SPRING POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL & RESEARCH CONFERENCE

**Comparative media systems: Implications for news media repertoires and democratic engagement across Europe (IUC-CMS 2016)**

Inter University Center, Dubrovnik, Croatia, 18th-22nd April 2016

Call for Applications

*Course Description:*

Media systems analysis and cross-media news consumption research are two research areas currently characterized by ‘ferment in the field’. This course and conference brings together leading scholars in these fields in order to explore the opportunities for cross-fertilizing them in comparative research projects across Europe. In media systems analysis, scholars like Brüggemann et al. (2014) and Perusko et al. (2013, 2015) are developing new tools for building better models to supplement or replace the renowned Hallin & Mancini model (2004), arguing that we need models which take account not just of politics and journalism culture, but which incorporate the complete mediascape. Other scholars argue that from the audience point of view these mediascapes must be conceptualized as cross-media entities, and that we should understand better the ways in which audience preferences lead to the formation of distinctive media repertoires, with implications for citizens’ democratic engagement and participation. From the encounter of this dual endeavor to build empirically sound knowledge emerges the added value of bringing their findings into a heuristic dialogue about the possible interplay of relevant social institutions with media systems at the structural level and audience-generated media repertoires at the level of agency. As a result of this dialogue we can hope to obtain a better grasp of the nexus of media consumption and democratic engagement.

*Lecturers & Course Directors*

Hanna Adoni, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

Maria José Brites, University of Minho, Portugal

Carmen Ciller, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain

Steffen Lepa, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany

Paolo Mancini, Università di Perugia, Italy

Snježana Milivojević, University of Belgrade, Serbia

Hillel Nossek, Kinneret College on the Sea of Galilee, Israel

Zrinjka Peruško, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Slavko Splichal, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia,

Kim Christian Schrøder, Roskilde University, Denmark

*Course Organization:*

This fifth "slow science" IUC-CMS is an interdisciplinary research conference & post-graduate course open to doctoral and post-doctoral students in media, communication and related fields. Each year the topic of the course will focus on one or a combination of areas that define media systems from a comparative perspective.

Invited lecturers will deliver keynote lectures with ample discussion opportunities. Course attendees will have extended opportunity to present and discuss their current own works with the course directors and other participants in seminar form (English language) and in further informal meetings around the beautiful old-town of Dubrovnik (UNESCO World Heritage) over 5 full working days (Monday-Friday). The working language is English. All participants will receive a Certificate of Attendance.

The School is open to 15 PhD and Master students, post-docs and junior researchers interested in comparative media systems.

While a comparative perspective across Europe will be foreground of the general course discussion, individually presented works may also adopt a comparative perspective on news repertoires and political engagement in single countries across time. A complementary methodological workshop will introduce selected qualitative and quantitative research methods.

*Abstracts and paper submission:*

Proposals should be sent to zperusko@fpzg.hr no later than January 31, 2016. Submissions should include paper title, abstract in English (300 words), name, e-mail address, institutional affiliation and a brief bio (max. 100 words) mentioning main research interests and ongoing projects. Participants will be informed of acceptance by mid-February. Exceptionally participation is also possible without presenting a paper. After acceptance, participants are requested to register at the IUC web site: <http://iuc.hr/course-details.php?id=908>.

*Fees*

A fee of 140 Euro is payable to the IUC on arrival. The fee covers technical equipment and support, computer room & printers, free wifi, handouts, etc.

*Venue Information:*

The Inter-University Centre was founded in Dubrovnik, Croatia, in 1972 as an independent, autonomous international academic institution with the aim of promoting international co-operation between academic institutions throughout the world. Courses are held in all scientific disciplines around the year, with participation of member and affiliated universities.

*Additional Information and Application:*

For further information about academic matters please contact the course director:

Professor Zrinjka Peruško, Centre for Media and Communication Research,
Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb. Email: zperusko@fpzg.hr

To apply for the course and for information on accommodation and venue, please visit the IUC website: <http://iuc.hr/course-details.php?id=908>