



Higher
Education of Journalists
in a Digital Environment



Call for Abstracts and Papers

13th MEDIA DIALOGUES

international scientific conference at the Juraj Dobrila University of Pula (Croatia) *
24-26 September 2021

Topic: *Digital Transformation of Education for the Media
Ideas and Practices from the Former Yugoslav Republics*

We are happy to announce that the 13th issue of the traditional international scientific conference *Montenegrin Media Dialogues* is, along with the Research Media Centre-Podgorica, a project partner of the three-year international scientific institutional project [Higher Education of Journalists in a Digital Environment](#) (HEJDE) of the [Faculty of Interdisciplinary, Italian and Cultural Studies](#) of the [Juraj Dobrila University of Pula](#) (Croatia).

The HEJDE project is directed toward the research on the state, challenges and educational opportunities of the European academic education of journalists in a digital environment. This project brings together an international team of associates, scientists and institutions organized in a few teams which will work on four key project activities from different perspectives.

This year's conference is a part of the project activity *The digital environment of higher education of journalists in Europe* aiming at gathering scientists, higher education lecturers and students from former Yugoslav states and stimulating their contemplation about education for the media in a digital environment, as well as at the exchange of their scientific and teaching ideas and experience on that topic.

Even though the challenges and trends of journalism education in a digital environment as a topic has been regularly discussed and published worldwide, we believe that the former Yugoslav republics, due to their joint political history and facing a similar slow and challenging, multiple form transition of the media and education system toward the European democratic context, represent a specific landscape which deserves special attention, especially because, in those countries, journalism education is not a popular research subject, and a topic seldom discussed in the public sphere. This is indeed the case, although the area has a rich history of the media, higher education institutions educate journalists from the mid-20th century, and original discussion about the importance of journalism education goes way back to the 19th century (Vukić, 2017).

There are different explanations of education for the media, but in the context of the HEJDE project it is understood as media education of the future media professionals (Fedorov, 2005), in particular those that are going to work as journalists. That way we are inspecting the changes that occurred in theory and

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educational practice on study programmes that educate journalists from the perspectives of all actors of the educational process, which as a consequence of challenges, were brought together by the digital environment surrounding the media, education system and journalism itself.

Since technological development is a daily basis phenomenon, digital age has, in the last two decades, significantly transformed our society, culture (Zgrabljic Rotar, 2011, 2020) and education in general, particularly media education (Pralica i Janjic, 2020) and journalism education (Perisin i Mlacic, 2014; Vukic, 2017, 2020), while the global Covid-19 pandemic enforced the implementation of the emergency distance learning. Additionally, the media industry, forced by digital changes, calls for different educational requirements of the young journalists and pushes for the introduction of fast and adequate novelties into higher education study programmes.

Hence, we kindly invite you to submit an academic fundamental or applied research (theoretical, methodological or empirical) as part of, but not restricted to, one of the following 10 thematic areas:

1. Emergency distance learning and teaching experiences that arose from the COVID-19 Pandemic
2. Global and local trends in distance learning /e-learning/technology advanced learning/smart learning and teaching
3. web 2.0., web 3.0., web 4.0. and web 5.0. as platforms for journalism learning and teaching
4. Open Access didactic learning/teaching tools, literature and pedagogical material for teachers/students
5. Changes in study programme curricula, and conceptual/methodical changes in teaching
6. Reflection on new journalism forms and professional profiles such as: participatory/alternative/social/activist journalism or multimedia/online/digital/data/drone/mobile journalism, etc.
7. ICT teaching competencies
8. Digital media literacy
9. Journalistic competencies for converged media
10. Digital environment as a challenge/opportunity/distractor in higher education for journalists

Papers accepted for presentation at the scientific conference **13th Media Dialogues** which meet the defined deadline and are positively peer-reviewed will be published in a special issue of the international scientific journal [Media Dialogues](#).

We also strongly encourage students (and their mentors) to send their work.

Regards,

Assistant Professor Tijana Vukic, PhD

the HEJDE project leader and the president of the Conference Committee

For all questions please contact us at: fitiks-hejde@unipu.hr; medijskidijalozi@gmail.com or tijana.vukic@unipu.hr