



EDITORIAL Number 30 Communication Papers Editora Communication Papers

We are delighted to present Volume 15, Issue 30 of Communication Papers, an international peer-reviewed journal dedicated to advancing critical scholarship in media, communication, gender studies, and media literacy. This issue brings together a diverse and interdisciplinary collection of articles, essays, and a book review that collectively explore the transformations shaping contemporary media cultures, political communication, digital technologies, gender representations, and communicative practices across global contexts.

The contributions included in this issue reflect the increasing complexity of contemporary communication environments, where digital platforms, visual cultures, algorithmic systems, political discourse, and mediated identities intersect in dynamic and often contested ways. The issue foregrounds themes such as gendered visibility, democratic participation, masculinity, technological transformation, corporate communication, philosophical inquiry in cinema, and the evolving relationship between media and power.

The opening article by Pilar Rodriguez Perez examines violence against women in politics as a critical democratic issue. Focusing on Spain, the study analyzes how digital harassment, sexist disinformation, fake imagery, and online attacks function as mechanisms aimed at silencing women's political participation. By discussing contemporary cases involving female politicians, the article demonstrates how social media platforms and emerging technologies such as deepfakes intensify gender-based political violence and contribute to democratic erosion.

Questions of gender representation are further explored in Tonči Gabelić and Victorija Car's study on masculinity and the concept of gaze in international advertising. Through a narrative analysis of television commercials, the authors investigate how the male body is increasingly commodified and objectified in contemporary media culture. At the same time, the study reveals the persistence of structural male dominance, complicating traditional understandings of gendered objectification.

In a similarly visual and representational context, Nurdan Ezmek's contribution examines corporate uniforms in the airline industry as ideological and communicative tools that construct professional identity and gender roles. Drawing on theories of representation, performativity, dramaturgy, and symbolic capital, the article demonstrates how uniforms simultaneously reproduce and transform gendered expectations within contemporary corporate culture.

Political communication and epistemic authority form the basis of Nevzat Alp Büyükyüksel's article, which analyzes Devlet Bahçeli's post-2023 discourse in Türkiye. The study conceptualizes the construction of a "moralized regime of truth" within a competitive authoritarian context and argues that truth is reframed as a mechanism of political alignment grounded in nationalism, loyalty, and state authority. The article contributes significantly to discussions surrounding post-truth politics and epistemic populism.

Technological transformations within cinematic production are addressed in Amna Shahzad Arif's study on graphic design in contemporary Pakistani cinema. Through interviews with industry professionals and academics, the article explores the role of VFX, VR, and AI technologies in shaping filmmaking processes while also highlighting the infrastructural and educational challenges facing the Pakistani film industry. The study offers valuable insight into the intersection of design, emerging technologies, and national cinema.

Cinema and philosophy intersect in Elif Demoğlu and Korhan Topçu's analysis of Roy Andersson's *A Pigeon Sat on a Branch Reflecting on Existence* through Martin Buber's philosophy of dialogue. The article offers a compelling exploration of alienation, guilt, and human relationships, demonstrating how Andersson's distinctive cinematic language invites philosophical reflection on the fragmented nature of modern existence.

In addition to the research articles, this issue features two insightful essays that broaden the thematic scope of the journal. Garcia Milian Ana Julia and León Cabrera Pablo present a study on the construction and validation of an instrument designed to evaluate the communicative quality of hospital discharge reports for patients with heart failure. Their contribution highlights the importance of communication quality within healthcare systems and emphasizes continuity of care and patient-centered communication.

Michael Pitts' essay examines the commodification of masculine anxiety within digital platform cultures, focusing particularly on the ideological transformations within online incel communities. The essay offers a timely reflection on how social media platforms mediate and monetize contemporary crises of masculinity, linking ideological discourse, mental health, and digital economies.

Finally, this issue concludes with a book review by Hasan Gürkan on Judith Butler's recent work *Who's Afraid of Gender?* (2024). The review discusses Butler's analysis of contemporary anti-gender movements and examines how gender has increasingly become the target of political, ideological, and cultural anxieties across different global contexts.

Taken together, the contributions in this issue demonstrate the continuing importance of critical media and communication scholarship in understanding rapidly transforming social realities. The articles and essays included here not only analyze contemporary media phenomena but also address broader questions concerning democracy, identity, representation, technological change, and social power.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all authors, reviewers, editorial board members, and readers who continue to support Communication Papers. Their contributions and commitment make possible the ongoing development of critical and interdisciplinary dialogue within the fields of communication and media studies.

We hope that this issue will inspire further discussions and encourage new perspectives on the challenges and possibilities emerging within contemporary media and communication landscapes.

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