



SLOVENE COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION

NO END OF TRANSITION? UNDERSTANDING CHANGES IN MEDIA LANDSCAPE AND PUBLIC RHETORIC OF POST-COMMUNIST ERA.

Ljubljana, Slovenia: March 14-15, 2008.

Although the restructuring of media landscapes in post-communist countries begun nearly two decades ago, it is in many cases still a lively, ongoing process that has unjustifiably received too little scholarly attention during recent years. The conference aims to review the changes in mass communication and public rhetoric brought about by transition from communist states to capitalism and democracy. It will focus on economic, legal, political and cultural aspects of rearrangements in public communication and intends to attract communication scholars from and of the broadly defined cultural and geographical area of Central and Eastern Europe.

Topics

Potential paper topics might include, but are not limited to, subjects such as:

- **Economic, legal and political aspects of the transition process:** Privatisation of ownership and commercialisation of media practices; new legal regulation; existence and quality of public service broadcasting; new public sphere and troubled relationship between media and governments in post-communist countries; new, often extreme political rhetoric in post-communist societies.
- **Cultural aspects of transition:** New trends in journalism, media representations and popular culture in post-communist settings; issues of nationalism and globalisation; role of media in (re)creating collective memories and identities; changes in film and music industries.
- **Retrospective look on the collapse of communism:** Glasnost and revitalization of public sphere as contributing factors in the collapse of communist regimes; media censorship and prosecution of free speech in communist and post-communist societies; dissident media channels and practices in former communist countries.

Venue

The conference will be held at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana and will be hosted by the Slovenian Communication Association.

Important Dates

Submissions are invited for individual papers (30 minutes including discussion) and themed sessions (three/four speakers 90/120 minutes). Proposals (300 words for individual papers or sessions) should be emailed to Ilija Tomanic (ilija.tomanic@fdv.uni-lj.si) by **December 15, 2007**. The contributors will be notified in the selection by January 10, 2008.

Information and contacts

Further information and updates regarding registration, conference program and accommodation details, will be posted on the conference website: <http://www.komdrustvo.si/index.php?nav1=conference>.

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Any queries can also be directed to one of the conference program committee members Andrej Skerlep (andrej.skerlep@fdv.uni-lj.si), Marusa Pusnik (marusa.pusnik@guest.arnes.si) and Ilija Tomanic (ilija.tomanic@fdv.uni-lj.si).