

Editorial 1

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My warmest thanks

Profundo agradecimiento

After ten years of continuous publication, it is time to express gratitude to all the collaborators who made this challenge come true for their contribution. Reviewers, authors, members of the scientific committee, all of you have filled the sails of this boat sailing purposefully in international waters.

In October 2019, the Mediterranean Journal of Communication received the TRICLab Award for its research on Relational Factor (its special issues on media literacy and the dissemination of this line of research) within the context of the 8th Congress on "Digital Communication and Information. Digital Knowledge for Smart Communication". It was held in Zaragoza and its close association with Alicante was recognised. This recognition thrilled all the members of the editorial board. I dedicate this editorial to those who work closely for the journal. My appreciation will become more significant once it is made public.

Thank you, Jesús Segarra-Saavedra, for your continuous work from the outset in the layout of the papers, the DOI management, the paper versions, the countless OJS updates, the social media plan and everything involving it.

Thanks, Tatiana Hidalgo-Marí for your excellent editorial reviews, the design and the content programming in a readily accessible form.

Thank you, Sara Mira, for putting so much effort into the homogeneity of the list of references and for your support in the layout of the issues; the journal is enhanced by your work.

Thank you, Carmen Sánchez-Vizcaíno, for the review of the metadata and the texts written in English in record time.

Thank you to my colleague, Carmen Marta-Lazo, for starting the special issues in the Mediterranean Journal in 2013 with a major effort and success. Your professionalism facilitated your integration as a co-editor of the journal to help us with our expansion. The journal is deeply grateful to you, for your unceasing and interpersonal work offering tremendous energy to all processes.

Thank you, Carmen Fonseca, for your wise advice and support in the processes of applying for the databases.

Thank you, Rafael Repiso, for acting as a permanent lighthouse to the group of sailors integrating our journal.

Thanks to the Taller de Revistas team (Journal Services) and the Publishing Services of the Universities of Alicante and Zaragoza. Thank you, Irene García, for your contribution to the internationalisation of the Journal from the United Kingdom.

Thanks to all coordinators of special issues for your significant involvement in the success of the journal and your wise decisions relating to selection of subjects. Thanks to all the members of research groups *Communication and Specific Audiences* (*Comunicación y Públicos específicos*, Compubes) of the University of Alicante and *Communication and Digital Information* (*Comunicación e Información Digital*,

GICID) from the University of Zaragoza for your work in dissemination and promotion of the journal. Without all of you, this would have never been possible. THANK YOU.

The year 2020 starts with an excellent issue. It is made up of 18 articles and 4 reviews. The articles are allocated in a special issue (6) and a miscellany section (12). The **special issue** deals with an innovative subject: **Mobile apps and media empowerment in digital and ubiquitous contexts**. It has been coordinated by Dra. Cristina Villalonga Gómez (Antonio de Nebrija University, Global Campus Nebrija, Madrid, Spain) and Dra. Elisa Hergueta-Covacho (University of Applied Sciences FH-Krems, Austria).

The **miscellany** section includes 12 articles on different subjects. Five articles touch on the Spanish elections, since Spain has experienced two consecutive voting processes this year. **Carolina Herranz-Rubio** addresses a literature review on the Spanish electoral debates from the '90s, very helpful work for research on this increasing field. The miscellany section is marked by the variety in its subjects. A second article by **Aurken Sierra Iso** also offers a state-of-the-art article on research into political communication around social media from 2008 to 2018, entailing an analysis of 357 articles published in four communication academic journals allocated in the first quartile of the Journal Citation Reports (JCR-WoS). The text summarises researchers' contributions on the influence of social media on politicians, mass media and citizens. For his part, **Fernando Carcavilla Puey** describes the features of the coverage in the daily press of the concept "Spain brand" concerning politics from 2012 to 2015. **Carlos López-Olano** and **Vicente Fenoll** have selected a topic concerning the media polarisation in the process of the independence of Catalonia utilising a comparative study of the coverage for RT (the first Russian TV channel in the Spanish language and with a global scope). Finally, **Tamara Vázquez-Barrio**, **Teresa Torrecillas-Lacave** and **Rebeca Suárez-Álvarez** focus on the identification of gender differences on the opportunities offered by the digitalisation of the socio-political participation of adolescents.

Germán Esteban-Espinosa analyses the video game saga of Assassin's Creed and proposes the inclusion of cinematic stimuli when closely analysing this type of audiovisual text. From Mexico, **Esmeralda Mancilla-Valdez** identifies the importance of late modernity on the family concept, analysing a huge sample of animated series. Focusing on childhood, **Esther Martínez-Pastor**, **Worawan Ongkrutraksa** and **Ricardo Vizcaíno-Laorga** study the case of YouTubers in Thailand, powerful toys advisors. The authors confirm a correlation between YouTubers' gender and the type of toys promoted, and the scarcity of videos identified as advertising. In addition, the coherence with the target of some of them is questioned.

Javier Marzal-Felici, **María Soler-Campillo** and **Aaron Rodríguez-Serrano** together present a powerful text laying the foundations of a necessary epistemology of Communication Sciences and considering a serious debate around the exclusion of Communication within the field of Social Sciences, far from Humanities.

Cinema production in Spain is studied by **José-Patricio Pérez-Rufí** and **Antonio Castro-Higueras** to identify how the structure of production and distribution influences the commercial success of a film. Real Murcia Club de Fútbol, as a symbolic space in the constructions of peripheral identities, is the subject of an article by Esperanza **Herrero-Andreu** and **Leonarda García-Jiménez**. The authors come to the conclusion that local media are key social institutions in the dissemination of peripheral regional identities, less developed than those historically recognised in the Spanish Constitution. Hence, football appears to be a real symbolic space assembling together collective identities living in the margins of nation-states.

From the University of Aveiro (Portugal), **Cláudia Barbosa** and **Luís Pedro** study the context of multitasking from an age and gender perspective within the framework of the use of media by means of a comparative study between Europe and West Africa.

We set our course for the next ten years of publications.



Revista MEDITERRÁNEA de Comunicación
MEDITERRANEAN Journal of Communication