the worthwhileness of news media conceptualization from journalism research. Based on three separate studies conducted in Norway from 2015 to 2018 (a qualitative study of local newspapers' paywall strategies, a quantitative study of audiences' attitude and behavior in response to local newspaper paywalls and a qualitative study of local news medias' worthwhileness for individuals and local democracies) the paper identifies gaps and overlaps between local newspapers' value offerings and audiences' value perceptions. The paper proposes an analytical model for local news value creation by integrating local news value dimensions on the micro level (for the individual media user), the meso level (for the newspaper) and the macro level (for local communities).

**SOCIAL MEDIA EDITORS AS NEW GATEKEEPERS OR BRAND PUSHERS? WHO ARE THEY, AND HOW DO THEY SELECT AND SHAPE NEWS FOR PUBLICATION ON FACEBOOK?**

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Facebook is still a very important presentation platform for news media (see e.g., Welbers & Opgenhaffen, 2018), with a unique media logic that influences the content and form of the news (Lischka, 2018). Even within the same news organisation the news that appears on the FB account of the medium is not an exact reflection of the news published on the news site or in the newspaper. This selection of news on Facebook is based on news values that appear to be typical for social media (see e.g., Harcup & O'Neill, 2016; Al-Rawi, 2016), but is also influenced by medium-specific aspects such as the architecture of the platform and the functioning of its algorithms (see e.g., DeVito, 2017). However, not much is known about the news workers who select and shape the news for publication on Facebook. The goal of this study is to fill this gap by focusing on 1) the profile of this new type of news workers (Who are they? And how do they see themselves? As gatekeeper or brand pusher?), 2) the new selection criteria they use when selecting the news from the news site for publication on the Facebook account (Which news do they find suitable for the platform? And what is the impact of the algorithm?) and 3) the new strategies they use to shape the news (For example, do they change the headline or photo, and why?). This study is based on 20 in-depth interviews with social media editors from mainstream and online-only Flemish and Dutch news organisations.

### THE JOURNALISM SCANDAL – WHEN SCANDALIZATION HITS JOURNALISTS AND NEWS MEDIA

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Claas Relotius, the reporter from Der Spiegel, who faked stories and sources, is the most recent example of a journalism scandal and Jason Blair, the reporter from the New York Times, who did the same, is perhaps the most famous. Since the beginning of the millennium journalism scandals have hit news media in countries as diverse as Great Britain, US, Denmark and India. A scandal can be defined as an action or event that is regarded as morally or legally wrong and that causes general public outrage. Usually, the study of scandals focuses on actions taken by politicians and how these actions are covered by the news media (Thomson, 2000). However, journalists and news media themselves increasingly become the subject of scandal in their own right (Blach-Ørsten et al. 2018). This paper proceeds in two steps. First a literature review of the subject of journalism scandals is conducted and based on this a typology of scandals is suggested. This typology includes: 1) The 'plagiarism' scandal, 2) the 'fabrication' scandal, 3) The 'hacking' scandal and 4) the 'errores information' scandal. Next, the typology is tested on a case study of journalism scandals in Denmark from 2005 to 2018. The study finds 10 journalism scandals in the selected period: 2 plagiarism scandals, 3 fabrication-scandals, 1 hacking-scandal and 4 errores-information scandals. The paper concludes by discussing the different types of scandals and how they affect journalism and trust in journalism.

**ALTERNATIVE VOICES: THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF ALTERNATIVE AND ACTIVIST MEDIA IN TURKEY AND GREECE**

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This paper aims to analyse and compare the routines of work, organizational structures and capabilities of alternative and activist new media projects (AAM) in Turkey and Greece, two countries that recently witnessed digitally networked actions. Alternative and activist new media projects is a term coined by Lievrouw (2011) to describe activists, artists and citizen groups around the world that use new media technologies to gain visibility and voice and present alternative or marginal views to confront mainstream media and culture. Since 2011, there has been growing research into the organizational structure of the digitally-networked protests (Bennett and Segerberg, 2013; Tufekci, 2017) but few studies have analyzed and compared the organisational structures of AAM, which have also challenged dominant or accepted ways of doing society, culture, and politics in these countries (Alevizou, 2016; Ataman and Coban, 2018, Akser and McCollum, 2019). While in Turkey, well-known journalists turned into activists, utilising web-based news outlets such as T24 and Medyascope with the aim of bypassing the repressive surveillance attempts of the government, in Greece, AAM such as the Press Project and Athens Live emerged to produce alternative framing to mainstream media regarding austerity debates and solidarity movements. Drawing on semi-structured interviews with journalists working at such alternative news outlets and secondary data on AAM in the two countries, this paper seeks to analyse and compare the routine production of editorial content in AAM and explores whether the new capabilities offered by ICTs, such as participatory, non-hierarchical editorial production process is available in these. We will also compare how alternative journalists conceive their roles, to what extent they believe they can fulfil them and what are the contributions, challenges and confrontations that new media technologies pose to their reporting.

**NEWS FIXERS, ONLINE: LOCAL  
MEDIA WORKERS' DIGITAL  
DISCOURSE ON THE FUTURE OF  
INTERNATIONAL JOURNALISM**  
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News “fixers” are the locally-based media workers who help international correspondents translate foreign languages, secure compelling interviews, and navigate unfamiliar cultural and geographical terrain. Though foreign correspondents have been hiring these local guides for centuries, most people don’t know they exist. And only a handful of journalism scholars have devoted full research studies to understanding the role that fixers play in international reporting (Palmer and Fontan 2007; Murrell 2015; Palmer 2018, 2019).

Such scholarship is necessary, especially in the “digital age.” The fixer-journalist relationship has been complicated by the growing use of digital technology in the journalism profession more broadly, with foreign correspondents now turning to websites like Hackpack, World Fixer, or even Twitter to find local assistance in the field. Fixers are aware of the visibility that these online platforms can offer them professionally (Palmer 2019), and many of them increasingly draw upon the affordances of these platforms to engage with and contribute to an emerging journalistic discourse on international reporting in the digital era.

This paper conducts a multi-modal, critical discourse analysis of the online profiles associated with 75 news fixers from 39 different countries, in hopes of answering the following research questions:

1. How do news fixers construct their professional personas in these digital spaces? Do they market themselves as being fundamentally “local,” or do they represent themselves as being part of a global network of international journalists?
2. In what ways are the news fixers’ online personas discursively impacted by the verification and testimonial features of the platforms, which allow international journalists to intervene in the fixers’ self-representations and “vouch” for their trustworthiness?
3. How do news fixers’ profiles discursively imagine the future of international reporting? Do they see the profession as becoming more collaborative? More specialized? More (or less) dependent on local knowledge?



**VALUES AND EVALUATIONS:  
THE DISTRIBUTION OF WORTH  
IN JOURNALISM**

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The transformation of journalism has been mostly discussed in terms of two processes in the recent literature. The first, wherein journalists integrate the old with the new, has been conceptualised as hybridity (Chadwick 2013). It is complemented by the opposing tendency that sees journalists engaging in “boundary work” (Carlson and Lewis 2015). This ambivalence connects with a broader uncertainty over institutional definitions in a post-truth era: who can be considered to be a good journalist? In my view, the above question calls for a look inside journalism. What systems of value, or scales of worth, exist inside journalism? Who is a good journalist according to journalists themselves? This line of investigation refers to journalism’s process of “evaluation”, the discursive process of attaching moral value to its practices and practitioners, which I discuss in terms of “distribution of worth”. I conceptualise worth as the stakes of the actors’ disputes. After Boltanski and Thévenot (2006), actors seek to resolve conflict by appealing to shared conceptions of justice. They justify themselves and evaluate others on the basis of moral values whose proper confirmation bestows worth. It is by performing the discursive acts of justification and evaluation that actors inscribe these moral systems into their fields (Chouliaraki and Fairclough 1999). Based on a discourse analysis of statements of evaluation from interviews with Guardian journalists, I establish four conceptions of worth. The first values authority and tradition. The second finds worth in the recognition by peers. The third talks about the power of reporting to hold elites accountable. The fourth valorises networking and reputation management. This plurality shows that journalistic ethics is not fixed in a core set of principles, I argue. Journalists practically transcend the key tension between the “traditional” and the “digital” modes of journalism and denounce the market logic that ties popularity with profit.

### WHO IS WILLING TO PAY FOR NEWS? CHANGING CONSUMER CULTURE IN THE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION ECONOMY

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The funding of journalism is an ongoing challenge as the industry faces decline in advertising revenues and traditional news readership. Digital platforms are attracting audiences to consume news with other content through their services. However, this has not translated into a sustainable business model. Editorial job losses from digital born brands like BuzzFeed and HuffingtonPost raise urgent questions about who will fund the creation of original journalistic content. Against this backdrop of doom, the Digital News Report (2018) shows the willingness to pay for news is slightly on the rise, especially among younger news consumers. Enabled by the internet and digital platforms, the traditional pay-per-product (or service) companies are moving toward subscription-based business models. Consumers are increasingly paying to get access to a suite of products or services during a limited time rather than owning them outright. This paper explores whether consumers in countries where the culture of digital subscription is widely accepted are more inclined to pay for news as well. However, a recent study on paying for news indicates that consumers regard paying for news is generally perceived as an avoidable expense. Consumers also place higher value on entertainment content and therefore the willingness to pay for news is very low (Kantar media, 2017). While this is true to some extent, paying for news content is also influenced by the overall acceptance of paying for subscription services online. Drawing upon (yet to be released) Digital News Report 2019 data, this paper will compare news consumers in 38 countries and their willingness to pay for seven different types of digital subscription services - music, games, sports, video, data storage, dating and news. In a news environment increasingly turning to subscription models for greater security, these findings will point to the likely success or failure of those endeavours in the near future.

THE VALUE OF DIVERSE NEWS  
RECOMMENDATIONS

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**Background.** Digital platforms employ high-accuracy recommendations to provide personalized information to users. Regarding news, high-accuracy recommendations could lead to echo chambers and political polarization. Diverse recommender algorithms also put long-tail items on top of the recommendation list (Paudel et al., 2017). Applied to journalism, such recommenders can suggest politico-ideologically diverse news to users. What if such recommendations yield audience utility and economic value? What if such nudging of users to an ideologically diverse news diet increases the acceptance of oppositional views?

**Research question.** How does the perceived value of news and acceptance of oppositional views vary with high and moderate politico-ideology recommendation accuracy?

**Method.** We conduct a large-scale experiment in spring 2019 using a recommender system following a random-walk-with-erasure procedure in a mobile news aggregator app. The app recommends white-labelled real-time news from major Swiss news outlets of a broad political spectrum. The political ideology of each news article is measured using machine learning algorithms. The political position of participants is self-assessed. Participants are randomly ascribed to the high and moderate accuracy condition. In the high-accuracy condition, the app recommends articles that match a participant's political position. In the moderate-accuracy condition, recommendations are more diverse. After two weeks of app usage, participants assess the value of the news they read, including willingness to pay, informational utility, plus users' political competence and acceptance of opposing opinions.

**Outcome.** Results reveal whether diverse news recommendations are valuable to users, economically beneficial for news outlets, and beneficial for democracy. Implications address responsible recommender system design.

**MODELLING THE FUTURE.  
PROBABILISTIC STORYTELLING  
AND PROFESSIONAL  
BOUNDARY WORK IN  
PREDICTIVE DATA  
JOURNALISM**

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While the future of data-driven journalism has attracted widespread attention, our talk asks: What is the future in data journalism? We thus scrutinize the expectation that “by using available data, journalists will be able to orchestrate predictions and write tomorrow’s headlines and stories accordingly” (Maycotte, 2015). Based on two dozen in-depth interviews with professionals working in data journalistic projects in Europe, the U.S., and Israel, we examine their experiments with evidentiary claims in future oriented knowledge work. They exploit predictive analytics for news making and we consider the epistemological stances underlying these data-driven forecasts (Anderson, 2018; Lewis & Westlund, 2014; Parasie, 2014; Splendore, 2016). While the computation of data is associated with increasingly precise evaluations, we show how practitioners have trouble turning prognoses into palpable news stories. The projections jeopardize reliability and authority because they ground on the probabilistic extrapolation of past data whose upcoming realization is more or less likely. In effect, journalists did not provide one more certain calculated outlook but offered potential futures. Graphical and rhetorical means were used to model levels of certainty of these multiple perspectives. Despite the important role of predictive analytics, journalists downplayed the relevance of projective reports and pointed to the facticity of their data. This kind of boundary work, we argue, helps them to maintain a professional paradigm of fact-based, ex post reporting. Deliberate ignorance allowed them to pursue innovations in storytelling, organizational setup, and news work while at the same time vindicating a traditional conception of journalism as retrospective dispatch.

**REDEFINITION, NEW  
NARRATIVES AND TRENDS OF  
POPULISM ON TWITTER. A  
COMPARATIVE STUDY OF  
EUROPEAN FAR-RIGHT  
PARTIES' SPEECHES AND THEIR  
EFFECTS ON MEDIA AND USERS**

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Academic research has stressed repeatedly the growth of populism in Europe and the spread of these political ideologies via social media. In this sense, Twitter has turned out to be a perfect platform for political leaders to disseminate, interact, mobilise and personalise their images and strategies, most notably the use of propaganda and fallacies in persuasive speech. From other point of view, the impact this communication model has on digital users and media outlets also matters. This is a comparative study of European far-right parties' speeches on Twitter. Here we analyse through different quantitative and qualitative techniques the way three leaders of some the main populist parties communicate on their personal accounts along 2018: Marine Le Pen (@MLP\_officiel), National Front party in France; Luigi Di Maio (@luigidimaio), 5 Stelle Movement in Italy; and Santiago Abascal (@Santi\_ABASCAL), Vox party in Spain. In a representative sample of 3000 tweets, we analyse not only the level of engagement that these leaders' messages receive from their respective audiences (likes, RT and comments) but also their impact on the content published by newspapers on their accounts such as @lemondefr, @larepublica\_pe and @el\_país. First results show these leaders develop an strategic use of social media tools to reach media and citizens and make their populist speeches to be easily replicated and viralised.

### THE LONG AND ONGOING (RE)FORMATION OF NEWS REPERTOIRES – INVESTIGATING THE DRIVING FORCES BEHIND NEWS CHOICE IN EVERYDAY LIFE AND ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

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Recent years have seen news audience research increasingly study consumption through the notion of repertoires (e.g. Edgerly 2015, Schrøder, 2015; Swart et al., 2017, Yuan, 2011), a framework that conceptualizes news use not as discrete media choices, nor aggregated individualized selections, but as cross-media practices that form relational ensembles based upon demographic, technological, and contextual factors (Hasebrink & Hepp, 2017). While this research has fruitfully reconceptualized previous scholarly understandings, empirically it tends to focus on the here and now. This means the driving forces impacting repertoire (re)formation are generally left wanting in research designs (Peters & Schrøder, 2018). Accordingly, this paper investigates key processes underlying news repertoire (re)formation in everyday life. Based on the assumption that news choice is influenced by numerous factors – from political outlook, friends and family, to socioeconomic, generational and life course factors, issue monitoring, and many others (e.g., Barnhurst & Wartella, 1991; Boczkowski, 2010, Schudson, 1998) – the paper studies the news repertoires of 30 youth, aged 18-25. We first use a pre-interview to investigate formation of current habits, including news from both ‘established’ news organizations and the wider media universe (e.g., influencers). We then employ a card-sorting exercise to clarify configurations and importance of news repertoires in everyday life. Finally, follow-up interviews probe potential factors that could cause shifting patterns of engagement in the short (everyday) and long (lifespan) term. This paper accordingly begins to uncover the processes which drive how, why, when, where, and with whom certain repertoires become meaningful, and these relationships over time.

**'ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE':  
POPULISM, THE PRESS AND THE  
JUDICIARY**

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In April 2016, prevented by the courts from printing a story about a celebrity that had been circulating on the internet, British national newspapers went into meltdown mode, the Mail, 7 April, accusing British justice of 'descending into farce' in front page editorial headed 'Why the Law is an Ass!' Worse was to come, however, on 3 November 2016 when the high court ruled that parliament – and not the prime minister using prerogative powers – would need to trigger Article 50 to start the UK's exit from the European Union. Sections of the press then launched furious front page attacks on the judges concerned, most notoriously in the case of the Mail with its infamous 'Enemies of the People' headline. Such attacks were nothing new – ever since the passing of the Human Rights Act 1998, significant sections of the national press had regularly branded judges 'dictators in wigs' and accused them of 'having it in for Britain', thwarting the will of Parliament', and much else besides. This paper will examine the roots of UK press hostility to the judiciary, and to human rights-based jurisprudence in particular. This can be explained partly by the fact that Article 8 of the Act now makes it more difficult to boost circulation by running privacy-busting stories. However, its origin is as much ideological and political as economic. As profoundly conservative (and Conservative) institutions, these papers are hostile both to human rights per se and to the notion of the separation of powers. Furthermore, their pronounced anti-judicialism is a key ingredient of the right-wing populist discourse that is now such a prominent feature of the political and ideological landscape, one which the national press has played a major role in shaping.

**NEWS AS WINDOW ON THE  
WORLD. RELATING FLEMISH  
NEWS REPERTOIRES TO  
ATTITUDES ON MIGRATION,  
DEMOCRACY AND SOLIDARITY**

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Fear of social media filter bubbles leading to polarization on pressing societal debates has recently been tempered by studies suggesting that the diversity of citizen's news use, including social media, can strongly mitigate their effect (Blank and Dubois, 2018, Newman et al., 2017). In this article, we seek to advance our understanding of how news repertoires act as windows on the world in a high-choice media environment. We take news repertoires as "a valuable entry point to understand wider societal issues" (Schroder and Peters, 2018, p. 1083), and investigate possible significant differences between citizens with similar news repertoires regarding their civic attitudes on societal issues including migration, democracy, and solidarity. Using a representative survey of media use amongst Flemish citizens (N=3965) we pose two research questions:

(RQ1) Which news repertoires can be identified, based on (1) news source and (2) topic, and how do their members differ in terms of socio-demographics and media devices?

(RQ2) How do civic attitudes differ amongst the different news repertoires?

In line with previous research, our study shows that age and socio-economic status significantly predict cluster membership. Our results show significant differences between different news repertoires on the basis of their civic attitudes. These differences are most pronounced between the media-rich news repertoire that includes digital and social media (high civic engagement), and the media-poor repertoire that is mostly oriented towards occasional television news reports (low civic engagement). In conclusion, we will discuss the perpetuating social stratification of news use in relation to civic attitudes.



**JOURNALISM EX MACHINA:  
RETHINKING THE IMPACT  
OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE  
IN TERMS OF AGENCY,  
ACCOUNTABILITY AND  
ETHICS**

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Artificial intelligence (AI) – loosely defined as a computerized system that exhibits behavior that is commonly thought of as requiring intelligence (NSTC, 2016, p. 6) – is increasingly seeded in journalism: several news organizations such as the Washington Post, Reuters or the BBC have adopted AI to automate parts of the editorial production process (Dörr, 2016; Latar, 2015; Carlson, 2014), but also to augment and support journalism (Cohen, Hamilton & Turner, 2011; Broussard, 2015). Part of understanding the power of AI in journalism concerns its impact on ethical frameworks and how AI systems can be held accountable. Although there is a growing body of literature that focuses on algorithmic accountability (e.g. Diakopoulos, 2015; Ananny & Crawford, 2018) and ethical challenges in algorithmic journalism (Ananny, 2016; Dörr & Hollnbuchner, 2017), one fundamental question in relation to the impact of AI – agency – has so far been neglected (Kennedy et al., 2015). In this contribution, I argue that we need to better understand agency in relation to autonomous actors such as AI in order to avoid misconceptions about moral challenges (Mitcham, 2014; Just & Latzer, 2016) and accountability. Starting from Johnson and Verdicchio's (2018) model of triadic agency, which is helpful in identifying responsibilities, I first develop a model of agency specifically applied to journalism, in which the journalist is not the only „moral crumple-zone“ (Elish, 2016), but (moral) agency is also delegated to designers and technological artifacts. Based on this model, I then sketch an empirically grounded framework to discuss ethical and accountability issues of an AI-driven journalistic production.

**LESSONS IN STORYTELLING  
AND REPORTING INNOVATION  
FROM SIX INTERNATIONAL  
NEWS ORGANISATIONS**

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This paper details case studies of local, national, and international news organisations in six countries (the U.K., Italy, Finland, the Philippines, South Africa, and India) experimenting with new approaches to reporting and storytelling as they respond to the rise of digital and mobile media, the dominance of platforms, external press-freedom threats, and the collapse of legacy business models (Jenkins & Nielsen, 2018; Posetti, 2018). To remain sustainable in a crowded media environment, news organisations must develop distinctive content that draws readers and drives revenues. Indeed, Pavlik (2013) describes journalism innovation as “The key to the viability of news media in the digital age.” The organisations and initiatives featured in this study — Lännen Media (Finland), The Bureau Local (U.K.), Slot Invaders (Italy), Rappler (the Philippines), the Daily Maverick (South Africa), and The Quint (India) — foster innovation in reporting and storytelling that emphasises audience and community engagement, public-interest investigations, and creative use of technology and non-traditional narrative forms. These approaches include data and team-driven investigative reporting at the local and national levels, a news bureau serving multiple regional newspapers with national and international news, journalism powered by audience collaboration, and the deployment of community-enabled reporting methods to help counter disinformation. Ultimately, using in-depth interviews, short-term field observation, and textual analysis, the study examines how editors, journalists, and other participants developed, distributed, and perceive the impact of these strategies for creating high-quality, engagement-driven, and impactful digital storytelling that addresses some of the most pressing challenges facing legacy and digital-born media.

**WHAT IS THE NEW IN TELLING  
THE NEWS? A CATEGORIZATION  
OF PRESENTATION MODES IN  
DIGITAL JOURNALISM**

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Our daily dealings with media products are shaped by the use of generic designations such as presentation modes. Newspapers for example sort their content into categories such as commentaries and reports. This phenomenon is well described in theoretical communication science literature, whereas empirical assessments remain sparse. Further, the existing knowledge about presentation modes in large parts precedes the rise of digital news and thus lacks a close look at the relationship between traditional modes and the Digital. To fill this research gap, we develop a categorization scheme for journalistic presentation modes that includes both analogue and digital presentation modes. To do so, we first draw on existing literature and, in a second step, employ a qualitative content analysis of the protocols of the Grimme Online Award (Germany's most renowned quality award for online journalism) jury meetings from the years 2002-2018. In these meetings, expert jurors evaluate journalistic contributions on a yearly basis based on their knowledge of content and presentation modes. This approach allows us to analyse the links between characteristics of journalism and presentation modes and to develop a model scheme with nine dimensions: (1) content type, (2) function, (3) author centrality, (4) sources, (5) periodicity, (6) mode of distribution, (7) content structure, (8) mediality and (9) interaction. These can be used to systematically categorize journalistic presentation modes. To our knowledge, this study is the first to empirically assess the categorization of journalistic presentation modes and thereby provides a basis for future research in this field.

**TRUST THE PROFESSOR? THE  
INFLUENCE OF AUTHORITY ON  
THE PLAUSIBILITY OF SCIENCE  
NEWS**

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Dutch citizens report higher levels of trust in science than in ‘the media’ (van den Broek-Honingh & de Jonge, 2018). This raises questions for science news, which exists at the crossroads of these institutions. Given that people seemingly trust news messages that highlight a source more than messages that don’t (e.g., Kim & Dennis, 2018), science news may be considered more plausible when it contains some kind of reference to a scientific source. In this paper we report the results of two experiments in which we study the effects of different types of authority on the perceived plausibility of science news. We used vignettes based on sensationalist science news claims reported in Dutch media (e.g., ‘Ketchup protects against heart disease’). In the first experiment (N=70), we found a relation between participants’ reported familiarity and the plausibility of the vignettes (“personal authority”), mirroring earlier findings about the perceived accuracy of fake and real news (Pennycook & Rand, 2018). In the second experiment, we manipulate the same vignettes by adding different types and degrees of authority, e.g. ‘shows new research by the University of Amsterdam’ or ‘by professor Jansen’, which participants will be asked to rate on plausibility (“professional authority”). Results of this study will be presented at the conference. We hypothesize that, while the presence of some authority will increase plausibility, there will be a tipping point above which plausibility will decrease. These studies provide insight into the role of message characteristics in (science) news perception, and as such can contribute to the creation of trustworthy science news messages.

THE INCOMPUTABLE AUDIENCE:  
THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF  
JOURNALISTS' PERCEPTIONS  
OF USERS

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One aspect of the innovations, transitions, and transformations currently re-shaping journalism is the diversification of sources and forms of journalists' information about their audience. Consequently, research has examined how journalists, for instance, approach rather novel knowledge sources like audience metrics or user comments. However, we know very little about how journalists make sense of the often ambivalent, or even contradicting, qualitative and quantitative information from *multiple different sources*—e.g., circulation figures, TV/radio ratings, metrics—and how this is reflected in their audience image that, ultimately, co-determines their reporting. Against this background, I develop a figurational, repertoire-oriented approach to the social construction of journalists' perceptions of users. Based on online surveys (n=222) and interviews (n=34) in four German newsrooms—a newscast, a political TV-talk, a daily and a weekly newspaper—I show how newsrooms' and individual journalists' use of different knowledge sources and the processing of audience information from them are shaped by related routines—e.g., use of metrics dashboards, reports from social media editors—and different levels of journalistic role conceptions—a journalist's position in the newsroom, the media brand's image, and the idea of journalism's societal role in general. Different sources, however, tend to inform different aspects of journalists' audience image. Similarly, the resulting perceptions differ but comprise the ever-same user segments—e.g., online vs. offline, active vs. passive—and facets—e.g., preference for, knowledge about, and personal opinion on particular topics. The findings suggest that journalists need to consider more critically the sources' biases and blind spots and develop a kind of audience information literacy.

### IMMERSIVE JOURNALISM AND EMOTION

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In recent years, a growing number of media outlets have started to support the idea that the future of quality journalism lies in providing audiences with new and technologically advanced forms of emotional journalism that goes beyond the mere act of reporting information. Digital affective innovations in journalism are expected to engage their audiences and change journalism as a culture and profession. In this evolving news ecosystem, immersive journalism emerged with the promise of transforming complex social, cultural or political issues into first-person experiences that create a bond between audience and journalist (De la Peña et al., 2010). These experiences are shaped to cause emotional reactions and to trigger empathy (Sanchez-Laws, 2017; Jones, 2017). Drawing on a thorough analysis of key studies on immersive media (Heeter, 1992; Slater and Wilbur 1997; Kim and Biocca, 1997; Witmer and Singer, 1998; De La Peña et al., 2010; Aronson-Rath et al., 2015; Owen, 2015; Speir, 2015, Jones, 2017) and empathy (Bandura, 1997; Kumano et al., 2011; Jackson et al., 2015; Archer and Finger, 2015; Hill, 2016; Swant, 2016; Chirico et al., 2017), the main goal of this paper is to provide a gateway to understand and posit immersive journalism as a phenomenon deeply intertwined with emotions. Finally, while addressing our main goal, and considering that these innovations encompass both potentialities and limitations (Bailenson, 2018), we will examine the limitations of immersive journalism in terms of ethics, and the fundamental changes regarding journalism practices, business models, and journalism culture.

THE AUDIENCE IN THE MIND'S EYE.

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Although much has been written on how news organizations and journalists are adapting to the digital era, very little research has been done on these changes have affected journalists' perceptions of their audience. To address this, we examined the attitudes of journalists covering local education in New York City as a test case. We conducted hour-long interviews with beat reporters and editors from eight different news organizations, asking each whom they saw as their audience, what they knew about those readers, and how they knew it. We were struck by how little has changed since the print era. The ways in which these reporters thought about their audiences was remarkably similar to those detailed in ethnographic studies of the 1970s. The journalists we spoke with seemed to have no increased motivation to know their own audience -- either its characteristics or its scale. The fundamental components of the perceived audiences they described were similar to those described in the print era: (1) the institutional audience; (2) colleagues, peers, and sources; and (3) "vocal strangers". When prompted, they were able to enunciate particular types of readers they hoped to reach, but they did not demonstrate any particular knowledge of those readers, beyond what they observed while reporting. And nobody we spoke with was particularly troubled by any lack of knowledge of the "unknown" audience, or saw its mysteries as limiting. Although some of the reporters we spoke to actively monitored reader feedback, via email, comments, or social media -- and sometimes participated -- they essentially treated it much like those of a previous generation treated phone calls and reader mail -- as praise, evidence of work well done; as criticism, something to be considered, but not taken too seriously. The audiences of their parent publication still seemed foremost in their mind. When asked, they spoke of target audiences for their beat (such as "teachers" or "parents") but they knew very little about how many of those readers existed, or how many they were reaching. Very few paid much attention to metrics or analytics around their stories. They had varying degrees of interest in reaching out to readers via email or social media, but most saw that as secondary to their main job: reporting and writing stories.

WHAT WERE YOU SYNCHING?  
ADJUSTING WEB AND PRINT  
PUBLISHING SCHEDULES  
ACCORDING TO THREE  
INTERRELATED NEWS  
TEMPORALITIES

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Newspaper production practices are understudied compared to those of innovative and digital-only news making. In particular, the interrelatedness of production and publication factors of print and web editions has received limited attention despite being ubiquitous in newsroom discourse. Based on a material-semiotic inspired ethnography (observation, interviews, study of technologies, workflow and publishing timings), we examine the relations between newsroom temporalities of the print and online editions of the daily Swiss legacy newspaper Le Temps. In the three years since adopting a web-to-print strategy, scheduling has shifted from a one-rule fits all flow of online publications, towards a negotiated ad-hoc approach. The impetus for producing stories has remained subordinate to filling the print edition's pages via traditional backwards scheduling principles. However, current online publishing scheduling integrates a range of often reader-related criteria, epitomized by the highly contrasted approaches to publishing breaking news and feature-type feature stories. Practices and discourses point to an emergence of distinct publication logics based on how the following editorial temporalities are assembled: that of the news itself (exogenous), that of the newsroom (endogenous), and that of the readership (hybrid). In the absence of a perfect solution for producing a print and web newspaper, managing editors could benefit from identifying common content categories based on these temporal configurations, and integrating them into production and platform redesigns. Furthermore, as newspapers reposition themselves in relation to competing news media, a better understanding of these temporalities may help guide choices of which types of content to prioritize or, alternatively, disregard altogether.



**EXPLORING AGENDA DIVERSITY  
IN EUROPEAN PUBLIC SERVICE  
MEDIA SPORTS DESKS. A  
COMPARATIVE STUDY OF  
SPORTSWOMEN AND DISABLED  
ATHLETES' COVERAGE ON  
TWITTER**

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The presence of leading female athletes in the news agenda is still marginal compared to their male counterparts. The coverage of disability sport is another central challenge faced by sports journalism. Showcasing Paralympic athletes while portraying them in a fair nature can help them be socially integrated. Nevertheless, impaired athletes continue to be rendered almost invisible across the board. This overwhelming lack of diversity restricts citizens' opportunities of having an accurate representation of the sports world. This shortcoming does not only affect private-owned organizations but also Public Service Media (PSM), whose ability to use social media channels to promote diversity in sports reporting has not been yet scrutinized.

Bearing this in mind, the objective of this paper is to explore the sports agenda diversity in five Public Service Media corporations across Europe: BBC (United Kingdom), RTÉ (Ireland), RTVE (Spain), RAI (Italy) and FranceTV (France). Through quantitative and qualitative content analysis, we have examined the coverage that sportswomen and disabled athletes have received on the Twitter accounts of these outlets over a one-year period. As PSMs, these corporations should not only concentrate on mainstream disciplines but also give exposure to underrepresented sports that generate news and have a large number of practitioners. Nevertheless, results show that the inequalities with regard to gender and disability are still in force in this age of 'digital plenitude'. This comparative study raises important issues for the role of PSM in enhancing inclusiveness in sports journalism as a way of promoting 'cultural citizenship'.

**EPISTEMOLOGIES OF DATA  
JOURNALISM: (CONSTRUCTING)  
AN OBJECTIVE REALITY?**

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New journalistic practices bring new questions in terms of what exactly constitutes a journalistic article and how it represents reality. This paper investigates epistemologies of data journalism through the quantitative content analysis of data journalism news products. Data journalism represents a developing journalistic practice that results in a transformation of what traditionally understood as a journalistic story. The main research question of the study is: What are the characteristics of the knowledge that data journalism produces? Epistemologies of data journalism have been studied qualitatively in the previous research (Borges-Rey, 2017; Coddington, 2014; Parasie, 2014; Parasie & Dagiral, 2012). This study offers a quantitative approach by analyzing the content of Swedish print, TV and online news media. This paper investigates a contradiction that lies within the data journalistic content. On the one hand, data journalism news products rely on the analysis of quantitative data by employing quantitative methods, which results in stories covering the 'ordinary' events, something that is statistically significant. From this point of view, data journalism content offers its audiences an attempt of representing an objective reality. On the other hand, many data journalism projects (even though still based on quantitative data) lack a comprehensive narrative or a storyline, which results in exploratory "mapping" or "calculator" news products, where readers can choose their own narrative by exploring the data. Such "explore yourself" news projects represent the social constructivist view on reality. This paper aims at defining where data journalism products situate on the realism-constructivism continuum.

**WHO ARE THE GATEKEEPERS  
OF SOCIAL MEDIA?**

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Who are the gatekeepers of social media?

The nature of gatekeeping is rapidly changing as platforms have intervened with the news ecosystem. On social media, news companies are no longer gatekeepers in the traditional sense; they no longer can fully decide which items are in or out (Welbers & Opgenhaffen, 2018). Nearly half of the Facebook users across all markets come across news while visiting the platform (Reuters Institute Digital News Report, 2018), which indicates Facebook is a significant place for media to meet their audience. As media cannot fully own its Facebook pages, it is dependent on the platform's affordances and policies (van Dijck et al. 2018, 61). Thus, gatekeeping has become more complex: media are urged to monitor and moderate their Facebook pages. In addition, maintaining a dialogue with social media audience can further help legacy media to allure potential customers.

This paper focuses on:

- 1) the ways Finnish newspapers initiate and maintain social interaction with their Facebook audience, and
- 2) how gatekeeping is intertwined with Finnish newspapers' moderating activities and audience participation on Facebook?

The data consists of four Finnish newspapers' (regional and local) Facebook posts (171) and their comments, published between 2016 and 2019, and the used method is conversation analysis (Farina, 2018; Hutchby, 2006). The research is ongoing, but preliminary comparative results underline the pivotal meaning of ongoing dialogue and moderating activities, such as clarifications and repairs. The current study will show practices of engaging the audience in social media and point out how social media moderation is linked to gatekeeping.

PAPER FOR POSSIBLE  
PRESENTATION AT THE  
'FUTURE OF JOURNALISM:  
INNOVATIONS, TRANSITIONS  
AND TRANSFORMATIONS'  
CONFERENCE IN CARDIFF, UK,  
12-13 SEPTEMBER 2019

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Objectivity, defined as “the separation of fact and opinion, or fact and the statement of values, within the journalistic text” (McNair 2017: p. 1324), has long been viewed as a central tenet of journalistic occupational ideology. Following the commodification of journalism in the 19th century, ‘objective’ journalism came to be known as a type of journalism clearly demarcated from tabloidised, less ‘serious’ journalism: one of accuracy, of reliability, and, by extension, of ‘quality’ journalism. Though long contested and widely viewed as an aspirational quality standard in journalism at best, the objectivity paradigm continues to serve as a guiding principle for many journalists across a broad mix of socio-demographic and professional variables such as gender, age, or seniority. But what of the value of objectivity in the digital era? In an age in which ‘post-truth’ was declared Word of the Year by Oxford Dictionaries in 2016, what of the ‘truthiness’ of journalistic information, and how do journalists themselves view the “slippery concept” (Wamsley & Pride 1972: p. 450) of objectivity in the current political climate? Building on Schudson’s work on the sociology of journalism and over 30 in-depth interviews with journalists in Australia, Germany and the U.K. across both mainstream and emerging media, this paper addresses these questions and highlights the challenges journalists face in catering to the notion of objectivity in what has come to be known as the ‘post-factual’ era.

**THE NEWS, ANTISEMITISM AND  
THE BRITISH LABOUR PARTY: A  
DISINFORMATION PARADIGM**

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This paper reports findings from a recent case study on disinformation. During the summer of 2018, mainstream news coverage of antisemitism in the UK Labour Party was subjected to near-real time analysis using both quantitative and qualitative methods, in order to measure the extent and consistency of reporting failures (understood as unambiguous departures from conventional news values and professional codes of conduct). This yielded evidence of myriad inaccuracies and distortions in online and television news including marked skews in sourcing, misquotation and repeated false assertions of fact made by either unchallenged sources or journalists themselves.

Overall, findings were consistent with a disinformation paradigm. Following Bennett and Livingston (2018), we use the concept of disinformation to denote systematic reporting failures that broadly privileged a particular political agenda or ideological narrative. This does not mean that these failures were intentional or that journalists and/or news institutions were inherently biased. Nor does the research speak in any way to allegations of smear tactics, orchestrated or otherwise, and it starts from the well-founded assumption that concerns about antisemitic hate speech within the Labour Party were genuine and not without substance.

Although the manifest issue at stake is apolitical, the controversy is inextricably linked to a wider ideological conflict that has been playing out within the Labour Party for some years, and within British politics more broadly. To that extent, such controversies bring into sharp relief journalists' role and responsibilities in nurturing inclusive public debate and contributing to an informed citizenry. It also matters because the misreporting of antisemitism risks normalizing or distracting attention from certain sources and forms of antisemitic discourse.

**CONCEPTUALIZING THE  
EVERYDAY CITIZEN:  
RHETORIC AND ROLE  
PERFORMANCE IN  
PARTICIPATORY JOURNALISM**

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A constellation of journalistic tools, platforms, companies and nonprofit funding has recently emerged, promoting the idea that allowing the audience to contribute to the news agenda builds trust with a public currently alienated by journalism's traditional, arms-length approach. Although a growing number of studies have explored these efforts<sup>1</sup>, the institutional dynamics and cultural challenges of participatory journalism – the deliberate involvement of everyday citizens in the news making process – invite closer examination. Combining ethnographic research of the engagement platform Hearken and a comparative analysis of 15 newsrooms in the U.S. that implemented Hearken's tools and services, we examine if and to what extent the focus on everyday citizens provides agency to the general public in the news making process. In particular, we delineate how proponents of participatory journalism across various news organizations “discursively construct”<sup>2</sup> the role of the citizen from story development to implementation. We identify four challenges for news organizations attempting to adopt more participatory practices: (1) traditional notions of journalistic roles that are skeptical of involving the public in deciding what the “news” is; (2) organizational structures that discourage novel routines of news gathering; (3) slippage between Hearken's philosophy, which is grounded in optimistic conceptualizations of everyday citizens and community engagement, and its actual implementation in newsrooms; and (4) pre-existing notions of how particular news organizations think about their “communities.” Overall, our study indicates that efforts to re-conceptualize the public as (limited) participants in newsmaking reflect an ongoing struggle to implement institutional and cultural change within journalism.

**RADIOGRAPHY OF THE  
JOURNALISTIC USES OF  
WHATSAPP: AUDIENCE  
CONSUMPTION AND MEDIA  
STRATEGIES**

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WhatsApp has become one of the main platforms for news consumption (Batra, 2016). According to the Digital News Report (Reuters Institute, 2017), its penetration in Spain for this usage is 32%. This study also aims that 56% of users access news through mobile phones. This reality produces a new media ecosystem that evolves and mutates in the digital era (García, Carvajal and Arias, 2018). These data represent an unprecedented paradigm shift (Lee and Man Chan, 2015). In this context, it is necessary to understand users' behaviour patterns and verify how the media adapt their strategies to these practices. Previous research focus on WhatsApp and journalism suggest new professional routines (Bradshaw, 2015), analyze coverages (Reid, 2014) or highlight its potential (Silva, Lopez, and Westlund, 2015). However, at a time when instant messaging applications have more global users than traditional social networks (Barot and Oren, 2015), it is imperative to discover new approaches to determine the shortcomings and strengths of "whatsapping news".

To reach these goals, we applied a mixed methodology. Our research collects data from 5,021 WhatsApp users of 18 Spanish news sites. Preliminary results confirm that 481 of the respondents share news through the application almost every day. This quantitative study is complemented with a content analysis of 123 Spanish media. During one week, all messages sent by these media were analyzed. Only 10 newspapers of that directory have a sender role through WhatsApp, generating great expectations on audience participation.

**POPULIST ATTACKS ON PUBLIC  
SERVICE MEDIA IN EUROPE: A  
THREE-COUNTRY STUDY**

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Right-wing populists are gaining ground in Western democracies. They are often critics of the establishment, including of its media. Recent surveys show that they distrust public service media (PSM) in particular, claiming that they are biased against them. This paper examines how they have challenged PSM, and potential responses to these challenges. The paper is based on an analysis of a number of recent and long-standing surveys of public attitudes towards the media, combined with an analysis of support for right-wing populists. It focuses on three purposefully sampled cases: Austria, Germany and Sweden. We show that there are many commonalities among PSM in the changing environment of our three cases, including similar right-wing populist attacks on PSM. The findings crystallize around two main points: First, the impartiality and objectivity of news media has generally become less taken-for-granted in a “high-choice” media environment offering various news products of different quality. Secondly, historical left-right distinctions have become less clear-cut, also because right-wing populists in our three countries challenge them. Consequently, the role of PSM in creating a shared national conversation which represents the diversity of society has also come under siege. At the same time, partisan websites and social media enable certain groups to showcase content that is more aligned with the perspectives of right-wing populists. The paper concludes by asking if right-wing populists are a growing threat to PSM and whether this threat is isolated or potentially indicative of a broader and more sustained pattern.



**A COLLABORATIVE MOBILE  
JOURNALISM MODEL FOR  
KNOWLEDGE-BASED  
INFORMATION RETRIEVAL AND  
SEMANTICALLY-ENHANCED  
NEWS PUBLISHING IN THE  
MEDIA ECOSYSTEM**

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A collaborative platform called “MOJO-mate” (Mobile Journalism-Machine Assisted Reporting) is introduced for application to newsrooms and their working cycles. The challenge with such a client-server service is that it should cope with traditional journalistic practices, adopted in the mainstream media organizations. Recent advances in mobile computing along with the proliferation of Social Media, Citizen Journalism and Open Journalism have shaped a rapidly changing media ecosystem. Mobile Journalism (MoJo) forms an emerging field, with significant contribution in live reporting and breaking news. Professional journalists make use of the capabilities of smart mobile devices, in a similar way citizens do in participatory journalism. This ecosystem occurs as a process cluster and deviates strongly from the traditional journalistic practices, requiring the collaboration of different disciplines, as well as the adaptation of traditional newsrooms into the new services. A collaborative model is formed, adopting best practices and state of the art solutions, based on literature review, evaluation of related application and targeted users’ feedback, which is commonly applied to groupware systems. The analysis process recorded users’ preferences and functional requirements. Formative evaluation has also been performed during the end-to-end modeling and development phases. Smart tools and automations are proposed, aiming at facilitating proper capturing of audiovisual content, supplemented with semantically enhanced multimedia which serve the needs for content management and comprehensible content delivery. Media collaborators can share explicit knowledge through publishing and communicating within the MOJO-mate platform, obtaining valuable assistance and knowhow from the corresponding experts, while facilitating dedicated media documentation and management.

PLUS ÇA CHANGE, PLUS C'EST  
LA MEME CHOSE FOR NEXT-  
GENERATION JOURNALISTS,  
INNOVATION MEANS  
TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE  
WITHIN ESTABLISHED  
OCCUPATIONAL CONSTRUCTS

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Arguments about the necessity of innovation within the newsroom, and the rise of entrepreneurial initiatives outside it, have become increasingly mainstream in the past decade. A common thread in this discourse is the desire for young journalists to be “change agents” who foster innovation and thus stretch existing boundaries in the profession. Employers hope new hires, seen as attuned to their generation’s news use and as offering fresh knowledge and insights, will be able to drive new journalism initiatives that can attract a younger audience and so improve the enterprise’s odds for economic sustainability. Using a longitudinal three-wave survey among students enrolled in journalism programs in Britain and the Netherlands, we explore if students’ perceptions of innovation and entrepreneurialism are in line with this optimistic industry discourse. Do students embrace new journalistic paradigms, or do they adhere to long-standing conceptualisations of occupational norms and behaviors? We find that although journalism students favor the idea of “innovation” and see the value of engaging with audiences, they define change predominantly in terms of technology rather than more substantive cultural transformation.

**RISK PERCEPTION IN  
NEWSPAPER CHAINS:  
LANDSCAPES OF UNCERTAINTY  
IN NORDIC JOURNALISM**

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This paper presents an analysis of risk perception among chain news publishers in Scandinavia. Based on interviews with editors, news managers and CEOs from 15 Danish, Norwegian and Swedish newspaper groups, the paper presents a matrix of risk factors identified as essential in news managers' strategies to deal with uncertainty and risk in strategy formation for future revenue generation. The main research question is: How do chain newspaper managers perceive risk in the Scandinavian news media landscape? The research question is operationalized along two axes – between platforms and users, and between the state and the market. As such, the enquiry encompasses risks associated with global questions regarding social media fragmentation and falling advertising revenue, as well as regional issues such as state support and strong public service broadcasting. This research design is motivated by technological development being a primary source of uncertainty, while risk, in this context, is tied to media markets' 'fuzzy' characteristics. Scandinavia is a good case for analyzing news industry risk perception, primarily because while newspaper markets are comparably strong in this region, newspaper chains are facing disruption on many fronts: ownership concentration, the emergence of alt-right pureplayers, increased policy lobbying, and changes to state support systems. As chain newspapers constitute an enduring form of organizing journalistic production, this analysis contributes to the research on journalism as an institution, analyzing risk perception from a sociological perspective.

**GROUNDHOG DATA DAYS:  
COMBINING SHOE-LEATHER  
REPORTING WITH STATISTICAL  
INVESTIGATION IN LOCAL  
JOURNALISM IN GERMANY**

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After the euphoric advent of data journalism on national and international levels, this practice has to suffer setbacks, particularly with regard to the surprising 2016 US election's and the Brexit referendum's results. Those two events have paved the way for strong criticism of statistical prognoses by unveiling weak points of data collection and interpretation. Indeed, calls for a return to shoe-leather reporting became louder. This kind of in-the-field reporting is especially inherent to local journalism. Against this backdrop, this study seeks to explore the added value of combining data-driven reporting with traditional shoe-leather investigation in local journalism in Germany, that often has to deal with wearingly repetitive stories about social life in municipalities in remoted provincial areas. This study is based on Weischenberg's (2014) theoretical model of journalistic contexts. Methodologically speaking, we conducted qualitative semi-structured interviews with nine data journalists working with German local dailies. Results show that municipal administrations are often very reserved when being asked to provide data. Additionally, data journalism is rarely institutionalised in local newsrooms because of lacking resources. However, our interviewees suggest enriching on-site reporting with facts and figures. By doing so, repetitive stories about the personal and everyday life of locals can offer to readers much more context and background information drawn from numbers. Moreover, abstract figures can be exemplified and personalised by connecting them to people and voices.

**A THEORY OF AUDIENCE  
ENGAGEMENT WITH NEWS**

Steen Steensen

Chris Peters

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During the last decade, journalism scholars and practitioners alike have demonstrated an increased interest in how audiences engage with news. This development, commonly referred to as the 'audience turn', is predominantly driven by two factors: 1) the increased availability of audience metrics, which provide tools for newsrooms to monitor and analyse audience behaviour, and 2) the general discourse of boundary blurring between news production and consumption, brought forth by the emergence of social and participatory media. While these two factors have generated increased scholarly attention to how audiences engage with news, they have also given rise to a confusion in terms around engagement, participation and interaction. This is potentially problematic, as their conflation empties out meaningful distinctions between passive and active, measurable and invisible engagement, which prove central to understand the relationships between audiences and journalism.

This paper takes this confusion as its starting point, arguing that research in journalism studies is currently dominated by a metrics-oriented and technical bias when it comes to conceptualizing audience engagement. The paper accordingly proposes a theoretical framework that both distinguishes between and juxtaposes emotional and technical aspects of audience engagement. This theory connects contemporary developments in journalism with past practices, and comprises three central arguments: 1) emotional engagement with news is a central ingredient in the historical development of journalistic genres; 2) the availability of metrics makes contemporary journalism overemphasise technical-participatory engagement; and 3) journalism studies needs a better, more nuanced understanding of emotions to investigate audience engagement with news.

USING FACEBOOK FOR NEWS:  
HOW STUDENTS IN  
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ARE  
DEVELOPING SOCIAL MEDIA  
LITERACY

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Social media have become pivotal for young people to maintain social relationships, develop their personal identity, and orient themselves to the world around them. However, this frequent use not necessarily equals high media literacy. Competences like recognizing political or commercial influence on news stories, understanding the workings of algorithms and personalization, or dealing with privacy online are far from self-evident.

Lower educated youngsters and youth from lower socio-economic classes in particular rank relatively low on media literacy (Mediawijzer.net, 2018). This paper therefore explores how students in vocational education employ social media for news, how they develop these practices, norms and attitudes, and what this means for their orientations towards public life and how they engage as citizens. Using in-depth interviews with students of various socio-economic backgrounds in three regions, it takes a user-centric perspective to consider what youngsters themselves experience as being meaningfully literate, emphasizing the use and impact of media literacy in everyday life.

It finds that social media literacy is foremost a social practice that is developed and performed through interaction with others in many areas of everyday life, going beyond formal education at school and parental influence at home. Second, it underlines media literacy's temporal dimension: young people's understandings, norms and practices around media are not fixed, but continue to develop over time. Overall, the paper argues that media literacy initiatives should not merely enable students to responsibly use existing platforms and devices, but more broadly need to enhance their agency to handle implications of future technologies.

**MAN OR MACHINE?  
THE IMPACT OF AUTOMATED  
JOURNALISM ON PERCEPTIONS  
OF NEWS CREDIBILITY**

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We are now surrounded by tools that collect and store big chunks of data too large for human journalists to manually process. So while many traditional news organizations have been constrained to shrink their manpower due to decreasing revenues, some have turned their eyes on automation in pursuit of efficiency. Indeed, studies have explored “automated journalism,” often defined as computer-written news requiring little or no human intervention beyond the initial programming, where “algorithmic processes” convert data into news narratives. But how does automation fit into traditional values of journalism and how does it affect perceptions of journalistic credibility, an important currency valued by the journalistic field? This study explores this question using a 3 (author: human vs. machine vs. combined) x 2 (objectivity: objective vs. subjective) between-subjects experimental design involving 420 participants drawn from the national population in Singapore. The experiment finds that type of byline—whether an article is presented as written by a human journalist, an algorithm, or both—did not affect perceptions of message credibility; however, the algorithm was rated lowest in terms of source credibility. An interesting interaction effect is also found when objectivity is manipulated, that is whether the article excludes (objective) or includes (non-objective) personal opinions: While message credibility remained stable across objective and non-objective conditions when the author was either a human journalist or a combined human and algorithm byline, a non-objective article was considered less credible than an objective one when the author was presented to be an algorithm.

**SLOW JOURNALISM STUDIES**

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This essay addresses the aptitude of the journalism studies field in responding to the severe challenges confronting its object of study of late. It argues that the future vitality of the field may be diminished by major problems, such as: (1) Treating normative assertions as empirical givens; (2) Failing to theorize journalism as a site where labor and moral duty intersect; (3) Patronizing journalists as technological dullards lacking the adaptability current vogues demand; and (4) Being gripped by what James Carey (1989) called “nostalgia for the future.”

The underlying and intersecting problem may be rapidity – an unrelenting focus on the new over the old and on what is changing over what is enduring. Journalism studies appears to be engaged in an endless race for newness. The essay suggests that we ought to reorient journalism studies before these problems metastasize. We ought instead to aspire for a slow journalism studies - slower to certainty, slower to assumption, slower to critique, and slower to romanticism.

It calls, instead, for scholarship that reorients the field around: (1) Emphasizing journalism as a site where labor and moral duty intersect, necessitating some degree of empathy; (2) Deemphasizing technology and treating it as a tool embedded in a larger framework of production; (3) Focusing on journalism’s external, public commitments; (4) Transparently articulating normative orientations; and (5) Offering reasoned critiques (and defenses) of journalistic performance grounded in robustly-theorized normative standards.



**RAPE, SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND  
JOURNALISM IN INDIA**

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At least 125 rapes are reported to police every 24 hours in India, with sexual violence either ignored or sensationalised by news media. Despite this, there has been only limited attempts to understand the news media's role in this context. This paper presents findings from one of the largest comparative studies concerning news reporting of rape in India: Media Action Against Rape (MAAR). We build on Fadnis (2017) research that analysed news reporting of the 2012 Delhi gang rape case, in which she identified a highly patriarchal newsroom environment, repressive working conditions for female crime reporters, and male reporters who lacked the mindset to pursue diverse story angles. This is echoed by Kanagasabai (2016) and Pain (2016), although common for all of these studies is a very narrow focus on urban newsrooms with small sample sizes (typically around 10 journalists). In order to reflect the cultural complexity of India, we draw on more than 180 semi-structured interviews across 13 languages conducted during 2018-2019, covering newspapers, television, radio and online journalists from the six regions of India. We explore how news reporting of rape is routinised; challenges for journalists in breaking through cultural barriers; editorial direction and follow-up stories; difficulties when interacting with sources; and the need for culturally specific gender-sensitive reporting. Our research also uncovers a significant gender imbalance in newsrooms, with respondents describing sexual harassment and assault, both in the workplace and during fieldwork as a journalist.

### REINVENTING NEWS PRODUCTION: START-UPS, GLOBAL DISRUPTION AND ITS EFFECTS ON LEGACY MEDIA'S VALUE CHAIN

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The start-ups phenomenon is a recent topic that “reflect[s] a transition towards ‘a global news arena’, [defined] as the ‘reach, interconnectedness and virtually real-time properties’ of a globalized media that contribute to our experiencing the world as a whole, shaping the intensity and nature of that experience” (Hellmueller, Cheema, & Zhang, 2017, p. 46). After the irruption of new media start-ups, its effects on the media landscape and in other legacy media companies has been very considered through literature, but there is a lack of academic research on this issue from an organizational perspective that explains the transformational process that occurs in the newsrooms. This research proposal aims to explore how the value chain of media outlets has changed after the disruption provoked by new competitors. However, this study steps outside previous literature by focusing mainly on the impact that start-ups not considered as news media outlets (i.e. companies that work with data visualization, infographics, video editing, etc.) have within the process of creating and producing news. Furthermore, the hypothesis argues that the collaboration between media companies and those start-ups might be a possible key for the design of new solutions towards the lack of funding and resources in media companies. The methodology proposed will explore the partnership process of these agents with a primary data analysis, and then with in-depth interviews via video conference in early 2019 with professionals in news organizations or that are collaborating with other media outlets in Europe. The objective is to demonstrate that the creation of new and quality content for each outlet would result not only in an improvement of innovative products and journalistic practices, but also in a better and possibly more profitable audience engagement.

**NEWS REPRESENTATION OF  
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN  
VIETNAM AND ITS IMPLICATIONS  
FOR JOURNALISM ABOUT  
SCIENCE CONTROVERSIES IN  
THE DEVELOPING WORLD**

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Developing countries are more often users than producers of science and technology innovations and are susceptible to the potential risks and benefits of science originated primarily in the developed world. It is, therefore, vital for media in the Global South to provide news that allow their publics and policy makers to make informed decisions about new science developments, especially contested ones. Yet, news about global science controversies – e.g. genetic modification, nanotechnology, stem cell research, human cloning, climate change, big data – have often been found to be problematic in developing countries. This paper presents a content analysis of Vietnamese news about artificial intelligence (AI), one of the latest controversial science areas with huge implications for the future of any country in the Global South, to elucidate this issue. A two-year sample of online news stories about AI will be analysed to answer one key question: “How are the controversial issues about the socio-economic and ethical risks and benefits of AI selected, sourced and framed in Vietnamese news?” Our preliminary findings suggest that such reporting tends to be episodic, superficial, and positively framed with a benefit favour in accordance with the government’s pro-AI stance. Placing the study’s findings in the still sparse literature on science journalism in developing countries, we will discuss their implications, with a focus on prevalent obstacles such as low editorial priorities, excessive/naïve beliefs in science’s benefits, lack of critical reflection, absence of local appropriation, scientists’ unwillingness to work with the media, political intervention, and unethical news practices.

### DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING A PARTICIPATORY JOURNALISM MANAGEMENT PLATFORM

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In the ever-changing online journalistic environment, users' participation in news production - especially in the form of participatory journalism - has attracted significant interest from both the academia and the media industry. In this space, traditional concepts such as media production, consumption and gatekeeping have been altered considerably. Large amounts of content are uploaded every day on news organizations' websites, as users not only consume, but also like, share, comment on and co-produce material. At the same time, social media platforms host user-generated content in different forms. As a result, news production processes call for effective management, classification and evaluation of available information in order to keep high journalistic standards and avoid problems. The latter can include grammar mistakes, fake or misleading information, and hate speech. All the above-mentioned parameters highlight the obvious need for platforms that can support participatory journalism in practice. This study discusses the design and implementation of a participatory journalism platform which aims at augmenting user-generated content management, moderation and discovery, based on existing state-of-the-art semantic technologies. The introduced workflow is optimised for simplicity of use and reduced operational overhead in terms of time and resources. A prototype of the platform is evaluated by a group of professional journalists with a focus on the assessment of the usability of the proposed workflow and the identification of future improvements and research directions in this problem space.

**UNDERSTANDING CRITICAL  
NEWS CONSUMPTION:  
THEORIZING AND MEASURING  
NEWS LITERACY**

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While many scholars and critics have written about the importance of news literacy (NL), few have attempted to theorize what NL comprises and how it might be operationalized. This project addresses these limitations by developing new NL measures and a model that extends the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) to better explain the factors essential to critical news consumption. We propose that NL, defined as one's knowledge and skills related to news production and consumption, can be divided into five domains: creation, circulation, consumption, content, and context. The "creation" domain includes the knowledge of journalistic norms and content creation skills. The "circulation" domain includes knowledge of the role that algorithms and news aggregation play in distribution and the skills that allow one to customize a news diet. The "consumption" domain includes knowledge of selective exposure and media effects and the skills allowing one to effectively seek out information. The "content" domain includes knowledge of typical news frames and the skill of interpreting information and evaluating quality. Finally, the "context" domain includes the knowledge of legal and economic environments in which news is produced and skills relating to participating in those environments. Building on TPB, we suggest that these five Cs, consumers' perceptions of how others around them value critical news consumption (perceived norms), and how much those consumers believe they have an active role to play in the news media ecosystem (perceived efficacy) collectively influence intention to critically consume news, which relates to actual news behaviors.

### TESTING IMMERSIVE JOURNALISM EXPERIENCES: EMOTIONS AND ETHICS

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According to a growing body of research literature, the newest turn in journalism studies is emotional. (Beckett & Deuze 2016; Wahl-Jorgensen 2019; Nikunen 2019.) The fact based news ecosystem has been greatly challenged first by infotainment and native advertising, and more recently by “post-truth” fears and often provocative and emotional “fake news” circulated via social media platforms. We claim that all the use of emotions in terms of journalism and “fake journalism” is perhaps just at the beginning: only a prelude for the even more emotionally powerful storytelling practices based on - immersive media. By immersive media we refer to new digital media forms that are based on XR (or cross reality) technologies such as virtual reality, augmented reality or mixed reality. Even if we are critical towards all XR marketing hype, we indeed emphasize the need of studies on the effects of immersive journalism, especially in terms of emotions and ethics. In our paper, we first introduce key terms and notions related to immersive journalism. Then we present the design of our empirical user tests that included pilots and actual tests during winter-spring 2019 with journalism students (N=30) and journalists (N=30) in the context of a Nordic country. Thirdly, we will offer the preliminary results of our users’ tests and finally, conclude the paper by offering our insights, both pros and cons, for the future of emotive immersive journalism. (230/250)

**STUMBLING UPON NEWS.  
UNDERSTANDING INCIDENTAL  
NEWS USE AS A CONTINUUM OF  
USER AGENCY**

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To date, the growing body of scholarly work of mobile news use has focused on audiences who intentionally use their mobile devices to stay informed. This article argues that incidental mobile news consumption might be equally valuable to investigate, as these incidental news encounters might increase news diversity. As such, incidental news encounters might help to explain why the filter bubble theory cannot be found empirically. This article therefore aims to conceptualise incidental news on mobile devices and when incidental news then becomes valuable - or serendipitous – to news audiences. Second, this study evaluates how mobile recommendations might increase news diversity, more specifically topic, viewpoint and brand diversity. For this purpose, a mixed-method research design was used, that combined three research methods in the data collection phase based on 20 respondents: on-device logging, Mobile Experience Sampling Method (ESM) and interviews. Results show that incidental news differs in level of user agency, ranging from responding with no agency (e.g. message with news) to monitoring, by which a previous action (e.g. activated news notifications) facilitates incidental news, to seeking, incidental news by stumbling upon unexpected topics during news use. Incidental encounters become serendipitous when they provide new information or insights and consequently stick to one's mind. Smartphones are perceived to not afford more serendipitous news encounters compared to other devices. Based on our findings, we developed a conceptual model for incidental news on smartphones (see Figure 1), which shows the interplay of news recommendations by peers, algorithms and editors.

THE WHO, WHAT, WHERE,  
WHEN, WHY AND HOW OF  
LIVEBLOGS COMMUNICATIVE  
PURPOSE OF AN IMMEDIATE  
FORMAT

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Liveblogs are a popular format: for journalists, public and academics alike. Quite understandable: journalists finally can reach public immediately and across different platforms (making second-screening possible), public likes the presence caused by the reporting following breaking news as-it-happens and academics use liveblog as a focal point for concerns about credibility and immediacy in journalism or as a nursery for new journalistic values. What lacks is an understanding of liveblogs-as-genre.

Genre accounts for the way discourse interprets, responds to, constraints representations of and explains recurrent situations as understandable and credible. Discourse can be classified as genre by their communicative purpose and discourse community. Both concepts answer the who, what, where, when, why and how of liveblogs. So far, only de facto classifications conducted, classifying liveblogs as immediate and online genres. This study will deepen the understanding of liveblogs-as-genre with a motivational classification of the genre, classifying liveblogs according to their organizing (journalistic) principles.

Therefore, a discourse analysis of twelve Dutch liveblogs was conducted with more than 1400 posts - discourse understood here as strategy: strategic choices and rhetorical objectives constituting the communicative purpose of discourse. Following this analysis twelve structured interviews were conducted with members of the discourse community of liveblogs: producers of liveblogs.



WHO ARE YOU DESIGNING FOR?  
RECONSTRUCTING  
INTERACTION DESIGN FOR  
MULTIMEDIA NARRATIVES IN  
ONLINE JOURNALISM

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Interactive multimedia productions are booming in the media industry, especially in online journalism. In these productions, which combine different media with interactive online features, users are able to navigate through the narrative, and have agency within the story. Interaction design is an essential part of these journalistic stories, and interdisciplinary teams, consisting of journalists, designers and developers, are needed to design these interactive multimedia narratives. The combination of different disciplines requires new approaches to journalistic storytelling that incorporates the co-creation of interaction design. How are these narratives produced? How do members of these teams negotiate their own expertise? And how do they design user agency and interaction? For this study the production process of three Dutch interactive multimedia narratives with diverse narrative structures is reconstructed through a document analysis of official documentation and informal communication, reconstructive interviews and a focus group with the different members of the interdisciplinary teams. This triangulation of methods, divided into three case studies, obtained a thorough understanding of the possibilities and challenges of the production of interactive narratives, specifically regarding the negotiation of interaction design. The results indicate that team members negotiate an ideal user to whom they cater the interaction design. However, audience research was not part of the production processes. Rather, the ideal user is based on the team's own assumptions about news audiences.

### DOES LIVE MOJO COVERAGE RESHAPE JOURNALISM?

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The “yellow vests” protests held in France have been extensively covered live by mobile journalists who bring their audiences through the crowd using their smartphones as recording devices while interacting with them on social media. Since a few years, the use of live blogging has enabled interactions between journalists and their audiences. At the same time, social media have promoted the use of live videos, encouraging a journalism “in the making”, combining proximity and transparency. This study focuses on live coverage of local events on social media. Does this news format affects the relationship between journalists and the audience and how? What kind of role can a journalist endorse, using a device that promises a direct, straightforward and un-edited coverage while taking into account the questions and remarks of the audience? Is live news covering with mojo devices reshaping the professional identity of journalists? First, we propose an analysis of semi-directive interviews held with 5 mobile journalists from Belgium, France and Switzerland. Then, we analyze the case of the journalist Rémy Buisine, who covers the “yellow vests” protests in France for the french pureplayer “BRUT” and is often seen as a counter-model to 24 hour news channels journalism. We combine a content analysis of Buisine’s live covers with an interview. The results bring to light that the use of a smartphone as a “live device” tends to redefine the relationship between a journalist, its sources and its audience. Our analysis also suggests it impacts the way journalists are perceived and define themselves.

**JOURNALISM IN THE AGE OF  
SINGULARIZATION**

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The proposed paper is a theoretical contribution describing the current hybrid media landscape as a market of epistemologies. Its point of departure is an analysis of two media systems, journalistic and algorithmic, each representing distinct epistemologies. Following systems theory, the paper explores the structures determining the system-specific constructions of reality in each. Through an analysis of the respective media logics – the normative goals of journalism and the algorithmic mechanisms of captivation systems – it's possible to compare and contrast the dominant values of these competing epistemologies. In the case of journalism, they are derived from its democratic mandate, which aims at a holistic construction of reality (rational, universal, pluralistic, truthful). The emergence of algorithmic recommendations, assisted by captivation metrics, is seen as an optimization of a business model that hawks attention as a commodity. These basic conditions – democratic-normative in journalism, technological-economic in algorithm-based systems – determine the structure of each system, promoting a certain kind of reality construction. The paper then develops an algorithmic epistemology using institution-theoretical concepts and the idea of a guiding notion. Drawing on the sociologist Reckwitz, I refer to the guiding notion of the algorithmic epistemology as a singularizing principle which is opposed to the guiding notion of rationalization that marked the modern age manifesting itself particularly in the institution of journalism. Singularizing and holistic systems are thus pitted against each other in a rivalry that is marked by isomorphistic dynamics, i.e., co-orientations where one media logic overrides or supplants the other.

**CONSTRUCTING THE  
LEGITIMACY OF JOURNALISTS'  
MARKETING ROLE**

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Journalists work in an environment in which they actively promote their news stories – and themselves – via social media (Tandoc & Vos, 2016). Indeed, Tandoc and Vos identify an emerging professional role whereby journalists do marketing work. However, they conclude “journalists acknowledge the necessity of adapting to a new economic marketplace, but they appear reticent to cast such an adaptation as a moral prescription or necessity” (Tandoc & Vos, 2016, p. 961). In other words, the journalists they studied stopped short of articulating the marketing function as a normative journalistic obligation. The reasons for this are perhaps understandable: journalists have traditionally insisted news judgments were untainted by marketplace demands and cast themselves as objective conduits of news, suppressing their own individuality (Schudson, 1978). In sum, journalists have seemingly sensed a tension between emerging marketing work and journalistic norms.

Yet, a perusal of emerging journalistic discourse suggests journalistic actors are indeed talking about the elements of a marketing role. So, how is the legitimacy of this marketing role being discursively constructed? In line with discursive institutionalism – which sees institutional discourse as sites for normative contestation, (re)creation, and (re)interpretation (Hanitzsch & Vos, 2017) – we seek to understand the ways in which a marketing function is being legitimized as a morally viable social role. This study analyzes a significant corpus of journalistic discourse – hundreds of examples from 24 online sites where journalistic actors discussed and debated journalism – to assess if journalism’s future includes a new normative role.

### THE FUTURE OF FAKE NEWS? JOURNALISTIC DISCOURSES ON “DEEPFAKES”

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This paper investigates journalistic discourses on “deepfakes” as the future of fake news. The emergence of deepfakes results from recent technological developments in which machine learning creates “digital simulacra” that are indistinguishable from reality. In the most high-profile example, the technology was used to generate a fake video of Barack Obama calling Donald Trump a “dipshit” (McCarthy, 2019). Political and social institutions, including the US military and the European Commission, have voiced concern about potential uses of deepfakes, ranging from fake declarations of war to fabricated porn videos. We analyse journalistic discourses on deepfakes since January 2018, when a googletrends search demonstrates that the term first began to circulate. Based on a comprehensive thematic analysis of all English-language news stories on the topic, drawn from Nexis UK, we suggest that the journalistic responses show concern that the audiovisual nature of deepfakes, coupled with artificial intelligence capable of swiftly processing massive amounts of data and easily weaponised by resource-rich “bad actors,” makes them inherently more believable than previous fake news forms. Such worries about the impact of fabrication and AI connect to long-standing preoccupations essential to debates over journalistic authority and judgement, as well as trust in news (e.g. Carlson, 2009; 2015; 2018). Deepfakes enter the media landscape at a time when journalistic credibility is already regularly challenged by increased criticism and an environment marked by an expanded range of public communicators. Professional discourses on deepfakes capture these complexities, while highlighting how journalists publicly support their societal role of policing truth.

**MEDIA HIERARCHIES OF  
ATTENTION: NEWS VALUES AND  
AUSTRALIA'S ROYAL  
COMMISSION INTO  
INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO  
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE**

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Australia's Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (2013-17) was a highly significant legal exercise that devoted considerable expertise and resources to bearing witness and breaking silences surrounding child sexual abuse in all of its 57 case studies. In analysing the national media coverage, we take a critical position to ask to what extent was this ground-breaking exercise in listening for justice reflected or amplified via mainstream news coverage? A rich tradition of journalism and media studies contributes to the findings that routine patterns of media (in)attention produced asymmetries, with highly personalized church "scandals" drawing so much focus that they overshadowed institutional reviews and cases involving some of the most vulnerable and marginalised victims and survivors, with the effect of side-lining institutional responses designed to prevent child sexual abuse in future.

USING DIGITAL CREATIVITY TO  
SUPPORT TODAY'S  
JOURNALISTS AND SHAPE  
NEWSROOMS OF THE FUTURE:  
AN ANALYSIS OF REPORT ON  
TWO EU PROJECTS, INJECT AND  
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This paper presents work surrounding two EU funded research projects INJECT and QUEST which use digital tools to support journalists working in two genres: general news reporting and science reporting. Research showing increasing time and resource pressure on journalists in the UK has led to concerns about the demise of investigative reporting and the ability of today's journalists to properly interrogate stories and subject matter – in short to do their job well. Some digital innovations (such as robot journalists) have been viewed with suspicion in the newsroom. This paper reports on two research projects which seek to use digital creativity to co-create innovative tools and techniques to support time (and resource) poor journalists and improve reporting. The INJECT project used the advanced information discovery capabilities of digitisation to help journalists find new angles on stories using the same creative strategies at much greater speed. INJECT's partners (including City, University of London, University of Groningen and University of Bergen, along with WAN-IFRA, the Interlink Academy and a number of local newspapers) worked together to come up with AI-based search algorithms that would inspire journalists. Building on this work, the two-year QUEST project, which launches in February 2019, will investigate the challenges associated with science journalism and develop new tools to help journalists produce better science reports. The paper will analyse the extent to which such initiatives are able to usefully harness AI innovation to genuinely improve quality and range in science reporting and beyond.

### COORDINATION OF SPECIALIZED MEDIA WORKERS IN JOURNALISM

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News- and media workers have approached, appropriated, experimented and implemented diverse forms of emerging technologies, engaging in innovation of their products and their services. This study focuses on the broader set of human resources inside news organizations, encompassing journalists, businesspeople and technologists. Former walls between the newsroom and business department have largely been torn down, and journalists interact more with technologists in news production, around metrics, data visualization etc. Actors inside (and outside of) the news organization formerly peripheral have become more involved in news work. Ultimately, these social actors work together because they contribute with diverse sets of specialized explicit- and/or tacit knowledge. This study draws upon the knowledge-based view (KBV), stressing knowledge as a key resource in organizations embodied by distinct specialists, and which must be coordinated through knowledge application activities that serve the general organizational goals (Grant, 1996). The study aims to analyze two key coordination mechanisms for integration of specialized knowledge in news work: Sequencing (routinized and time-patterned progressions), and Group problem-solving and decision making (characterized by intense interaction, often during uncertainty). Building on our 2018 ethnographic study at a Swedish online first news publisher, we analyze how specialists coordinate with each other in their concrete news practices. Sequencing works for coordination of traditional news articles amongst news editors and report, and to their audience-oriented web- and social media editors. For online live broadcasting, an emerging innovation experiment, coordination is marked by more intensity and uncertainty, and they thus apply group problem-solving and decision making.



**DISRUPTION OR INTEGRATION?  
THE TEMPORAL NATURE OF  
MOBILE PUSH NOTIFICATION  
ALERTS AMONG EUROPEAN  
NEWS OUTLETS**

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Push notifications provide news outlets with direct access to audiences in a time of information overload, disinformation and heightened competition for reader attention. This form of news distribution is relevant because it a) reinforces the audience-orientation of news organisations (Ferrer-Conill & Tandoc, 2018); b) bypasses social media and news aggregators by reaching readers directly (Westlund, 2015); and c) problematises the notion of news personalisation and obfuscates how content is being presented to citizens (Thurman & Schifferes, 2012). However, the use of push notifications is a relatively under-researched topic. Our aim is to explore whether news organisations are attempting to integrate existing mobile user behaviour patterns or if they seek to be a disruptive element and garner attention when audiences are not typically using their devices. Through a quantitative content analysis, this study examines the temporal dimension (Tenenboim-Weinblatt, 2014) and content attributes of push notifications (n=6180) from 35 news outlets in nine North-western European countries, gathered over three months in late 2018/early 2019. This data allows for comparisons at two levels: publisher type and national context. The study also draws on secondary data regarding user behaviour to understand how the temporal patterns of notifications align with existing behaviours; concepts of content snacking and the general rhythms and rituals of news consumption (Peters, 2012) are a useful lens through which these immediate, concise texts can be considered. Preliminary results show that news organisations use the mobile channel for attracting and maintaining users' attention, with customisability a more valued feature in certain countries.

**IDENTITY CRISIS: DIGITAL  
IMPACTS ON IDENTITY AND  
JURISDICTION WITHIN  
REGIONAL NEWSPAPER  
NEWSROOMS IN THE UK**

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As social media and the internet blurs boundaries in terms of target audience, product ambition and journalistic identity, regional newspapers within the UK can no longer describe themselves as 'local', 'family-friendly' or as simple purveyors of community-based news. Based on observations and interviews conducted at two daily newspaper newsrooms in 2017, this paper examines the changing role of the regional newspaper in the UK and the perceived professional identity of regional newspaper journalists. Three consecutive weeks were spent at each of the titles, which were owned by two of the three major publishing companies in the UK. During that time it became clear that the perceived professional identity of the journalists was being influenced and changed by the products' online roles and by the expectations of their publishing companies and online audiences. Similarly, in each case it became clear that the established jurisdictional and descriptive identities of the news product was changing; with widening audiences, boundaries between news patches blurring, content spreading and flattening as news stories were shared company-wide and national content hubs within the newsgroups producing 'one-size-fits-all' news angles. News agendas were also found to be dictated by online successes and social media trending and the traditional identity of news was redefined as a commercial commodity or audience-led product. The overall findings of the study established that there was an unspoken identity crisis at both newspaper titles; with a series of small changes and decisions irrevocably evolving the ambitions and descriptors of the products and their journalists.

**BETWEEN INNOVATING AND  
QUESTIONING: DISCOURSES ON  
NEWS BY THE IN-BETWEENERS  
OF JOURNALISM**

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The structural changes in the Belgian media system have created new opportunities for journalistic projects at the margin of mainstream media. Next to long-standing legacy organizations, smaller, original projects have emerged, led not only by professional journalists, but also by media activists, tech-savvy entrepreneurs, and other civil society actors. Examples include long-form print magazines (e.g. Médor), news websites (e.g. Apache), audiovisual initiatives now often focusing on SNS (e.g. AlohaNews), and the evolution of older alternative media such as community radios (e.g. Radio Panik).

This research project aims at mapping and characterizing these initiatives in Belgium through a qualitative discourse analysis of their mission statements and a quantitative content analysis of a sample of articles. On one hand, we focus on the discourses explaining their origins and identity in order to understand how they (re)define journalism and question traditional legacy media. We then explore how they put that vision into practice in the content they produce. Preliminary results show that in-betweeners are transparent about their values, in order not only to legitimize their innovative nature but also to clarify their sometimes more activist or partisan editorial lines to the general public. While many of the projects construct their identity in relationship to society and what they can contribute to it in terms of diversity, they also implicitly or explicitly question mainstream media from at least three grounds: their market logic (value of independent journalism), negativity bias (constructive values) and detached stance (participatory values).

PRECARITY IN JOURNALISM  
HOW AUTONOMOUS MARXISM  
MAY CONTRIBUTE TO  
JOURNALISM STUDIES

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An increasing number of journalists are today working on temporary contracts, leading to disrupted employment security and an expanding precariat. These precarious working conditions and the dissonance they create in relation to professional identities have raised growing interest by journalism scholars. But what does it mean? The concept of precarity is still fresh in journalism and needs to be further defined, both empirically and theoretically. In this paper I consider applications of the precarity concept in journalism studies based on an extensive literary review, and discuss it within the framework of the autonomous Marxist tradition. According to them, the autonomy and creativity of labor is the central mechanism of capitalism. They argued that capitalism transforms dialectically in relation to the struggles of labor movements, ascribing great power and agency to workers. Affective labor is an important part of this dialectic, explaining the emotional dimensions of work and how individuals create a sense of meaning in processes of alienation. Journalism is truly “a labor of love” (Ursell, 2000) driven by passion and personal engagement, but studies also show evidence of exhaustion, fatigue and frustration. Based on the accumulated knowledge by previous research, I argue that the precarity concept is highly relevant to understand current development of media work, but that it needs to be nuanced. The negotiations between precarious working conditions, emotions, ideals and praxis makes an important area to research and the work of Hardt and Negri (cf 2000; 2005), among others, provides a fruitful approach for doing so.

**HIGH SPEED SOCIETY: SOCIAL  
ACCELERATION AND THE  
FUTURE OF JOURNALISM**

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Do you sometimes get the feeling that everything is speeding up? The news cycle, political decisions, SoMe shitstorms and even your everyday life? Well so it is, according to one of the latest social theories from the Frankfurt School tradition (Rosa 2009, 2013 see also Raso 2011 and Ulferts et. al 2012)). This paper presents the theory of social acceleration forwarded by the German sociologist Hartmut Rosa and discusses its implications for the future - and future study - of journalism. The theory of the High Speed Society suggests that social acceleration is the dominant dynamic of late-modernity, and that this has an impact on both social structures, social processes and individuals. But what are the implications for journalism and journalists if we are in fact are living in the age of social acceleration? Discussing Rosa's theory in relation to journalism practice, the paper argues that it is both important to study the structural settings of journalism and the effects that social acceleration has on editorial and journalistic processes as well as on the individual journalist. The article proposes an analytical framework adapting social acceleration theory to the study of journalism practice, making a case for more research on the Technological Acceleration of Journalism practice, the Social Acceleration of Journalism Practice and the Time-use Acceleration of Journalism Practice.

### JOURNALISM BY EMOJI'S: SOME EDITORS IN THE NEWSROOM

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Recently, major news organizations have hired social media editors to ensure the constant flow of stories on the organizations social media pages. Research have argued that the introduction of social media has affected general news values for instance by instituting “shareability” as a professional norm (Harcup & O’Neill 2016). Other studies focus on the algorithms of social media (Bucher 2016). But very little research has been conducted inside newsrooms. Who are the SoMe editors, what are their daily routines, what stories are chosen - and do they consider their work journalism? This study is based on observations and interviews inside the newsroom of a national TV news organization. Using Danish broadcaster TV 2 as a case, the study analyses the professional profiles, organizational news values and individual self-perceptions of SoMe editors. The findings show a rather homogeneous group of SoMe editors, all in their 20’s and recent journalism school graduates. The job of SoMe editors is to select stories from the online newsdesk, write a tagline, choose emojis and publish links on social media platforms. ‘Sharability’ and ‘traffic’ seems to be the dominant news values and informal rules of practice includes hierarchies of emojis and informal norms for how many emojis to put on a link. Most SoMe editors consider their work to be journalism and find their professional training crucial for the job. The study concludes with a discussion of whether a new form of journalism is appearing; a journalism practice best described as “journalism by emoji’s”.

**HOW TO COPE WITH DARK PARTICIPATION? AUTHORITATIVE AND PARTICIPATIVE MODERATION IN GERMAN NEWSROOMS.**

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Comments in designated sections of newspapers' websites and on social media platforms are seen as the most prominent form of user participation in journalism. User-comments offer the opportunity to "connect" to the audience. Yet, rising levels of dark participation in the form of hate speech, disinformation, and strategic attempts to influence public opinion, also provide new challenges for journalistic organizations. To address these challenges, journalists develop different coping mechanisms that might differ according to factors identified by the hierarchy of influences model: the communicative setting (e.g. possibilities to participate), the journalistic organization (e.g., editorial line), or the individual journalist (e.g. experience). Based on a survey of German journalists working for online outlets of newspapers (N = 274), we identified different types of moderation strategies and explanatory factors for their implementation. Using an exploratory factor analysis, two moderation strategies were identified: authoritative and participative moderation. The editorial line, the age of the journalists, and possibilities to participate predicted moderation styles mediated via the subjective prevalence of dark participation. Journalists working for liberal media seem to have more experience with dark participation and apply more authoritative moderation strategies. However, the same is true for participative moderation suggesting that liberal media more frequently engage in a participatory as well as authoritative moderation. Younger journalists apply more authoritative moderation strategies, and journalists working for media which offer many possibilities to participate tend to engage more in participatory moderation, e.g. by taking part in discussions.

**A NEW JOURNALISTIC LEXICON:  
THE IMPACT OF NEW DIGITAL  
ECOSYSTEMS ON HOW POST-  
MILLENNIALS DEFINE NEWS**

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Generational theory defines characteristics which are accepted to belong to specific age groups. In relation to technology, Baby Boomers (1946-64) consider it as something which may be useful; millennials (1981-1997) believe it is vital for day to day living and with over 90% of post millennials in the UK having social media accounts, it stands to reason that technology is playing even more of a role within the lives of the new generation. As the demands upon technology increase, news outlets are forced to consider innovative ways to capture the attention of audiences. A large proportion of the population admit to accessing news via social media; coupled with this, the instantaneity of social media has led to audiences being informed about a broader range of topics than they had previous. However, clarification of what qualifies as news has caused some confusion, particularly to post-millennials, and traditional concepts in journalism must be challenged to ensure audiences renew in the upcoming years. Subsequently, this paper explores how post-millennials characterise news and how they ultimately define it. To achieve this, the research is largely based on social shaping of technology theories: how post-millennials are using technology; how technology is being altered in response and vice versa. It uses a focus group of post-millennial students, monitoring their consumption of news and overall identifying how they define news, enabling the formulation of a new journalistic lexicon.



**HUMANITARIAN REPORTING AT  
STATE-FUNDED INTERNATIONAL  
NEWS ORGANISATIONS**

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The vast majority of humanitarian reporting is carried out by state-funded international news organisations. But which state-funded news organisations produce regular, original reports on humanitarian issues? When and how do journalists experience state influence shaping their reporting of humanitarian affairs? What strategies do they use to try and cope with state influence: when do they comply, compromise, or resist?

In this paper, we discuss these questions using data from a three year global study of humanitarian journalism. This included ethnographic work, extensive content analysis and semi-structured interviews with nearly 200 journalists and others.

We find that the relationships which journalists at these news organisations had with states differed considerably, resulting in different understandings and practices of humanitarian reporting, as well as different kinds of content. However, the recent actions and policies of the states funding Al Jazeera English, BBC World Service, Voice of America, the Chinese Global Television Network and Xinhua had led to journalists at these news organisations re-examining the imbrication of humanitarian reporting in state diplomacy.

Common concerns which cut across these very different news organisations included state control over resource allocation and the structuring of editorial labour, as well as diplomatic sensitivities and related forms of editorial constraint. We conclude by explaining the kinds of boundary-work journalists engaged in, which involved complex mixtures of compliance and resistance.

**LIMEN OF TRUTH:  
VERIFICATION, FACTS AND  
CHINESE INVESTIGATIVE  
JOURNALISM IN THE DIGITAL  
AGE**

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Extensive studies have examined the digital impact on journalism in terms of verification. Considered as the key component of journalism, the status and strategy of verification has become more and more significant when social media enters into journalism landscape (Hermida, 2012; 2013; 2015; Shapiro et al., 2013; Rosenstiel and Kovach, 2001). This study, contextualized in a particular type of journalism in China, aims to explore how investigative journalists perceive social media in their verification and what social media brings to investigative journalists in terms of digging out the 'facts' and constructing the truth? Based on 25 in-depth interviews with investigative journalists working in Beijing from September to December in 2017, this study shows that verification is no longer responsible for constructing the truth in reporting, which makes the lifespan of truth shortened along with the engagement of social media. For investigative journalists in China, truth can be constructed in an ad hoc verified discourse and the status of verification does not benefit from the advent of social media in information-providing.

TRANSITION OR  
TRANSFORMATION? THE  
PRECARITY OF RESPONSES TO  
JOURNALISM MARKET FAILURE

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This paper examines the response to journalism market failure in Canada, a country with a liberal media model (Hallin and Mancini, 2004) similar to Britain and Ireland dominated by commercial media interests, professionalized journalism, limited government intervention and a public service broadcaster. This study is timely as, similar to other well studied media systems (Cagé, 2016; Deuze, 2017; Edge, 2016; Nielsen, 2018), Canada is seeing a significant decline in for-profit media, job losses and growth in digital journalism startups, along with evidence of a shifting regulatory and policy climate (Owen, 2017; Public Policy Forum, 2017, 2018; Skelton, 2018). The economic context is so dire that the government has allocated its first direct funding of CAD\$50 million to journalism, as well as a CAD\$595 million tax package over five years, and has proposed regulatory changes to support a wider range of business models. This paper focuses on how startups are responding to market gaps left by declining commercial media with a focus on digital born journalism organizations, and early implications of non-profit and foundation funded journalism, two pressing gaps in the business of journalism literature (Nielsen, 2018). We find that the response to market failure has been the development of two specific kinds of startup journalist organizations - hybrid for-profit/non-profits and tiny commercial news outlets, largely audience supported. We argue that indications of a transition and/or transformation of journalism are weak, given the precarity of long-term funding, uncertainty about state support and questions about civic impact (Benson, 2017; Cagé, 2016).

**THE CATHOLIC MEDIA IN THE  
HANDS OF LAYMEN**

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The shape of religious media communication changed dramatically not only by the opportunities given by digital media, but also by the secularization, structural changes in religious organizations or the loss of credibility in the eyes of the world. We can observe certain dynamics in the professional approach of official media of the Catholic Church. Its project "Vatican News" provides news service in more than 30 languages since 2016. In the spirit of continuing reform of Roman Curia, for which the reform of Dicastery for Communication was the „pilot“ area, Pope Francis named the first layperson to lead any office of Curia in 2018 - Italian journalist Paolo Ruffini became the head of Secretary for Communication. Few months later one of most famous experts on Vatican and also a lay person, journalist Andrea Torielli, became editorial chief of the official Church newscast. The aim of this article is to describe the change of approach Church undertook in its media with consideration of the fact of extensive abusing of power by clergy including the sexual abuse of minors. To map the initiative these two laymen and media professionals took in their office towards the topic is the main goal. The analysis of Twitter accounts of both of them, compared to the case study of representative newscast covering their actions in the office, are the scientific methods used in this paper.

**THE AFFECTIVE NEWS  
NARRATIVE STRUCTURE AT  
SOCIAL MEDIA: A STUDY ON  
PEOPLE'S DAILY AT WECHAT**  
Zeng Qingxiang

Faced with the challenge posed by new media technologies, the official and authoritative newspaper People's Daily in China has been undergoing the transformation. People's Daily has launched social media accounts at various platforms to be engaged with the audience. Contrary to the authoritativeness of People's Daily, the social media accounts of People's Daily present a relaxing and affective image. This paper tries to discuss the innovative news narrative structure produced by People's Daily at WeChat. Firstly, it incorporates Wolfgang Iser's (1970) approach to the affective structure of the text, pointing out that the affective structure of the text is a bridge connecting the author and the reader, and the reading is an active and creative process. Secondly, it examines the cases from the WeChat account of People's Daily with the textual analysis. It finds that its affective news narrative structure can be concluded as: 1) setting the suspense to arouse the audience's curiosity; 2) highlighting the surprise to arouse the psychological shock of the audience; 3) calling emotionally to construct a face-to-face scene; and 4) resorting to proximity to achieve intimacy with the audience. Finally, it further explains People's Daily's affective news narrative structure at WeChat, which demonstrates its shift from the one-way speech-oriented news production to the two-way dialogue-oriented news production at social media platforms. With such a news narrative structure, People's Daily disseminates news in an informal and intimate way to create the affective connection with the audience.

THE GHOSTS OF NEWSPAPERS  
PAST: JOURNALISM AS  
MOVEMENT

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Amid increasing pressures on the technological, financial and political fronts, print news publications have been dying at an alarming rate around the world. Most digital-born news ventures have also been short-lived. There is therefore justified alarm about how to preserve and spread the professional ethos of the public interest journalism that is required for a well-informed citizenry and healthy democracy. While sharing this concern, we suggest that the negative trends may be mitigated by the transmission of professional values across media organisations, including from dead media to new media. Drawing on case studies from Taiwan, China, and other societies, we observe that the professional ethos of exemplary but dead news organisations — including values of public service, public accountability, and democratisation — can be passed on to new ventures. This form of transference should be encouraged, but has been under-researched. We suggest that a social movements perspective can help in analysing and encouraging this process. By framing it as a movement, we open up the possibility that the cause of public interest journalism can endure even when its organisational vehicles fade. Such a perspective also hints at the kinds of intervention required to ensure the growth of public interest journalism.

**“JOURNALISM AND OTHER”: THE CHALLENGE OF QUANTIFYING JOURNALISM WORK IN THE AGE OF DISRUPTION**

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Monitoring journalism job loss through layoffs/redundancies and newspaper closures has long been seen as an important approach to understanding the scale and implications of disruption in news industries. But at a time of transition, just how useful is such information to this end? Drawing on findings from the New Beats Project, which researches the aftermath of job loss in Australian journalism, this paper interrogates two methods of quantifying and assessing the extent of journalism job loss and availability of new forms of journalism work. In the first method, the extent of job loss in journalism is ‘measured’ by aggregating media reports on job cuts into a ‘redundancy timeline’. In the second method, the availability of new types of journalism work is identified from aggregated data on the re-employment patterns of 225 laid-off Australian journalists, collected in four annual surveys between 2014 to 2017. The paper argues that while reliable information on job shedding can be elusive, the challenge of assessing the extent of new journalism jobs is even more complicated due to inter-related factors: the precarity of much new journalism work, the difficulty of aligning jobs that include journalistic activities with normative newsroom-centric understandings of what constitutes a “journalism” job, and the fluid work patterns of journalists who have exited long-term roles in traditional newsrooms. Building on international research, the paper concludes that attempts to measure the current extent of journalism work need to account explicitly for those whose professional activities place them at the margins of traditional journalism work.