



EU Centre at RMIT University

Media and Democracy in Central and Eastern Europe

RMIT School of Media and
Communication

Media, Communication and Democracy: Global and National Environments

CONFERENCE IN MELBOURNE (1-2 SEPTEMBER 2011)

SPECIAL ISSUE OF *Communication, Politics & Culture* (Issue 45.1, July 2012)

The EU Centre at RMIT University with the School of Media and Communication (RMIT) and Media and Democracy in Eastern Europe Research Project (MDCEE) (University of Oxford, UK) invite you to attend the Centre's inaugural annual conference entitled *Media, Communication and Democracy: Global and National Environments*.

The Treaty of Lisbon, adopted in December 2009, has marked a significant development in the European Union's approach to external affairs. The European Union has been at the forefront of debate and legislative action about democracy, and about establishing common principles in relation to rights and democratic processes, especially with the ongoing expansion of the number of Member States in the Union. In the wake of Wikileaks, it is apparent that the role of media and communications in democratic processes is more important than ever.

Panels, papers and debate will focus on media, communication and democracy in the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe, the Asia Pacific region, Latin America or Africa, as well as the established areas of Europe and Australia. In a world of regular, unforeseen crises and growing power of media owners, online and otherwise, various questions about the implications for democratic processes will be explored.

Key participants will include Professor Paolo Mancini, Associate Professor Ingrid Volkmer, Professor Jan Zielonka and Professor Stephanie Hemelryk Donald.

The conference to run over two days, Thursday 1 and Friday 2 September 2011, will be held in Storey Hall at the city campus of RMIT University, Swanston Street, Melbourne. An opening lecture and registration will be held at the State Library of Victoria in the evening of Wednesday 31 August.

Conference Topics

- Class, property, markets and money: the social environment of communication and democracy
- Re-thinking the relations between media and democracy: institutions, organizations, representations, scales of government
- The changing practices and relations of journalism: towards democratic affordances?

Conference Themes

- National media and globalization
 - Class, democracy and the media
 - Media ownership and democracy
 - Political advertising
 - Media policies and media politics
 - Populism and democracy in new media
 - Religion, media and democracy
 - Technology and journalism as a profession
 - Public interest journalism
 - Media and political parties
 - Journalism in the global news world
 - Democracy and transformation of public spaces
 - Citizen journalism
 - Political blogging and the rhetorics of democracy
 - Changing political control of the media
 - Media, location and culture
 - Objectivity, impartiality and the governance of journalism
 - Media and elites
 - E-government and Government 2.0.
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Registration

Registration fees are as follow and include the welcome event on Wednesday 31 August; lunch, morning and afternoon tea on both conference days and conference materials.

	EARLY BIRD	STANDARD
	Up to and incl. 31 July 2011 (AUD inclusive of 10% GST)	01 August - 30 August 2011 (AUD inclusive of 10% GST)
Full fees (per day)	\$126.50	\$137.50
Full fees (both days incl. Welcome Event)	\$203.50	\$253.00
Concession* (per day)	\$71.50	\$82.50
Concession* (both days incl. Welcome Event)	\$126.50	\$143.00

* Concession fees are available to full time students. Please fax or email a copy of your student card showing your current enrolment status to eucentre@rmit.edu.au. You will also be required to present the original upon registration.

For more information about the conference please visit the EU Centre Website: www.rmit.edu.au/eucentre