
Media and journalism from a comparative perspective: What to consider?

Lucie Čejková

luc.cejkova@mail.muni.cz

PMCb1006 Political and media systems

week 8

Position papers

- carefully watch for the week assigned
 - focus more on your reflection
 - cover all readings assigned
-

Outline

- brief recap
 - media and journalism in democracy
 - European model of journalism
-

Media system

= all media in a particular country, interrelated organizations, and actors, subject to a set of laws and regulations, shared journalistic culture

→ but different media sectors: different business models, ownership, media type, audience served

Media system

- socio-structural factors
 - political factors
 - economic factors
-

Functions of media in democracy

- **civic:** media should act as a forum
 - citizens can discuss social issues
 - citizens meet with the state
 - Habermas's theory of the public sphere;
- **watchdog:** media defend human and political rights and hold politicians and those in power accountable
- **mobilization:** media seek to mobilize citizens to be more curious about politics and to encourage participation
 - main role: mediating opportunities for citizen to comment and participate in the public debate

(Jakubowicz, 2017)

However...

- media → vital for democracy → have to be free and independent
 - media should have boundaries between media outlets with own professional content and platforms that only present content created by someone else (e.g. Facebook; Google)
 - media should provide the space to discuss × provide professional content × platforms (participation, but also interests of platform providers)
-

Media and journalism: Layers

Social-cultural influences on media systems: language (content, boundaries to audiences), preferences of audience, different societies and cultures (age, social status, ethnicity, religion, other sub-cultural divisions, locality and regionalism, class and status differences, reigning social norms and values – and combinations)

Media system effects on journalism: editorial and journalistic independence (political/economic power, sources, owners, advertisers), type of income, diversity (media types, firms, organisations), degree of concentration or competitiveness of media, linguistic/ethnic/national/regional diversity of journalists and media, extent of media system (variety), type of regulation/accountability

Influences at the level of the organisation: selection of topics (sources, familiarity, privileged access, subjective influences), news processing (facts fitted to a narrative, significance, framing, style, picture, words), competition effects (same stories, media hype, moral panic)

Press (institution) – all media types + set of values, rules and social relations; Power of the press (persuasion, influence) X concentration, public service media, public trust

European model

- Does a unique European model (NB! not system) exist?
 - Do models exist that differ from country to country?
-

European model

- Does a unique European model (NB! not system) exist?
 - Do models exist that differ from country to country?
 - **No.**
 - **Yes, but...** There are particular features that are common to professional journalism in most of the continental European countries (x Anglo-Saxon model)
 - **Yes,** the European model does exist with several specific characteristics that differentiate it from other models
-

European model

Anglo-American/Anglo-Saxon model – reference model, universal model – possible to hypothesize alternative/different professional models; more commercial, objectivity

European model – differences: closer relationship with politics (more partisan, development, political parallelism), journalism had to take a position (social participation, instrumentalization), press/television models, role of the state (public service media, regulation)

- Four theories of the press; normative theory of media (next time!)
-

Create your own model of media

- form 3 groups: journalists, politicians, businesspeople
 - create **key points** to push forward in the discussion
 - 20 minutes to discuss key points **inside the groups**
 - 20 minutes to discuss **between groups**
-

Some sources from the many:))

- Adserà, A., Boix, C., & Payne, M. 2003. Are You Being Served? Political Accountability and Quality of Government. *Journal of Law, Economics and Organisation* 19 (2): 445–490. doi:10.1093/jleo/ewg017
- Beattie, P. 2019. *Social Evolution, Political Psychology, and the Media in Democracy: The Invisible Hand in the U.S. Marketplace of Ideas*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. doi: 10.1007/978-3-030-02801-5
- Benson, R. 2008. Journalism: normative theories. *The international encyclopaedia of communication*, 6, 2591–2597.
- Blühdorn, I. 2007. The third transformation of democracy: On the efficient management of late-modern complexity. In I. Blühdorn & U. Jun (Eds.), *Economic efficiency – Democratic empowerment*, 299–331. Lanham: Lexington Press.
- Carey, J. 1999. In Defense of Public Journalism. In T. Glasser (Ed.), *The Idea of Public Journalism* 49–66. New York: Guilford Press.
- Carpini, M. X. D., & Keeter, S. 1996. *What Americans know about politics and why it matters*. Yale University Press.
- Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom. *Media Pluralism Monitor*. <https://cmpf.eui.eu/mpm2021-executive-summary/>
- Egelhofer, J. L., & Lecheler, S. 2019. Fake news as a two-dimensional phenomenon: A framework and research agenda. *Annals of the International Communication Association* 43(2): 97–116. doi: 10.1080/23808985.2019.1602782
- Fenton, N. (Ed.) 2009. *New Media, Old News: Journalism and Democracy in the Digital Age*. London: Routledge.
- Hanitzsch, T., & Vos, T.P. 2017. Journalistic Roles and the Struggle over institutional identity: the Discursive Constitution of journalism. *Communication theory* 27. 115–135. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/comt.12112>
- Inglehart, R., & Norris, P. 2019. *Cultural backlash. Trump, Brexit and the rise of authoritarian populism*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Jakubowicz, K. 2017. *Média a demokracie v 21. století: hledání ch modelů*. Brno: Masaryk University.
- Landman, T. 2012. Assessing the Quality of Democracy: The International IDEA Framework. *Eur Polit Sci* 11: 456–468.
- Macek, J. (2015). *Média v pohybu*. Brno: MUNI Press.
- McNair, B. 2008. Journalism and democracy. In K. Wahl-Jorgensen & T. Hanitzsch (Eds.), *The handbook of journalism studies*, 237–249. New York: Routledge.
- Rauch, J. (2015). Exploring the Alternative–Mainstream Dialectic: What “Alternative–ve Media” Means to a Hybrid Audience. *Communication, Culture & Critique* 8(1), 124–143. doi: 10.1111/cccr.12068
- Reporters Without Borders. *World Press Freedom index*. <https://rsf.org/en/ranking>
- Reuters Institute. 2021. *Digital News Report*. <https://reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/digital-news-report/2021>
- Tewksbury, D., & Rittenberg, J. 2012. *News on the Internet: Information and citizenship in the 21st century*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Toka, G. 2008. Citizen Information, Election Outcomes and Good Governance. *Electoral Studies* 27(1): 31–44. doi: 10.1016/j.electstud.2007.11.006
- Van Dalen, A. 2019. Rethinking journalist–politician relations in the age of populism: How outsider politicians delegitimize mainstream journalists. Journalism. Advance Online Publication. doi: 10.1177/1464884919887822
- Deuze, M. 2005. What is Journalism? Professional identity and ideology of journalists reconsidered. *Journalism* 6(4): 442–464. doi: 10.1177/1464884905056815
- Hanitzsch, T. 2017. Professional Identity and Roles of Journalists. Communication. Oxford Research Encyclopedias. <https://oxfordre.com/communication/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780190228613.001.0001/acrefore-9780190228613-e-95>
- Hanitzsch, T., & Vos, T.P. 2017. Journalistic Roles and the Struggle over institutional identity: the Discursive Constitution of journalism. *Communication theory* 27. 115–135. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/comt.12112>
- Hanitzsch, T., & Vos, T. P. 2018. Journalism Beyond Democracy: A new look into journalistic roles in political and everyday life. *Journalism* 19(2): 146–164. doi: 10.1177/1464884916673386
- Örnebring, H. 2013. Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better? Professional journalists on citizen journalism in six European countries. *The International Communication Gazette* 75(1): 35–53. doi: 10.1177/1748048512461761
- Reich, Z., & Hanitzsch, T. 2013. Determinants of Journalists Professional Autonomy: Individual and National Level Factors Matter More Than Organizational Ones. *Mass communication and Society*. 16(1). 133–156. DOI: 10.1080/15205436.2012.669002
- Singer, J. B. 2006. The socially responsible existentialist. A normative emphasis for journalists in a new media environment. *Journalism Studies* 7(1): 2–18. doi: 10.1080/14616700500450277
-

Thank you & enjoy FSS Day next
week!

Lucie Čejková

luc.cejkova@mail.muni.cz

PMCb1006 Political and media systems

week 8
