

CALL FOR PAPER: ICA PRECONFERENCE 2018

'THE PARTICIPATORY TURN' TEN YEARS LATER: TRUST/DISTRUST AND ENGAGEMENT/DISENGAGEMENT

2018 International Communication Association Annual Conference, Prague, Czech Republic

Thursday May 24, 0930-1600

Sponsored by Journalism; Philosophy, Theory and Critique; Political Communication, and Popular Communications Division.

Deadline for Extended Abstracts: January 20, 2018

THEME

This ICA preconference marks the anniversary of *the participatory turn*: a decade ago, there was widespread optimism about the creative, economic and democratic potential of audience participation in the media. New technology and increased competition pressured established media to rethink their relationship with audiences, while internet and social media opened unprecedented participatory possibilities. In the passing decade, both positive and negative implications of the *participatory turn* have come to the forefront of media and communications research.

In this preconference, we want to explore how participation as a concept, strategy and practice has developed within the last decade, and to engage in a dialogue concerning how *the participatory turn* has led not only to increased engagement from audiences, but also to participatory fatigue, disengagement and resistance.

TOPICS AND STRANDS

The conference is an opportunity to reflect on these contradictory media developments and research trends, and welcome contributions that focus on one of the following dimensions:

- *Concepts, theories, approaches*: How is participation in mass and social media understood and conceptualized within various approaches? In what ways are issues of trust and distrust, engagement and disengagement linked with popular participation in the media?

- *Organisation, production and the construction of participatory spaces*. What characterizes the different formats and roles for audiences in media production? How is audience participation and ordinariness constructed and negotiated in media content?

- *Disappointment, distrust and resistance*. How have missed opportunities and disappointment with the implications of *the participatory turn* resulted in lack of trust, disengagement and resistance?

AIMS

The aim of the preconference is to bring together participants from different parts of communication studies to a cross-disciplinary dialogue about pertinent issues related to trust/distrust and engagement/disengagement.

In addition to a critical assessment of the implications of *the participatory turn*, the aim is to identify clusters of potential collaborators for 1-2 competitive panels for upcoming conferences (ICA, ECREA, other).

The preconference is based on presentations from participants, a keynote address and a panel discussion.

Keynote speaker will be Mark Deuze, professor of Media Studies in the University of Amsterdam, author of *Media Work* (Polity, 2007) and *Media Life* (Polity, 2014). Deuze will discuss topics such as fake news and the rising distrust of media in the light of the success of *the participatory turn*.

SUBMISSION AND SELECTION PROCESS

The conference is based on **extended abstracts 1000-1500 words**.

They should be submitted to email: participationpreconica18@gmail.com by January 20, 2018. Extended abstracts should include main idea/argument, research questions, short literature review and/or theoretical perspectives, information on methodology and empirical findings (if relevant).

We welcome different approaches, including discussions of literature, concepts and theories, historical perspectives and empirical analyses.

All submitted abstracts must be anonymous with no reference to author(s). Include name, affiliation and contact details either in the email or in a separate attachment.

The extended abstracts will be subject to double blind peer review.

Decisions on accepted papers by mid-February 2018.

Authors of accepted abstracts are expected to attend the pre-conference and present in a panel. Participation fee (including coffee break and lunch) is **US \$75** for presenters and non-presenters.

ORGANIZERS

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