

Resumos

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Mind the (generational) gap. Children's online experiences, adult concerns and challenges for rising awareness in European countries

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ABSTRACT

Based on the Project EU Kids Online network (see www.eukidsonline.net) and its ongoing research that involves 21 European countries, this paper examines children's digital landscapes in the European space and how the youngest Europeans have gained access and (in some countries) leadership in the use of new online and networked technologies. Beyond digital inclusion, the concept of digital integration arises as a means to perform a deeper analysis of this generational gap, and of how to accomplish media education and literacy. Contesting a dominant top-down model, the paper sustains that for a safer digital inclusion/integration children and young people should be considered as active participants in the rising of awareness and empowering contexts.

KEY WORDS

EU Kids Online; Children and Internet; media education; digital inclusion; digital integration.

Children and Young People's (Communication) Rights in the European Public Sphere: The role of civil society in a network environment

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ABSTRACT

The Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted in 1989 by United Nations, recognizes children as subjects of Law: no longer just passive individuals protected by adults, but full citizens with a right to speak and participate.

In Europe, the change has not been fully operated, but growing emphasis is being put on how to enable an active social participation by children. Focusing childhood

questions on the rights perspective is a way to promote a children's legitimate agenda, to demand public policies to improve children's quality of life, and to enforce a responsible framing of childhood's *media* representation.

This paper highlights the role of civil society in the construction of *media* more oriented to respecting and promoting children's rights, focusing on new technological *media* as an opportunity for civil society to fulfill a critical and advocate role towards *media*, through, for instance, *media* observatories.

The Portuguese press and the social memory of Europe

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ABSTRACT

How has Portuguese press been contributing for the construction of social memory of Europe? Since Portugal's adhesion to the European Union, generalist national newspapers have been producing an inconsistent frame of Europe's representation. Between 1985 and 2004, the press has been producing a conceptualization of Europe that tends to be positive, but at levels of selection and commemoration the press discourse becomes scarce and void. This inconsistency is also present in the discourse of a sample of people interviewed. Results indicate that among the Portuguese there is an important gap in discourse about Europe, is related to different levels of qualification. The most qualified tend to be more likely to conceptualize Europe in the way that it is reported by the press. People with low educational levels and unqualified jobs tend to recall Europe mainly as an Economic Community and show themselves less attached to an European identity.

**To be or not to be European:
A brief history of how Portugal signed a commercial trade
agreement with EEC in 1972 and how it was covered by the media**

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ABSTRACT

In 1970, Portugal formally asked for the opening of negotiations with EEC, regarding the possibility of joining the Common Market. The Commercial Trade Agreements were signed in 1972, including all the EFTA countries that were not candidates for full European integration (Austria, Finland, Island, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland). This European shift divided Portuguese political elites, into the liberals who considered it as the fundamental impulse towards democratization and modernization; and the conservatives who wanted to maintain the African colonial option as a priority. This debate, which ended by being about the survival of the dictatorial regime, was framed by some newspapers and reflected the contradictions of Marcelo Caetano rule (1968-1974).

**Is *Europe* out there?
EU news coverage during ‘key events’ and ‘routine periods’**

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ABSTRACT

The changes inflicted on the European Union’s competencies are concomitant with the development of media studies, which are now particularly attentive to the visibility of EU news, the emergence of public spheres, and agenda setting. The dominant body of empirical research seeks to frame these theories in the light of media coverage on key events, such as EU elections, summits or referenda. While providing relevant data concerning the way Europe is communicated, these studies tell us little, however, about the extent to which EU affairs are salient during ‘routine periods’. Furthermore, by focusing solely on news stories (the ‘product’), they seem to neglect

the journalistic dynamics that underlie those texts (the ‘production’). The purpose of our paper is to bridge this gap through a compared analysis of Portuguese newspapers, on the one hand during the signature of the Treaty of Lisbon, and on the other hand during a period in which none of the above-mentioned prescheduled events took place. Drawing also upon material produced by the European Commission (e.g. *Midday Express*, *RAPIDs*), we will shed light on the role played by this institution as ‘news provider’, as well as on the connection established between EU press officers and journalists.

Towards mapping an actually existing trans-European mediascape

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ABSTRACT

In this paper I’d like to argue that a trans or supranational European public mediascape is already in place. I hope to demonstrate, however, that the question is not simple, in basic structural terms, about whether trans-European media exist (indeed one could argue that there have been forms of pan-European media that have existed since the Enlightenment or before) but about what kinds of pan-European media exist; how these media are interconnected; and, most important, how European producers and consumers themselves understand these media.

The Olympic torch relay in Europe: a time-space for the European public sphere to appear?

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ABSTRACT

The Olympic torch relay on the European continent, since its ignition in Olympia, until its departure from Paris to San Francisco, USA, offers a textbook case to exami-

ne, concretely, the emergence of an European public opinion, verily of an European public sphere, even though it was temporary. Organizers of the Beijing Olympic Games conceived the Olympic torch relay as a global media event. The reference frame was ready-made for the media, besides stakeholders of the Games. The outbreak of the civil society on the media stage, widely supported in the European countries by the public opinions, imposed another reading of the event. The Olympic torch relay, as a prelude to the Beijing Games, indeed crystallized the criticisms towards the Chinese regime. Initiated by journalists to the heart of the media coverage of the event, and giving simultaneously to see the work of censorship taking place during the broadcasting of the event, this contesting amplified the diverse initiatives carried by European citizens. As a consequence, for the European media, it was all the less possible not to report recurring demonstrations during the relay, so that the networks of citizens invested the Web to spread them widely. This exceptional configuration contributed, during the transit time of the torch relay, to the representation in the media of a public European sphere and a European citizenship all the more legitimate as they were facing a Power and its institutions of control, embodied in the "Men In Blue". As a consequence, China could only get down to the construction of an internationalized Chinese public opinion, which for lack of public sphere could take shape for the television channels in the world, the time-space of a globalized demonstration, on April 19th, 2008.

The crisis and the future of European Integration: Actors, topics and patterns of Europeanization in the Italian debate on the ECT

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ABSTRACT

The failure of the *referenda* held in France and Holland in 2005 opened up a wide and often ambiguous debate in Italy, as the European Constitution is commonly considered a positive thing for the country's internal political, social and economic life. In this paper I will describe the main features of this debate and the dominant discourses on which the media in Italy have focused, basing my work on a discourse analysis made on a sample of 40 articles selected from three daily newspapers.

News and views about Europe in Greece

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ABSTRACT

Many research findings have shown until now that in a great extent European news, including EU news, are considered in most state members' media as foreign ones (De Vreese, 2001; Peters, Semetko & de Vreese, 2003). For this reason, despite the broader process of globalization and regionalization of the news (Hjarvard, 1993, 2001), media coverage of the European affairs, in general, can be described by what in theory already has called "domestication" of the news" (Gurevitch, Levy & Roeh, 1991; Clausen, 2004; Thussu, 2004). European affairs are defined in news bulletins as external ones and they are constructed appropriately to be consumed by internal national audiences in each individual country. This phenomenon has been found and measured in Greece and other countries in press or electronic media (Chapman, 1992; Moisy, 1996; Utlely, 1997; Hoge, 1997; Madger, 2003; Lang & Lang, 2000; Papathanassopoulos, 1997; Wu, 2004, Pleios *et al*, 2008).