EDITORIAL
Media Literacies is research for the Future

Media literacy, digital literacy, media and information literacy MIL, visual literacy, information literacy, transmedia literacy, data literacy... The research area of media education is investigating multiple literacies emerging at different levels of school, kindergarten, out-side school activities and in families – and focusing on the multimodal like audiovisual practices of people in relations with all forms of media. It is about studying and making the futures of media education.

Pushing forward media education, nowadays especially media and information literacies MIL, UNESCO has been the promoter of the policies and a field of study all around the world – and still is. Since Grunwald Declaration 1981, media education has emerged as a complex field of practices that operate across a range of school and non-school settings. Over nearly four decades, new concepts and theories have been applied to the field - partially as the result of a radical transformation in media technologies, aesthetic forms, ownership models, and practices of audience participation – but also due to shifts in media education as it has developed as a field and spread around the world (see more about declarations on MIL:http://www.nordicom.gu.se/en/clearingh ouse/declarations-mil).

While debates about the rationale and strategies of media literacy education are fraught, the scope of the field has undergone significant change, as multiple and varied new literacies practices, technologies, institutions and even policy makers have become linked to the project. These enriched debates are on the one hand the result of shifts in thinking within academic disciplines, especially as media production and consumption have radically changed, and on the other, the result of the emergence of non-traditional and non-Western actors within the field.

Since the roots of media literacies as a research field are pretty new ones, is this field of study discussing the futures of societies, users and media a) through the problems it is posing; b) through its methodological aspects and c) through its dialogic nature as a research.

The problemsin media educational research are socially framed questions like, for example, in the call for papers to the becoming IAMCR conference in Cartagena, Columbia 2017, and the section of Media Education Research: How can we put the "critical" into media production?How is digital literacy transforming pedagogy and learning? Is media education inevitably Eurocentric, north-focused or otherwise myopic? What is the role of disinformation in societies? (Follow the website: http://cartagena2017.iamcr.org/cfp/)

Methodologies in the research on media literacies are not only traditional social research, but experiential action-based and design research as well. Co-research together with children, young and adults has been increasing lately. This leads to the *dialogic nature of media educationalresearch*: collaborative partners in projects vary from media organizations to NGO's, schools and public administration. Today the practical application of research results may start even before publishing anything. That way, for example, the "Youth in the Limelight" -study is co-creating a mobile app as first phase results together with media companies (http://www.uta.fi/cmt/en/research/comet/ projects/young-people-in-the-limelight.html)

In this journal, some of the articles has been initiated at the IAMCR conference in Leicester UK 2016 as conference papers. In this global conference the MER section held 9 sessions with number of total presentations 36 within three days in July. (see pictures by entering the Facebook group: IAMCR 2016 - Media Education Research).

It is important that possibilities for presentations and publications are available to the new fields of inquiry like media literacies, both to the western scholars and researchers from south and east. This promotes the development of the field likewise in the globe. Great thanks to the Indian Journal of xx for the possibility to make visible media educational research!

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