Presenting special issues of COST Action Transforming Audiences, Transforming Societies

WG3, WG4 and cross-WG

Poster sessions at Tampere (April 2013) and Ljubljana (February 2014)

For an exhaustive list of the outputs resulting from COST networking through the Action, please see the report at: http://www.cost-transforming-audiences.eu/node/1455

- The four empirical articles published in the special issue deal with the concept of generations, generational identity building (generationing) from different angles and in different cultural contexts (e.g. the Czech Republic, Estonia, Italy, Israel and Portugal). All the papers make relevant intersections with other sociological topics including peer culture, media and new media use, war studies and relationships with risk society.

- **Andra Siibak and Nicoletta Vittadini** “Editorial: introducing four empirical examples of the ‘generationing’ process”

- **Kristi Vinter** “The formation of new media preferences among pre-school children in the context of peer culture and home interaction: a pedagogical perspective”

- **Irena Carpentier Reifova and Sylvie Fišerová** “Ageing on-line in risk society: elderly people managing the new risks via new media in the context of decreasing ontological security

- **Miri Gal-Ezer** “From ‘silent generation’ to cyber-psy-site, story and history: The 14th Tank Brigade battles on public collective memory and official recognition”

- **Piermarco Aroldi and Cristina Ponte** “Adolescents of the 1960s and 1970s: an Italian-Portuguese comparison between two generations of audiences”

- The papers published in this special issue result from the work of the members of WG 3 and WG 4 of the COST Action IS0906 “Transforming Audiences, Transforming Societies”.

All the papers are freely accessible from: cyberpsychology.eu
Mediated Urbanism
International Communication Gazette

Editors: Seija Ridell & Frauke Zeller

Johanna Ylipulli & Tiina Suopajärvi
CONTESTING UBICOMP VISIONS THROUGH ICT PRACTICES

Karen Waltorp
PUBLIC/PRIVATE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE MEDIA USES OF YOUNG MUSLIM WOMEN IN COPENHAGEN

Simone Tosoni & Matteo Tarantino
MEDIA TERRITORIES AND URBAN CONFLICT

Anabel Quan-Haase & Kim Martin
DIGITAL CURATION AND THE NETWORKED AUDIENCE OF URBAN EVENTS

Sami Kolamo & Jani Vuolteenaho
THE INTERPLAY OF MEDIASCAPES AND CITYSCAPES IN A SPORTS MEGA-EVENT

Stephen Owen & Robert Imre
LITTLE MERMAIDS AND PRO-SUMERS

Suneel Jethani & Dale Leorke
IDEOLOGY, OBSEOLESCENCE AND PRESERVATION IN DIGITAL MAPPING AND LOCATIVE ART

David Harris Smith
REFLEXIVE DESIGN OF THE RECURSIVE SPACE OF VIRTUAL WORLDS
In the ever changing landscape of (old and new) media and their audiences, convergence between children’s cultures and media cultures is an increasingly topical field of study. To name but some of the challenges this reality presents, one could note how children and adolescents are continually exposed to the expansion of global digital TV channels addressed to them; how the growing investment in marketing activities is often associated with new forms of publicity and participation in new platforms like SNS sites or mobile communication; how new social practices born of changing family structures and the fast paced rhythm of everyday life make children’s lives not only far more institutionalised, but also increasingly individualistic. In fact, today children’s lives are influenced by a culture that is dominated by personal and mobile media far more than it ever was in past generations. […] 

The connection between children’s cultures and media cultures can be considered a privileged area of innovation, in which many different actors and stakeholders (children, parents, educators, producers, marketing agents, regulators, policy makers and, last but not least, scholars) constantly negotiate the meaning of childhood in our globalised societies. […] 

In this special issue, some of the aforementioned topics are studied in greater depth and debated on different levels, starting with children’s experience of everyday life and arriving at the concepts put forward by public policies and institutions. The articles in this special issue are predominantly characterised by an international dimension. Some of them focus on the dialectic between local contexts and the processes of globalisation, sometimes in comparative terms, while others look at cross-national products, such as TV programs or SNSs. The methodology adopted in these studies is heterogeneous, combining quantitative and qualitative analyses. In addition to textual analyses of media documents, audience research tools such as surveys, face to face interviews and focus groups with children appear alongside the virtual ethnography that is delineated through young media users’ interventions on the websites they frequent. The role played by cultural contexts in differentiating children’s media experience emerges in all of these articles, as does the relevance of age, gender and reflexivity in the shaping of children’s agency and participation. C.P. & P.A.

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**Children’s Cultures and Media Cultures**

Guest Editors Cristina Ponte & Piermarco Aroldi

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Sirkku Kotilainen, Annikka Suoninen

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Giovanna Mascheroni, Francesca Pasquali

Carolina Duck

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**Media, technology and the migrant family. Media uses, appropriations and articulations in a culturally diverse Europe**

- **Mapping and discussing theoretical and conceptual foundations about media use among migrant families in Europe**
- **Mapping the field: gathering and collecting existing research on media use among migrant families in Europe**
- **Space for new future research**
- **Exploratory research on migrant families, life stories and media repertoires (PhD project or student’s master works)**

- Dissecting the concept of the "migrant" audience
- Exploring the specificities of and variations within migrant families
- Reflection on “hybridity” and its connection to media use and identifications, and on "cosmopolitanism”, discussing the importance of research on concrete cosmopolitan competences.

Strongly evident: lack of research considering the family as a whole, even different kind of families. There are some groups of individuals strongly studied, such as children and mothers, but fathers are left behind.

**Belgium – Exploring migrant families: working with students**
30 adolescents of non-Belgian origin (mostly second-generation migrants) and for each, one of their parents were interviewed individually on their media uses in relation to identity and the family.

**Bulgaria - Moving towards research on migrant families: PhD project**
Globalization, migration and mobility brought several changes and challenges to families. Modern media help to maintain family relations and therefore create mediatised or virtual ways of communication and living (the new phenomenon “virtual family”)

**France – Data collection from 1980 till 2010**
Considering different sources, ranging from scientific articles to TV debates on the topic of media and migrants in a broad perspective, mainly focusing on French literature.
Communication Review Special Issue: Audiences: A Cross-Generational Dialogue, Vol 16, 1/2

Guest edited by Ranjana Das

Special Issue: Audiences: A Cross-Generational Dialogue
Ranjana Das

The Media Audience: A Brief Biography—Stages of Growth or Paradigm Change?
Denis McQuail

The Participation Paradigm in Audience Research
Sonia Livingstone

Bringing the Author Back Into the Audience Research: A Hermeneutical Perspective on the Audience’s Understanding of the Author
Tereza Pavlíčková

From Dogmatism to Open-Mindedness? Historical Reflections on Methods in Audience Reception Research
Kim Christian Schrøder

Representing Audiences: Audience Research, Public Knowledge, and Policy
David Buckingham

Young People’s Accounts of Experiences With Sexual Content During Childhood and Teenage Life
Despina Chronaki

Finding Audiences for Our Research: Rethinking the Issue of Ethical Challenges
Martin Barker

Who Do We Think We (and They) Are? The Audience and the Researcher as Participants in Sociomaterial Practice
Niklas. A. Chimirri

King of the Hill? Seeking the New in Audience Research
Pille Pruulmann-Vengerfeldt
POST-SOCIALIST MEDIA AUDIENCES

Special issue of Czech academic journal *Mediální studia* (autumn 2013)

edited by
Irena Carpentier Reifová (WG3) & Tereza Pavlíčková (WG1)

Outcome of a workshop focusing on position of media audiences in CEE countries

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Reading Cutezatorii and watching Jackie Chan – Romanian children and the Communist propaganda (1970s and the 1980s)
by *Laura Visan*

A story of Panorâma and Время. Two information spaces? Television news preferences among Russian-speaking minority in post-Communist Latvia
by *Jānis Juzefovič*

Media consumption patterns: Watching TV in former Yugoslav states
by *Lucia Vesnic-Alujević, Nataša Simeunovič Bajić, Aleksandra Majdarević*

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Viewers and patients in waiting rooms of gynaecology clinics
by *Zuzana Skřepská*

Evaluation of political regimes through the lens of memories and information perception (The case of Bulgaria)
by *Alina Dobreva*

Active or passive citizen – the influence of ICT over contemporary local democracy in Poland.
by *Ilona Biernacka-Ligieza*

Audience agency in media systems: Southeastern Europe in comparative perspective
by *Zrinka Peruško, Dina Vozab, Antonija Čuvalo*
The Special Section aims at illuminating the relationship between media audiences, their media consumption cultures and the social formations called “generations”.

Within the Special Section authors will discuss how the cultural concept of generations offers a wide range of valuable heuristics to explore the meaning and use of media in people's lives (media repertoires, media habits, media as status symbols, etc.), and may help us explore the complex interrelations between audiences, technologies and cultural settings.

The scholars involved in this special issue will adopt a cultural approach to the “problem of generations” (generations are constituted on the basis of shared experience of the same formative events and collective memory) (Vittadini et al., 2013; Aroldi, 2011). Their cultural approach, is based on the idea that “generational identity/belonging” is built through social relationships (mediated or not) and helps to define the social significance of generations.

The Special Section has the aim to present different points of view on: how generations matter for defining media consumption cultures and how media consumption matters for defining generations.

The Special Section will include an introduction on generations and media and papers on: generation theory; younger and older generations; differences between generations’ use of digital technologies.

Participations is an online journal devoted to the strengthening and development of the fields of audience and reception studies, located at www.participations.org. The aim of the journal is to become a focal point for research, debate and publication on all aspects of the study of audiences for cultural and media products and practices. The journal has now been publishing for more than a decade, and has established itself as a major force in the sphere of media and cultural research and scholarship.