



Annual Report

2016-2017





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REUTERS INSTITUTE ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

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OPPOSITE: A protester holds a national flag as a bank branch, housed in the magistracy of the Supreme Court of Justice, burns during a rally against Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro, in Caracas, Venezuela June 12, 2017. REUTERS/Carlos Garcia Rawlins



Foreword

Monique Villa

CEO - THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION

'What is the Thomson Reuters Foundation doing to counter the issue of fake news?' I lost count of the many times I got asked that question this year. My answer is simple: we fund one of the world's leading centres promoting excellence in journalism.

The Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism continues to go from strength to strength asserting its role as a key player in the field of research and thought leadership at a time when the media industry faces challenging transformation and disturbing political attacks.

In both cases, the RISJ stands ready to provide guidance. It acts as a safe forum for industry leaders from around the world to share best practice and discuss candidly. It publishes what is known as the benchmark report assessing digital news trends and consumption. But most importantly, being anchored by the strength and credibility of both Reuters and the University of Oxford, the RISJ is a beacon of professionalism, a constant reminder of the fundamental role free and independent media play for the prosperity of society.

This is particularly crucial today, at a time when disruptive forces try to create a world without facts, where falsehood is given the status of news, and where accurate reporting is discredited as propaganda.



We are navigating through uncharted waters. It is precisely at times like these that we need an institution able to guide the industry with courage and competence. I know we are in good hands: Alan Rusbridger, the Chair of the Steering Committee, is certainly the right person for this role.

And the management team, with David Levy as leader and Rasmus Nielsen as the director of research who has just been appointed Professor of Political Communications at the University, has brought another brilliant year. The Thomson Reuters Foundation is very proud to support the Institute.

Preface

Alan Rusbridger

CHAIR OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

It's difficult not to feel a twinge of sympathy for anyone editing or otherwise running a media organisation these days. Someone once memorably compared the task to rebuilding a 747 in mid-flight. It's very difficult to see where you're flying. The altitude is dizzying, the oxygen in short supply. And over the crackling radio come persistent messages of doom predicting that you'll imminently come crashing down to earth.

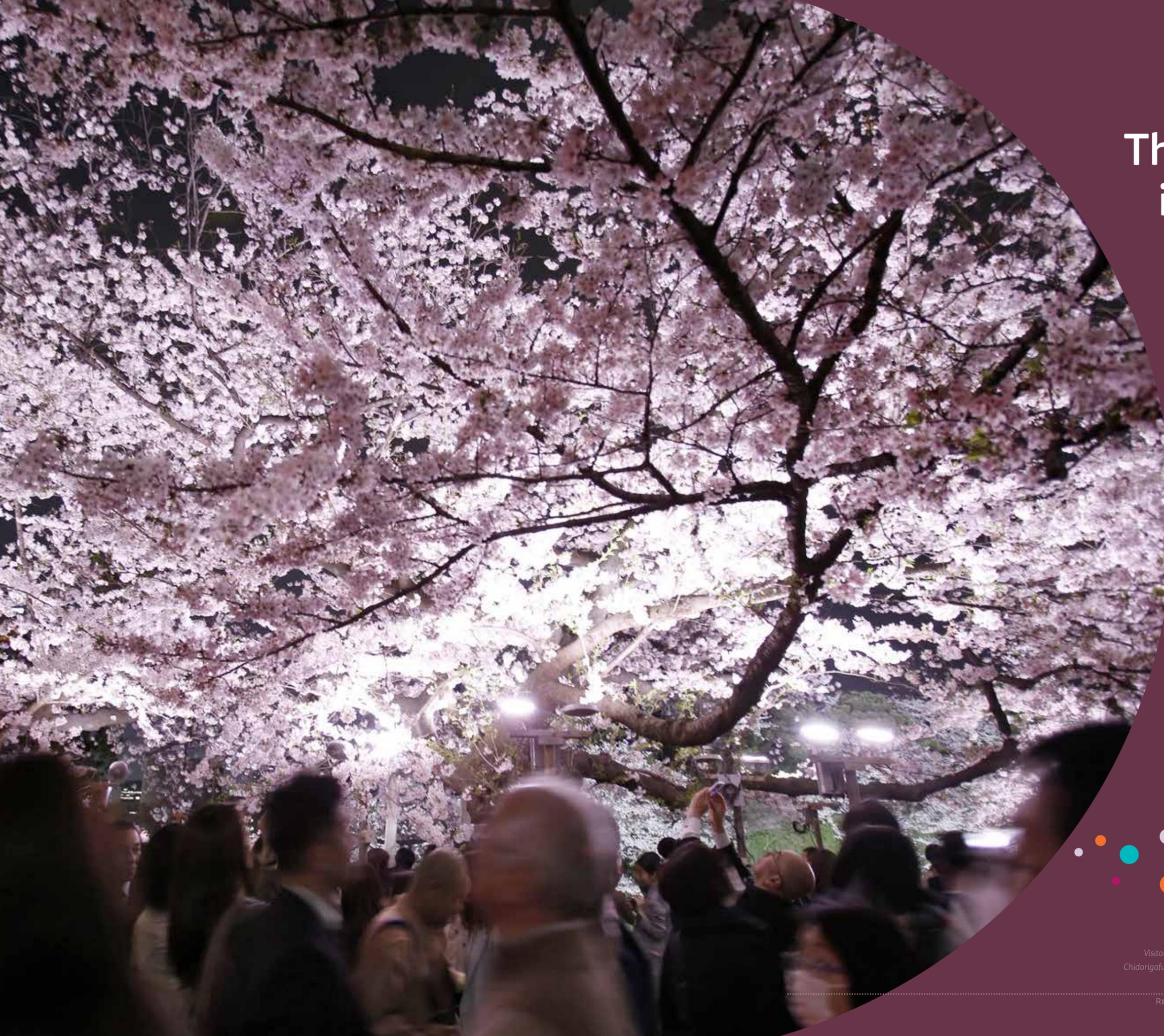
Of course, it can be exhilarating too. But there has never been more need for the practitioners in journalism to be able to escape and reflect on the turbulent revolution engulfing their trade. In other words, there's never been more need for the haven of research, exploration, and discussion that is the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism.

Over the past year – in addition to the books, research, and data that we have produced – some of the most important moments have been the gatherings of editors, CEOs, and rising stars of the future who have descended on Oxford to share their visions and thoughts about the future of journalism. They have told us they go away bubbling with ideas – and strengthened by the knowledge that everyone is facing the same challenges. Editing can be a lonely business. Knowing that the RISJ is there can make it seem a little less lonely.



And then there are the journalism fellows who fly in from all quarters of the globe to spend months in Oxford solving problems and thinking about diverse possibilities.

These opportunities to talk, share, think, debate, and research are key to the mission of the RISJ. We're proud of our record to date and look forward to building on it in the future.



The Year in Review



Visitors walk under illuminated cherry blossoms in full bloom along the Chidorigafuchi Moat in Tokyo, Japan, April 6, 2016. REUTERS/Yuya Shino

The Year in Review

David A. L. Levy
DIRECTOR

This report covers the academic year 2016–17, a period when the role of journalism in holding power to account and providing trustworthy information appeared ever more important. At the same time the forms, independence, influence, and sustainability of journalism have been under increased challenge. In some cases, what is required is greater protection, both for journalists and news organisations. For others it is new insights, ideas, and approaches, to reinvigorate and secure the future of news. We at the Reuters Institute (RISJ) are well placed to witness these pressures at first hand and try to understand and provide solutions to them, whether through the work conducted by our journalist fellows and researchers, or through the many people we meet each year, as visiting scholars, seminar speakers, and our engagement with leading journalists and industry leaders.



Against this turbulent backdrop the past year at the Institute has been one of change, expansion, and new developments. Our new Chair, Alan Rusbridger, has engaged with and inspired our journalist fellows, and been a great source of ideas about our role in tough times for journalism. In the Department of Politics and International Relations (DPIR), we had been fortunate to have the support of Liz Frazer as Head of Department until the end of 2016 and have been delighted that her successor, Louise Fawcett, has been equally supportive and engaged. And Denise Lievesley, Principal of Green Templeton College (GTC), has made a great contribution to our Steering Committee and worked hard to make our staff and fellows feel really welcome at our Oxford college home. The fact that our fellows return to their countries with such a strong affection for Oxford is largely because of the warmth of the reception and contacts they find at GTC.

One big change in the Institute was in summer 2017 when James Painter stepped down after eight very successful years as Director of the Fellowship Programme, to focus more on his research on Media and Climate Change. James has been a great ambassador for the Institute and wonderful colleague, much liked by journalist fellows and staff, and we are really pleased that he will retain an association with RISJ. We are delighted that Meera Selva, herself a former journalist fellow, started as the new Director of the Fellowship Programme in September 2017. She is an accomplished journalist with recent experience of working in Africa, Germany, and the Far East, and we know she will consolidate and expand on the success of the fellowship programme. Another major change and expansion has been the creation of the role of Director of Strategic Development, designed to strengthen our external visibility and diversify our industry links and funding through new research, engagement, and launching some short courses. We were fortunate to attract Alexandra Borchardt to Oxford to start this role in July 2017, direct from her previous post as Managing Editor of *Süddeutsche Zeitung*. We all expect to learn a lot from Alexandra and work closely with her in expanding our industry-focused activity.

I had the good fortune to spend an enjoyable research term in Australia in the autumn of 2016, working on the debate on public broadcasting there. My absence was only possible because of the support of my colleagues at the Institute and particularly the dedication of Kate Hanneford-Smith and her administrative team, and of Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, who was acting Director in my absence, alongside his extremely demanding role as Director of Research. Rasmus has led the expansion of our research team to the point where we now have nine researchers working broadly across the Digital News Project, where he

has led multiple publications and the creation of shorter factsheets around topical issues. Rasmus also worked with Alan Rusbridger and journalist fellow Heidi Skjeseth to innovate with a crowd-sourced document that generated more than 100 contributions on the topic of 'How to Deal with Powerful People Who Lie', which added a new dimension to the debate on relations between journalists and political leaders in the wake of the election of Donald Trump. We were really pleased that Rasmus was honoured by being awarded the title of Oxford's first Professor of Political Communication in Summer 2017, thereby recognising the quality of his own pioneering research, his service to the profession, and the work he does with industry to help them understand and respond to the current challenges in the media sector.

Everything we have accomplished in the past year, which has seen a record number of publications, has only been possible because of the support of our many sponsors. We are really grateful to them all. First to Monique Villa and the Thomson Reuters Foundation whose continued support for the RISJ underpins everything we do. To Google and the Digital News Initiative whose support – along with 11 other sponsors (see p. 30) – has meant that 2017 saw the biggest *Digital News Report* ever, again expertly led by Nic Newman, involving polling 70,000 people across 36 countries. To the many different sponsors who support our Fellowship Programme. Finally, to the Robert Bosch

Foundation, the NRZ Foundation, and this year the Open Society Foundation, who together support the important work led by Caroline Lees in editing the European Journalism Observatory English-language website, which features news linking journalism research and practice across Central, Eastern, and Western Europe. That bridge between research, evidence, and journalism practice is central to our purpose. As noted at the beginning, we believe our ability to link rigorous research, robust evidence, and the exchange of experience and insight from our journalist fellows and others about the ways in which journalism is practised around the world, is key to our mission, and more important than ever given the multiple challenges facing journalism today.



ABOVE: Meera Selva, Director, Journalism Fellowship Programme from September 2017



LEFT: Alexandra Borchardt, Director of Strategic Development from July 2017

BELOW: Green Templeton College in the snow, 2009. Author: Craig Webber CC – Wikipedia



RISJ: International Impact and Influence

A Global Network of Experts

We were delighted to add several new members to our international Advisory Board this year:
For a full list of Advisory Board members see page 58.



Tim Gardam - Chief Executive of the Nuffield Foundation



Ritu Kapur - Co-founder and CEO, Quintillion Media



Bill Emmott - Former Editor, The Economist



Campbell Brown - Head of News Partnerships, Facebook



Alexandra Förderl-Schmid



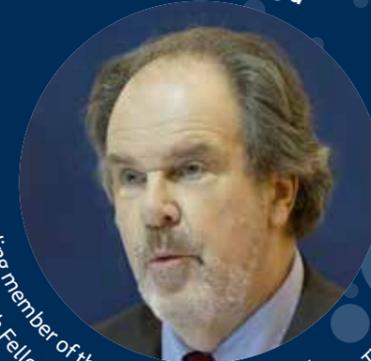
Madhav Chinnappa

Director of Strategic Relations for News and Publishers, Google

Editor-in-Chief, Der Standard (now Israel Correspondent, Süddeutsche Zeitung)



Jimmy Maymann
Former CEO, Huffington Post



John Lloyd

Founding member of the Reuters Institute, now Senior Research Fellow, contributing editor to the Financial Times



Marty Baron - Executive Editor, Washington Post

26
PUBLICATIONS

614
ALUMNI FROM
94
COUNTRIES

17k
TWITTER
FOLLOWERS

49
COUNTRIES:
PRESS COVERAGE OF
DIGITAL NEWS
REPORT 2017

The Journalist Fellowship Programme



Journalists and press freedom activists release balloons during a demonstration in solidarity with the members of the opposition newspaper Cumhuriyet who were accused of supporting a terrorist group outside a courthouse, in Istanbul, Turkey, July 24, 2017. REUTERS/Murad Sezer

The Journalist Fellowship Programme 2016/17

James Painter

DIRECTOR OF THE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

This year we welcomed 21 journalists from 17 countries around the world taking part in the programme. The interchange of ideas, experiences, and views between them remained the glue that underpinned the journalists' high appreciation of the programme.



We were particularly pleased to welcome Yosley Carrero Chávez as the first Cuban journalist ever to be part of the programme. Although we did not have any new sponsors this year, we were very grateful for the continued support for a second year from the Lion Rock fellowship for Pik Shan Pang (Clarice), a reporter for Apple Daily in Hong Kong; from the Wincott Fellowship for journalists from the Nation Media group in Nairobi (Laban Onserio); and from the Google Digital News Initiative (Judith Argila from Spain and Alexander Fanta from Austria).

We are very sorry that the Foundation for Broadcast Culture in South Korea is ending their support for the programme, as we have benefited enormously from having journalists from that country engaging with the other fellows.

As ever, we remain immensely grateful to all our sponsors, who continued to support the programme and allowed it to flourish. And we are particularly indebted to Green Templeton College who provide such a welcoming home in Oxford to the fellows.

The research papers written by many of the journalists remain a main component of the programme, and they continue to receive widespread media coverage and publicity. A detailed list can be found on pp. 36–42.

But the programme is much more than that. For example, we visited a wide variety of media organisations in London, including Thomson Reuters, the BBC, Al Jazeera English, the *Financial Times*, CNN, and the *Guardian*, where senior editors spoke freely to the fellows.

From the feedback at the end of the programme, we know that among the most enjoyed seminars are those given by the journalists about the situation in their countries. This year we were particularly privileged to have had first-hand accounts of the perilous state of independent journalism in Gaza (Abeer Ayyoub); of the immense obstacles facing international broadcasters in Russia (Olga Smirnova); and the challenges of monitoring air pollution in China (Jing Li).

On a personal note, I would like to thank the 180-odd journalists who have passed through our doors in the last eight years during my time as director of the programme. You have been always thoughtful, often courageous, and never dull. Most of you have even been prepared to laugh at my jokes, and let me win at the international food evenings! I cannot think of a more rewarding, more enjoyable, and more thought-provoking 'job'.



THIS PAGE, RIGHT: Laban-Cliff Onserio and James Painter at the International evening

OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP: Fellows' final presentations at Green Templeton College

MIDDLE: Lord Patten (Chair of Advisory Board) with Jing Li (left) and Pik Shan Pang (right)

BOTTOM: Fellows' visiting The Guardian

Fellows' Focus:

Global Issues, Fresh Perspectives

Fake News around the World

Heidi Skjeseth

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Norway
SPONSOR: Fritt Ord Foundation



The political lie is as old as politics itself. Yet something changed in 2016 with the election of Donald Trump as president of the United States. Mr Trump had presented falsehood upon falsehood throughout his campaign. While US journalists tried to hold him accountable, the falsehoods had few consequences. Many expected Mr Trump to change after the presidential inauguration. He didn't. According to a list published in the *New York Times*, Mr Trump lied in public every day for the first 40 days of his presidency.

The amount of falsehoods coming from the White House is changing the relationship between the political journalist and politicians. It has never been an easy relationship, and it has always required a degree of trust. Populist politicians around the world have found inspiration in Trump's success, and journalists in other countries are also struggling to find a constructive way to cover political lies and to hold their politicians accountable.



ABOVE: A little boy waits for the start of a rally with U.S. President Donald Trump at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, Kentucky, U.S. March 20, 2017. REUTERS/Jonathan Ernst

Donald Trump often refers to news reports he dislikes as 'fake news'. However, the term is more commonly used to describe false information created for profit or with the intention to mislead. We have indeed seen the spread of fake news articles not only in the US election campaign in 2016, but in countries all around the world. Social media enable quick and efficient spread of unverified rumours, in a time where trust in established media is falling. This challenges the very core of democracy, dependent on a public debate based on a certain amount of agreement on facts, accountability, and ultimately a degree of trust in institutions. We cannot stop our politicians from lying, but journalists are trying to find a better way to cover them. We cannot stop fake news, but we have to try to limit its impact.

Digital Scenario in Cuba

Yosley Carrero Chávez

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Cuba
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation



Cuba is increasingly going online. The digital scenario is affecting journalism at different levels including the production of content, the distribution and consumption of news, and media management models.

Legacy state media still cling on to most of the audience against the backdrop of a 99% literacy rate, yet there is one of the lowest internet penetrations in Latin America at around 30% of the population. Cuban state and institutional media are available online through their websites and new digital outlets. However, the spread of internet has also brought emerging media players and platforms. Some are based in Havana, some overseas, some are sponsored by foreign NGOs, whereas others are mainly funded by advertising, generated by Cuba's growing private sector.

The editorial lines of different media players cover a heterogeneous perspective, including Cuba-US relations, the life stories of ordinary Cubans, sports, fashion news, or political topics, and even investigative journalism.

The domestic digital landscape is also made up of bloggers commenting on economic and political topics, gender, race, LGBT rights, and theoretical discussions about socialism and public policies adopted by the government. So the digital scenario does offer different approaches to reality to that offered by the traditional media, although they are not always that different.

The social media scene is, by and large, dominated by Facebook which constitutes an active platform to discuss topics often outside the traditional media's editorial agenda, or to share articles taken from local blogs, websites, or foreign news brands.

Some Cubans are also accessing news from International TV channels by using illegal antennas. A larger proportion of citizens are paying for 'The Weekly Package', an alternative and indigenous network by which offline Cubans can afford access to a compilation of mainly online content and programmes generated the previous week by global media.

The diversity of media players has made the Cuban digital ecosystem a more polarised space, reflecting not only huge differences between legacy and new media but also between blogs, websites, or digital projects in the new digital context.



ABOVE: A fan takes a photograph while sitting on a pole before a free outdoor concert by the Rolling Stones at the Ciudad Deportiva de la Habana sports complex in Havana, Cuba March 25, 2016. REUTERS/Ivan Alvarado

RIGHT: A man records with a tablet dancers performing outside a cinema where the "Cuerda Viva" (Live Strings) alternative music festival is taking place, in Havana, February 26, 2016. REUTERS/Alexandre Meneghini

Saudi Arabia and Social Media

Micheline Tobia

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Lebanon
SPONSOR: Asfari Foundation

Saudi Arabia is known for its restrictions on freedom of expression. Nevertheless, the internet, and particularly social media, are being used by creative people to push the boundaries.

Social media platforms are widely used by Saudi residents, who spend approximately five hours a day on them, according to the latest research done by YouGov. YouTube, in particular, is very popular. A 2015 BBC report noted that the country had the highest per capita rate of YouTube use of any country in the world. Twitter, mostly popular among 18-24-year-olds, serves as a public forum, with Saudi hashtags frequently ranking among the most popular worldwide.

Women's rights is one of the topics discussed online. Noon al-Niswa is the first YouTube one-woman comedy show created by Hatoon Kadi. In it she covers sarcastically a variety of social issues that women face in Saudi Arabia. Her show has now more than 346,000 subscribers, and she was named one of the BBC's 100 Women in 2014.



Women's right to drive is a topic that has always been a source of discussion in the country and abroad. Comedy played a role in this too. The video of 'No Woman, No Drive', a capella parody of Bob Marley's famous song, went viral, gathering over 14.4 million views, and was a light-hearted contribution to the conversation. Another such musical video, 'Hwages' (loosely translated as 'concerns'), had women wearing the black niqab dancing, singing, skateboarding, and playing basketball. The catchy tune included phrases like 'If only God would rid us of men' or '[Men] are making us go crazy'.

Social media are used by everyone and some of the most followed Twitter accounts in the country are those of religious scholars. Despite some positive examples, things can go wrong: Hamza Kashghari, a young journalist and poet, was accused of insulting the Prophet in three tweets, or Raif Badawi, a blogger, was sentenced to 1,000 lashes and 10 years in prison for insulting Islam and apostasy for some of his writings posted in his blog.

Even though social media platforms can be great for exposing creativity, circumventing restrictions, and having a say in public discourse, there is still a long way to go.



ABOVE: A Muslim pilgrim sits on the top of Mount Al-Noor, where Muslims believe

Prophet Mohammad received the first words of the Koran through Gabriel in the Hera cave, ahead of the annual haj pilgrimage in the holy city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia September 7, 2016. REUTERS/Ahmed Jadallah

Journalist Fellows 2016/17

RESEARCH PROJECTS:



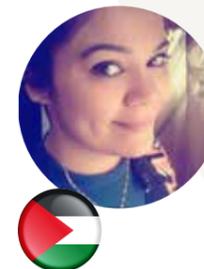
Judith Argila

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Spain
PLACE OF WORK: Corporació Catalana de Mitjans Audiovisuals
POSITION AT WORK: Head of New Platforms in Digital Media
SPONSOR: Google Digital News Initiative

“Exceptional might be the word that best describes the people I had the pleasure to meet in my time in Oxford: exceptional hearts with exceptional minds and with a bright, inspiring, always ready sense of humour.”

How to create video news that rock in social media

Since late 2015, video has gained prominence and enriched its features in all major social media platforms. With half of online users considering social media a source for news discovery, newsrooms are struggling to find a successful formula to adapt their content to the new format trend. Data show however, that 71% of the audience still prefers text over video when it comes to news consumption. Based on content analysis and interviews with heads of video, social media, and business, this paper analyses how eight British and Spanish newsrooms face the challenges of video production for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube – and what kind of video news have made them successful.



Abeer Ayoub

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Palestine
PLACE OF WORK: Freelance Journalist
SPONSOR: Mona Megalli

Ethical dilemmas of reporting in conflict zones

My research paper discusses the ethical dilemmas journalists face when reporting from a conflict zone. I am citing Gaza as my primary example for most of the cases. The paper aims to present ethical guidelines for journalists in conflict zones, and also gives suggestions for media outlets to improve the skills of its correspondents there.

“I appreciated being in Oxford after coming from a conflict zone, it's so peaceful and green, I fell in love with it.”



Yosley Carrero Chávez

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Cuba
PLACE OF WORK: Cuban Institute of Radio and Television
POSITION AT WORK: Reporter
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation

Fashionable spot? The making of Cuba as a business opportunity and tourist destination

On 17 December 2014, the American and Cuban Presidents made a historic announcement, starting a new era of bilateral relations devoted to enhancing economic and social ties. This study presents a content analysis of 231 news stories, articles, and editorials from the online editions of the New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Miami Herald, and Tampa Bay Times between 17 and 24 December 2014. The research paper analyses, amongst other issues, how favourably Cuba was portrayed in terms of a business opportunity or tourist destination.

“Being the first Cuban Fellow at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism was an immense privilege and a rewarding experience.”

RESEARCH PROJECTS:



Krzysztof Dzieciolowski

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Poland
PLACE OF WORK: Vision House, Poland
POSITION AT WORK: Director/Producer/Founder
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation

Is there a chance for non-partisan media in Poland?

Poland's liberal and conservative media reached unprecedented levels of polarisation and politicisation after the Law and Justice party took power in 2015. Behind the main question about bias and partisanship, the leading Polish editors-in-chief from left to right give their take on how has the media landscape changed since the very first commitment to free press undertaken in 1989; how journalism in Poland has been shaped by the historical political divisions, communist legacy, anti-communist press, and the 2010 Smolensk plane crash that dominates current political life. The paper situates Poland within a larger context of the world press facing a challenge from social media and illiberal governments.



Alexander Fanta

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Austria
PLACE OF WORK: Austrian Press Agency (APA)
POSITION AT WORK: Journalist
SPONSOR: Google Digital News Initiative

Putting Europe's robots on the map – automation in news agencies

News agencies across Europe and the US have adopted machine-generated content over the past few years. Newsrooms from Oslo to Paris now produce thousands of simple stories a month on sports and finance with the help of algorithms. This paper aims to show how automation is changing the work and output of media organisations, and discusses the key role of data-processing capabilities for automation. The research highlights how 'robot journalism' creates new products and might augment the capabilities of human journalists in the future.



Serusha Govender

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: South Africa
PLACE OF WORK: Freelance
POSITION AT WORK: Broadcast Journalist, Multimedia Producer, Foreign Correspondent
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation

Mistakes, muddles, and mixed messages: how disjointed science and health reporting is confusing the issues and costing lives

The recent ebola outbreak in West Africa kicked up a hornet's nest of ethical issues for the media. Many saw the general news coverage as sensationalist, unbalanced, inaccurate, and riddled with rumours and conspiracy theories. This seemed to be driven by a dearth of official information and an obvious lack of credible experts and trained science journalists to adequately and ethically cover the story. Some theorists argue the poor media coverage may have actually exacerbated the spread of disease by not providing accurate information quickly to the people who needed it the most. This paper takes a closer look at the media's coverage of the ebola outbreak (and subsequent zika and yellow fever outbreaks) and analyses what mistakes the media may have made, looks into the possible reasons why, and tries to explore potential solutions so that these mistakes are not repeated in the future.

Sharing experiences with these talented Reuters fellows and spending this time at Oxford has been an incredible opportunity that will absolutely have a resoundingly positive impact on me and my career for many years to come.

RESEARCH PROJECTS:



Panu Karhunen

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Finland
PLACE OF WORK: Ilta-Sanomat, Finland
POSITION AT WORK: News editor for the ISTV
SPONSOR: Helsingin Sanomat Foundation

Closer to the story? Accessibility in mobile journalism

In the past 10 years mobile journalism has spread around the world. It has been said that solo journalism can lead to more personal and more intimate journalism. This research attempts to discover how mobile journalism affects accessibility. Can journalists get closer to the story utilising mobile journalism? Are people more prepared to give interviews to a mobile journalist than to a two-person TV crew? In the research, Karhunen interviewed 11 mobile journalists from different media outlets. He also conducted a field experiment in a shopping centre in Helsinki. The experiment showed that mobile journalism can be a less intimidating way to interview people than a two-person TV crew.



Jae Young Kim

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: South Korea
PLACE OF WORK: Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation (MBC)
POSITION AT WORK: Deputy Editor/Newsroom
SPONSOR: Foundation for Broadcast Culture (FBC)

How to communicate better in disease-related disaster outbreaks

Disease-related disasters are now becoming more than a seasonal crisis all over the world. The role of the media is more important than ever. To manage it successfully you need the right information at the right time, which the media should be providing as a public service. This research reviewed the MERS situation in South Korea in 2015 which resulted in being the second worst MERS case after the Middle East countries. Should the media deliver all available information to the public? Or should the media join the authorities in holding back information? Who is responsible for the social and economic chaos, or failure of trust in the media? The research is based on interviews with journalists on the health beat or who reported on the disease disaster.

Entering internet in reality. So many people to meet, seminars to attend, and places to go... the command is in your hands.



Satoshi Kusakabe

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Japan
PLACE OF WORK: The Mainichi
POSITION AT WORK: Staff Writer
SPONSOR: Self-funded

Freedom of information legislation and application: Japan and the UK

The number of countries which have freedom of information (FOI) legislation has been increasing. FOI is a fundamental human right as well as one of the most important tools for journalists these days because it enables them to be free from the risk of being controlled by sources under the 'post-truth' era. Journalists in Japan and the UK have been using FOI since the laws came into force more than 10 years ago. I conducted comparative analysis in both a quantitative and qualitative way on how journalists in Japan and the UK have utilised the FOI legislation, and identified some differences and common challenges.

Fellows' Voices

“The fellowship at RISJ was an opportunity not only to learn more about journalism, but to reflect upon why it is important and what the role of journalists is in society. I think I have profited immensely from it.”
ALEXANDER FANTA



“Everything is so new to me!”
SATOSHI



“The fellowship at Oxford gave me time to reflect, to exchange ideas and think about the future of journalism. Best time of my life!”
OLGA



“Oxford adventure, the city, the university and the college, have offered a wonderful mix of friends, professional contacts, expertise, fun, and exposure to ideas that will keep me going for years to come.”
KRZYSZTOF DZIECIOLOWSKI

“We had such a great time with our fantastic group. Now I have over 20 journalist friends from all over the world!”
PANU



“A typical day in Oxford is a full diary of meeting new people, reading new books, learning new knowledge, and having new experience.”
JING LI



“I have never discussed the essence of journalism so intensely and deeply as during this fellowship.”
ANASTASIA



“I don't think I've ever learned more. The combination of the journalism insights from the Reuters Institute, the academic brilliance of Oxford University, and the experience and friendship of the wonderful fellows from around the world has given me more inspiration and knowledge than I could imagine.”
HEIDI

“Studying at Oxford was the chance of a lifetime. I got a lot of fresh ideas what I want to do as a journalist and so many new friends – eternally grateful for that!”
ILONA TURTOLO

Journalist Fellows 2016/17



Jung Min Lee

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: South Korea
PLACE OF WORK: KBS (Korean Broadcasting System)
POSITION AT WORK: Reporter on Political-Foreign affairs section
SPONSOR: Foundation for Broadcast Culture (FBC)

“Wonderful time to think about myself, journalism, and the world, surrounded by amazing people!”

RESEARCH PROJECTS:

Two different voices from one broadcaster: why online news of broadcasters publishes different messages from their TV news

Broadcasters in South Korea currently meet the challenges of survival in different kinds of media outlets by producing two kinds of coverage, online news and TV news, which are produced by the same newsroom. Despite a lot of effort over the years, they are yet to establish proper strategies for responding to the new environment and achieving the desired results. At the moment, they try to make their online news completely different to their TV news in format and even tone. This paper focuses on the reasons why both TV news and online news became different to each other and what conditions could make them pull together to be competitive. It focuses on a case study of the reports by the Korean broadcasters on the current controversial missile issue.



Jing Li

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: China
PLACE OF WORK: South China Morning Post
POSITION AT WORK: Senior Reporter
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation

Liberating or Constraining? How technology capital is reshaping the media landscape in China

The booming of Chinese tech companies led to an influx of tech capital into the media sector, while innovation in mobile payments seems to be creating new business models for content providers. This research adds to the debate on whether information technologies are a force of liberation or of repression from the perspective of journalism in China. Despite censorship, investigative journalism flourished for over a decade amid the marketisation of traditional media, so how is the boom in new media changing this? With social media becoming a major venue for news consumption, how is it changing the way news is produced and consumed? Has it created a more pluralistic arena for news?



Heini Maksimainen

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Finland
PLACE OF WORK: Freelancer
SPONSOR: Helsingin Sanomat Foundation

“I used to look at journalism from a narrow national perspective. Studying in such an international environment broadened my horizon and made me realise that there's a whole wide world out there.”

Improving the quality of health journalism: when reliability meets engagement

Health journalism has a bad reputation. One day something is good for you, and the next day it's bad. This research paper tells us how to stop producing confusing headlines and write reliable stories that get shared. I interviewed internationally recognised journalists about better ways of doing health journalism. They shared the same advice: stop reporting the latest research findings and focus on building a bigger picture. A good health story doesn't only deliver facts but it puts them into a context. It looks at the evidence and helps the reader to understand how significant the new information is. Also, it questions the arguments and evaluates their scientific validity. Contrary to popular belief, one doesn't need scary 'this food causes cancer' headlines to go viral. A mixture of good storytelling and evidence-based reporting works too.

Journalist Fellows 2016/17



Laban-Cliff Onserio

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Kenya
PLACE OF WORK: Nation Media Group
POSITION AT WORK: Business News Anchor and Reporter
SPONSOR: Wincott Foundation

“3 months of career life worth every second of it! Truly Transformed... Viva RISJ!”

RESEARCH PROJECTS:

What can Kenya's Nation Media Group learn from international media organisations to improve business reporting?

I studied the way changes in technology and social media have altered the way business news is reported by a variety of UK and international media outlets, including the *Financial Times*. I examined the points of similarity and difference between the media and news consumption in the West compared to Kenya. After several interviews with business editors from a variety of news outlets, and a week-long stay at the *Financial Times*, I drew up a list of recommendations for the Nation Group, including collapsing the walls between the different platforms, audience engagement, a digital-first culture, and training to help the transition.



Pik Shan Pang

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Hong Kong
PLACE OF WORK: Apple Daily, Hong Kong
POSITION AT WORK: Senior reporter
SPONSOR: Lion Rock Spirit Fellowship

“It's a luxury moment to study as a Reuters Journalist fellow, which gave me insight into the future of media development and the friendship of journalist fellows from different backgrounds!”

The rise of citizen journalism after the 2014 Umbrella movement in Hong Kong and its impact on traditional media: a comparative study of the growth of citizen journalism in Hong Kong and the UK

Press freedom in Hong Kong has continually decreased since the territory's handover from the United Kingdom to China in 1997. Citizen journalism has been studied before, but relatively little attention has been paid to the rise of citizen journalism in Hong Kong, especially since the Umbrella movement in 2014. The paper argues that citizen journalism reveals a great deal about the development of democracy in the territory, and the advanced digital technology enables the public to participate in newsgathering and to become content providers. It brings a revolutionary moment to Hong Kong newsrooms, changing the editorial power from newsroom to the audience. Finding a way to engage with citizens in newsgathering has become a critical concern. The paper analyses the reasons for the rise of citizen journalism in Hong Kong, how professional journalism is reacting to citizen journalism, and the similarities and differences between citizen journalism in Hong Kong and the United Kingdom.



Furquan Siddiqui

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: India
PLACE OF WORK: Hindustan Times, New Delhi
POSITION AT WORK: Senior reporter (multimedia)
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation

Chasing stories to death: security risks and threats to journalists in India

Even before populism and the cacophony of hyper-nationalism took over the Western world, India was already in the firm grip of nationalism. In the current political environment, the research paper studies its impact on the Indian media and its partisan nature. At a time when there are attempts to control the media, the paper details the threats and security risks to journalists in India, a country considered to be at peace. It also gives an insight into how journalists are finding it difficult to report on issues in an increasingly polarised country, while they are systematically discredited, slandered, or at times, killed.

RESEARCH PROJECTS:



Christoph Schlemmer

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Austria
PLACE OF WORK: Vienna
POSITION AT WORK: Business Reporter
SPONSOR: Austria Press Agency (APA)

Speed is not everything: how news agencies use audience metrics

This research paper examines the use of audience metrics by news agencies. Traditionally newswires focused solely on metrics like speed, scoops, accuracy, and impartiality. With the rise of social media, the audience cannot be ignored any more and web analytics now may have an impact on editorial decision-making and therefore reporting. My paper shows the different approaches of several newswires regarding audience metrics and what actions they take based on audience data. News agencies' work differs from that of digital news companies, and that is why they need to find their own approach towards audience metrics.



Heidi Skjeseth

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Norway
PLACE OF WORK: Dagsavisen
POSITION AT WORK: US Correspondent
SPONSOR: Fritt Ord Foundation

All the president's lies: media coverage of lies in the US and France

The political lie is as old as politics itself. But the unprecedented amount of falsehoods coming from the White House is changing the relationship between the political journalist and politicians. It has never been an easy relationship, and it has often been strained, but it has always required a degree of trust. Populist politicians around the world have found inspiration in Donald Trump's success, and journalists in other countries are also struggling to find a constructive way to cover political lies. I spoke to reporters, editors, and fact-checkers in the US and France to find out if and how the many falsehoods have changed political journalism and the media coverage.



Olga Smirnova

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Russia
PLACE OF WORK: BBC World Service
POSITION AT WORK: Producer/Correspondent
SPONSOR: BBC

Russian TV: contesting European values

Russia has been accused of conducting an information war against European Union states and the West. In my paper I consider whether the output of Russian TV channels may be interpreted as part of such a disinformation campaign. I investigate the purposes of such efforts and attempt to quantify them. I study two Russian channels: RT, broadcasting for international audiences, and the other, First Channel, one of the most popular domestic channels. I concentrate on how they portray Europe and particularly its current migration crisis. By analysing how the themes in these news bulletins are framed I draw conclusions about Russian priorities and likely intentions behind messages targeted at European and domestic audiences.

RESEARCH PROJECTS:



Micheline Tobia

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Lebanon
PLACE OF WORK: Mashallah News, Lebanon
POSITION AT WORK: Co-founder and Editor
SPONSOR: Asfari Foundation

Lebanon's mental health and its media issues

Mental health issues have been a widespread problem in Lebanon. Data show that 25% of the Lebanese adult population will encounter at least one mental health disorder at some point in their lives. Stigma and the lack of awareness are still very strong, leading only 10% of people who need it to seek treatment. The media have an important role in this. While they could be an effective tool to raise awareness and inform the public, they could also push the stigmatisation further if the coverage is not done in a proper, ethical, and informed way. This research paper asks: when the Lebanese media cover mental health, how do they cover it? Since they do not cover the topic on a regular basis, a specific incident of a death by suicide which made the headlines in August 2016 was picked, to evaluate how the media reacted and reported it.

The experience was so intense that it will take me several months to process it all. The fellows made me more hopeful about journalism.



Ilona Turtola

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Finland
PLACE OF WORK: Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE
POSITION AT WORK: News Reporter
SPONSOR: Helsingin Sanomat Foundation

How do social media build the professional identity of journalists?

Social media platforms are becoming increasingly important in enabling journalists to reach audiences and find ideas for stories. This research examines which platforms journalists use, whether they separate public and private life there, and what they think about objectivity in social media. Based on interviews with journalists from Finland and the UK, this research indicates that professional identity on social media is formed of four pillars: expertise on specific topics, media outlets' social media guidelines, freedom, and spontaneity. Freedom means that journalists (usually) know the social media guidelines but, after that, they basically do whatever they want. Spontaneity means that journalists have started using social media on their own initiative and do not engage in any specific social media routines.



Anastasia Valeeva

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Russia
PLACE OF WORK: Freelance Data Journalist
POSITION AT WORK: Journalist
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation

Open data in a closed political system: open data investigative journalism in Russia

In this study, I wanted to show how open data are used for investigative storytelling in Russia, and how traditional investigative journalism is embracing data. To answer these questions, the study draws on a combination of semi-structured interviews with investigative journalists and open data experts, case studies, and qualitative content analysis. In the final section, I discuss the existing barriers and provide guidelines on how to make investigative data journalism stronger in Russia.



Research and Publications



A Buddhist monk lights a candle at Wat Phra Dhammakaya during a ceremony on Makha Bucha Day in Pathum Thani province, north of Bangkok February 22, 2016. The Dhammakaya temple is regarded as the country's richest Buddhist temple. Makha Bucha Day honours Buddha and his teachings, and falls on the full moon day of the third lunar month. REUTERS/Jorge Silva

Developing RISJ Research 2016-2017

Digital News Project Rasmus Kleis Nielsen DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH



The Digital News Project deals with how digital media and news use is changing across the world and how news organisations are adapting to these changes. It is the biggest research project the Reuters Institute has ever hosted, and is funded by a grant from Google's Digital News Initiative.

The project builds on and extends our annual *Digital News Report* by expanding the number of countries covered in our survey of news media use, by letting us supplement our survey research on news use with computational social science analysis of big data as well as more qualitative work, and by enabling us to systematically research how different news organisations in different countries are navigating a changing environment. In 2017, the Digital News Project allowed us to significantly expand the international footprint of the Digital News Report by adding a range of additional markets in Asia-Pacific and Latin America to better understand similarities and differences in how media use and news is changing around the world.

The core components of the Digital News Project are as follows.

- The annual *Digital News Report*, led by Nic Newman, working with Dr Richard Fletcher and Dr Antonis Kalogeropoulos as well as our network of partners across the countries covered.
- Research on how private sector legacy news organisations like commercial broadcasters and newspapers are adapting, led by Dr Alessio Cornia.
- Research on how public service media are adapting, led by Dr Annika Sehl.
- Research on how online-only news organisations in Europe are developing new editorial, distribution, and funding strategies for journalism, led by Dr Tom Nicholls.
- Deep-dives focused on specific issues central to a changing environment. In 2016/2017, we have published reports on many different pressing issues, including how fact-checking sites are evolving across Europe, how legacy and digital-born news media shape political discussions on social media, and on editorial innovation around new formats like virtual reality and mobile alerts, involving a range of both internal and external researchers.

The project is pursued in line with the Reuters Institute mission to connect research with the issues faced by journalism and news media around the world. We have therefore invested in continually publishing and promoting ongoing research results in accessible formats and a timely manner, with reports available for free download, promoted via social media, and at professional, industry, and policymaker events including at the BBC, the European Parliament, the General Editors' Network 2017 Summit, the International Journalism Festival, and many others. It is a real testament to the relevance and reputation of our research that we have been invited to speak so often by many different stakeholders all over the world. In addition, we have presented our ongoing work at academic conferences and have published more in-depth analysis in some of the most important academic journals in our field, including the *Journal of Communication*, *Journalism Studies*, *New Media & Society*, and many others.

The Digital News Project thus continues to deliver on our commitment to connecting independent, evidence-based, timely, and relevant research with the issues faced by journalists and media all over the world. We are excited to continue to develop this truly international, comparative, and collaborative research project, working with both industry and academic partners to develop a more in-depth understanding of the key challenges and opportunities ahead for journalism in Europe and beyond.

In 2017, the Digital News Project allowed us to significantly expand the international footprint... by adding a range of additional markets in Asia-Pacific and Latin America

Digital News Report 2017 Nic Newman RESEARCH ASSOCIATE REUTERS INSTITUTE

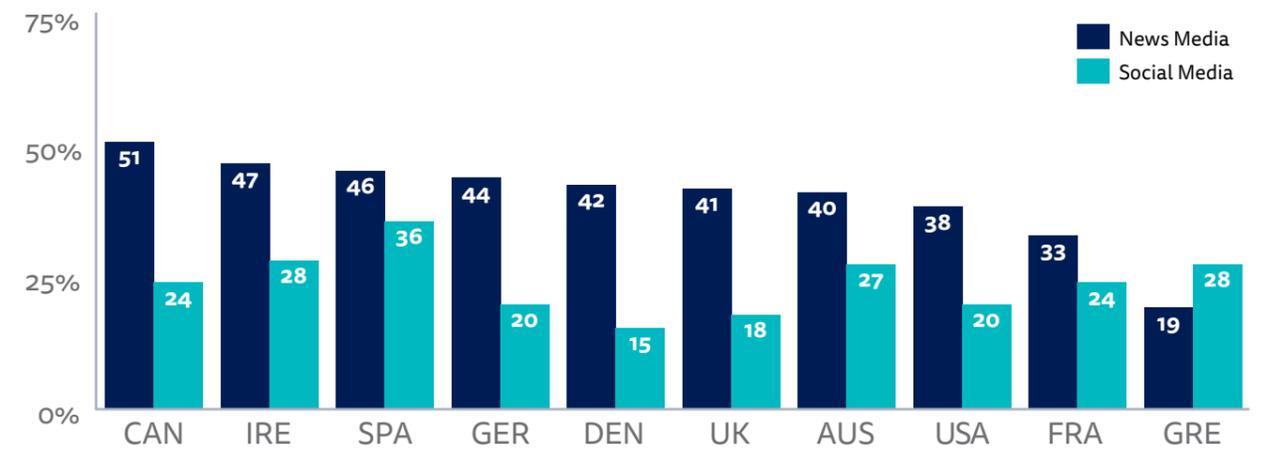


This was our sixth report and our most comprehensive yet, based on a survey of more than 70,000 people in 36 markets, along with additional focus groups in four countries. A key focus remains in Europe where we added Slovakia, Croatia, and Romania for the first time – but we also added four markets in Asia (Taiwan, Hong Kong, Malaysia, and Singapore), along with three additional Latin American countries (Argentina, Chile, and Mexico).

This year's report came amid intense soul-searching in the news industry about fake news, failing business models, and the power of platforms. It revealed high levels of dissatisfaction with the quality of news in many countries, and for those using social media in particular.

Only a quarter (24%) of survey respondents said that social media is doing a good job in separating fact from fiction, compared to 40% for the news media. In countries like the US (20%/38%), and the UK (18%/41%), people are twice as likely to have faith in the news media. Only in Greece do more people think social media is doing a better job, primarily because they have very low confidence in news media (28%/19%).

Figure 1. Proportion that agree the news media/social media does a good job in helping separate fact from fiction - selected countries



Q6_2017_1/2. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement - The news media/social media does a good job in helping me distinguish fact from fiction. Base: Total sample in each country

Qualitative comments from 10 countries as part of this year's survey suggest that users feel the combination of a lack of rules and algorithms that reward strong emotional content may be encouraging low quality or 'fake news' to spread quickly.

These findings help explain the urgency with which Facebook and other platforms are looking to fact check news stories, penalise bad actors, and tweak algorithms to ensure users see a wider range of stories.

There is no telling who is sharing what, and most titles are clickbait-y so people share without reading what the information is within the article

FEMALE (21), USA

Many news organisations have been refocusing their business on high-quality unique journalism that people would be prepared to pay for, as well as ways to demonstrate the transparency, fairness, and accountability of their journalism (fact-checking, etc.). The *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Washington Post* have been leading this charge in the United States where the report showed a significant uptick in consumers prepared to pay for online news (up seven percentage points on last year). Almost a third of those paying (29%) say they have done it to help support journalism, more than double the all-country average. Much of the growth has come from under 35s, a

group that has already shown itself prepared to dig into its pocket for other online media through services like Netflix and Spotify.

These figures provide some hope for the news industry, though they may just be a short-term reaction to a political shock (the election of Donald Trump). They are certainly not universal trends. In Asia, Latin America, and Southern Europe the focus on advertising income continues, while the willingness (or ability) of readers to pay directly is more limited.

Figure 2. Online news payment remain flat but there has been an upsurge in the USA - selected countries

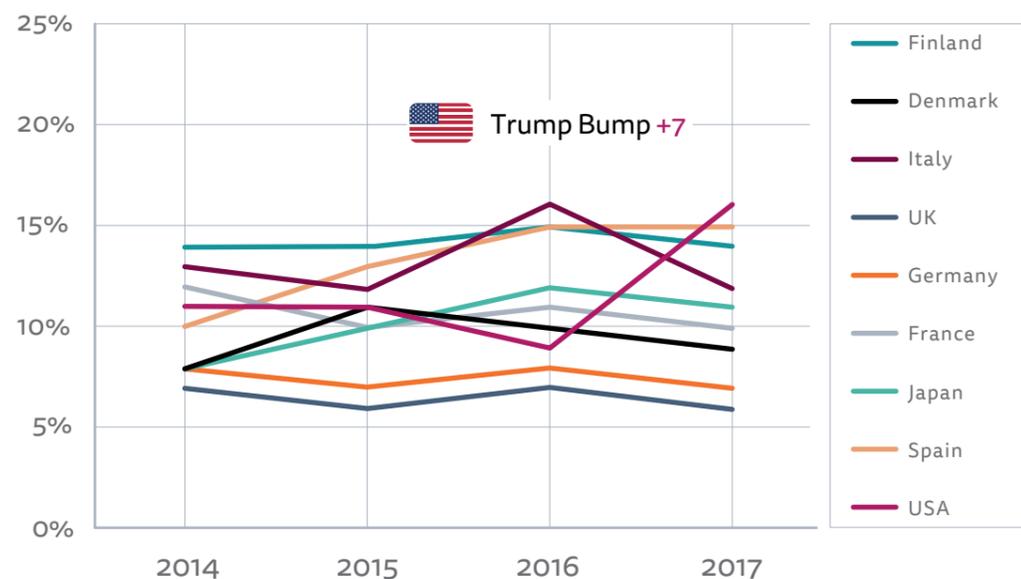


Figure 3. Record growth since November 2016



ABOVE: The London launch of the *Digital News Project* report at Edelman, June 2017. Chaired by Ed Williams, CEO Edelman UK

Panelists from left: Renée Kaplan; Patrick Walker; Janine Gibson and James Harding

It's a petri dish for ideological fake news

MALE (32), USA

After six years of growth, our data suggest that in our love affair with social media may have peaked. The use of Facebook for news remain high at 54% overall, but has fallen in over half of our countries after five years of continuous growth. This could relate to the debate over fake news, or the way Facebook has changed its algorithms to focus more on friends and family. It may also be related to the rapid growth of messaging apps like WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, and Line, with together are used for news by 23% of respondents.

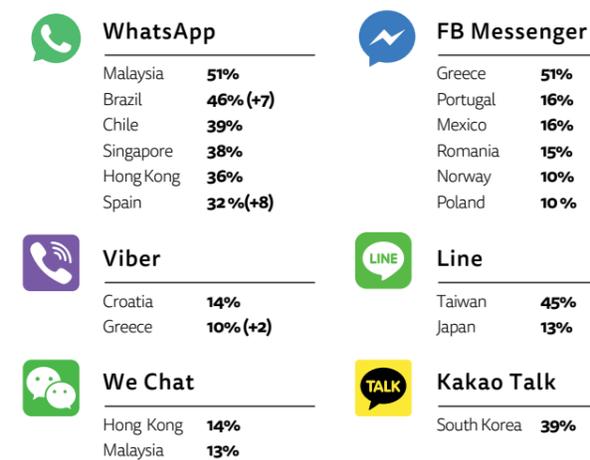
Impact of the Research

The report generated hundreds of articles in dozens of countries including coverage in the *Financial Times*, *Washington Post*, *Le Figaro*, the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *El País*, *The Globe and Mail*, *Der Spiegel* and *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, the BBC, ABC, RTE, and CBC.

The report was launched at the Global Editors Network in Vienna on 22 June and at another event on the same day at the Tow Center at the University of Columbia in New York. A London discussion at Edelman involved James Harding, Director News at the BBC, Janine Gibson, Editor of BuzzFeed News, Patrick Walker from Facebook, and Renée Kaplan from the *Financial Times*. Further locally organized events were or are being held in Helsinki, Oslo, Hamburg, Dublin, Vienna, Madrid, Lisbon, and Seoul. Eight locally focused reports have been produced by academic partners, with others planned later in the year.

The report is supported by Google, the BBC, Ofcom, the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI), the Media Industry Research Foundation of Finland, the Fritt Ord Foundation in Norway, the Korea Press Foundation, Edelman UK, as well as our academic sponsors at the Hans Bredow Institute, the University of Navarra, the University of Canberra, and the Centre d'études sur les médias, Université Laval in Canada. Polling was conducted by YouGov in January and February 2017.

Figure 4. Top messaging apps for news - selected markets



Q12b. Which, if any of the following have used for news in the last week? Please select all that apply. Base: Total sample in each market

The European Journalism Observatory

Caroline Lees



RISJ works on the EJO project in collaboration with 15 research institutes in 12 countries. These include the Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano; the Erich-Brost Institut, University of Dortmund; the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Kiev; Charles University, Prague; the University of Wroclaw, Poland; the Media Development Centre, Tunis; and the School of Journalism and Communication, University of Oregon, Eugene. The EJO publishes articles in 14 languages, through websites based in Albania, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian, Serbia, UK, and Ukraine. The Arabic Journalism Observatory is published in Arabic and French.

Articles about media issues, shared and translated by EJO network partners, have reached increasingly larger audiences via the English EJO site. In January 2017 the EJO conducted a qualitative content analysis of print newspapers in ten European countries and the US, comparing media coverage as Donald Trump began his first week as President of the United States. The study, *Alarmed, Unsettled, Wary: Europe's Media Ponder a Trump Presidency*, received widespread coverage including in the *Guardian* newspaper in the UK as well as media in Germany, Switzerland, Poland, Ukraine, and the US.

Over the past year the EJO English platform has published articles by journalists, academics, and media analysts from across Europe on issues including the reporting of terrorism, artificial intelligence in the newsroom, paywalls, algorithms, misinformation and propaganda, new technology, video and virtual reality, press freedom, and independent journalism. RISJ journalist fellows have also contributed articles about their original research to the site.

The English EJO has built an extensive and active presence on social media. This has led to increased reader engagement: stories are now shared an average of 200 times and some have been shared as many as 1,500 times. Articles are also regularly picked up by popular international media research and news websites, including Reuters, Nieman Lab, journalism.co.uk, the Ethical Journalism Network, and the Pew Research Center.

RISJ aims to build on the EJO's growing audience. The English website, which is funded by the Robert Bosch Foundation, Stiftung Presse-Haus NRW, and, since 2017, the Open Society Foundations, will continue to publish the latest research into the rapidly changing media industry, issues around press freedom, and professional concerns, both in Europe and beyond. It plans to build further on its current success in reaching practising journalists and attracting well-known contributors from the profession, as well as from academia.



FAR LEFT: Bild, a popular German tabloid, covers Donald Trump's first week as US President, January 2017

LEFT: Article about investigative journalism in the Czech Republic, published on EJO, October 2017

Google Digital News Senior Research Fellow Professor Lucy Küng



This research seeks to create a roadmap for media organisations as they respond to the challenges of digital disruption. It is based on the premise that while legacy media are largely mastering the transformation required in the content domain, an equally critical transformation needs to take place inside their organisations, and that this issue is being less systematically addressed and under-prioritised. This poses a serious threat to the sustainability of legacy journalistic organisations, and places them at a competitive disadvantage vis-a-vis the digital pure plays.



Around 60 interviews have been conducted inside legacy organisations in Europe and the US, focusing particularly on those further along the path to a viable digital future, including Axel Springer, Schibsted, *The Economist*, *Financial Times*, *Guardian*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, CNN, and El País.

The analysis focuses on strategy development, agility, the integration of technology and data analytics into core organisational processes, culture, and leadership. While the research approach is academic, the goal is that the output should provide legacy organisations with practical insights into best practice responses to digital disruption. This will be in the form of a Reuters Institute Report, book, and diagnostic tool for organisations.



TOP RIGHT: Flags with the logos of the main newspapers of German publisher Axel Springer fly outside its headquarters in Berlin August 7, 2013. REUTERS/Thomas Peter

RIGHT: The cover of the Financial Times newspaper is seen with other papers at a news stand in New York U.S., November 9, 2016. REUTERS/Shannon Stapleton

RIGHT: Copies of the Guardian newspaper are displayed at a news agent in London August 21, 2013. British Prime Minister David Cameron ordered his top civil servant to try to stop revelations flowing from the Guardian newspaper about U.S. and British surveillance programmes, two sources with direct knowledge of the matter said. REUTERS/Suzanne Plunkett



Research Projects

Currently under way



Digital News Project

The Digital News Project deals with how digital media and news use is changing across the world and how news organisations are adapting to these changes. It builds on and extends our annual *Digital News Report* by expanding the number of countries covered in our survey of news media use and letting us supplement our survey research on news use with computational social science analysis as well as more qualitative work. Project outputs include both accessible and timely reports and factsheets available for free download, more in-depth analysis published in academic journals and elsewhere, and frequent presentations at professional, policymaker, industry, and academic events all over the world. It is funded by a grant from Google's Digital News Initiative.

THIS PAGE: Russian paratroopers jump past rainbow from an IL-76 transport plane during a joint Serbian-Russian military training exercise "Slavic Brotherhood" in the town of Kovin, near Belgrade, Serbia November 7, 2016. REUTERS/Marko Djurica

OPPOSITE PAGE RIGHT: A man carries his pet cat as he walks under the cherry blossoms at Tongji University in Shanghai, China April 4, 2017. REUTERS/Aly Song

Digital News Report

The Digital News Report, is the largest and most comprehensive ongoing comparative study of news and media use in the world, covering 36 markets in 2017. All the data are made freely available, providing an important public and shared basis of data and evidence for understanding developments in the media. The project is supported by Google, the BBC, Ofcom, the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI), the Media Industry Research Foundation of Finland, the Fritt Ord Foundation in Norway, the Korea Press Foundation, Edelman UK, as well as our academic sponsors at the Hans Bredow Institute, the University of Navarra, the University of Canberra, the Centre d'études sur les médias, Université Laval, Canada, and Roskilde University in Denmark.



BELOW: People gather for the Women's March in Washington U.S., January 21, 2017. REUTERS/Shannon Stapleton

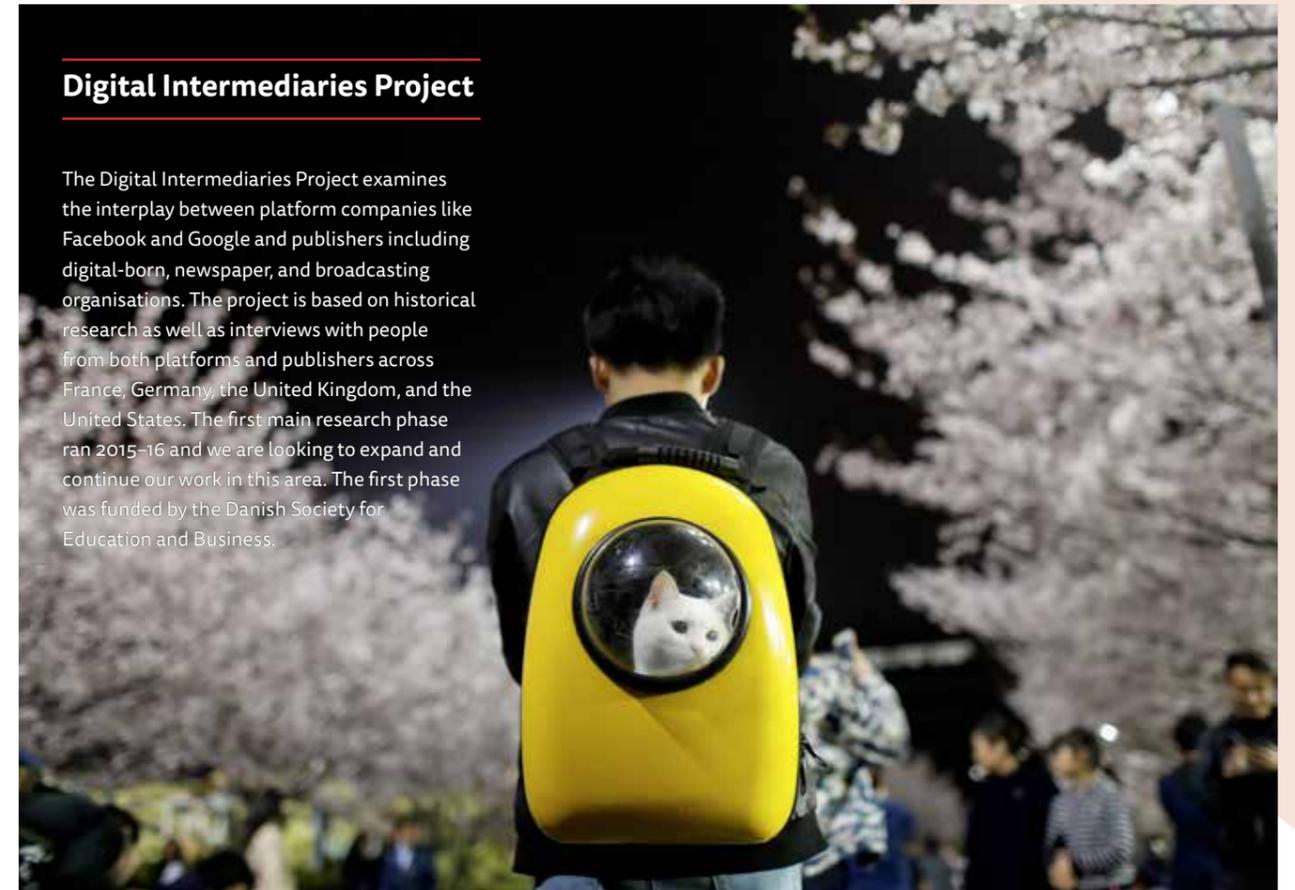
Digital Journalism in India Project

The Digital Journalism in India Project focuses on how Indian journalists and news organisations are adapting to rapidly growing internet use and smartphone penetration in an environment that is very different from what is found in Europe and North America, with takeaways relevant for many other emerging markets. Working with partners in India, we have published reports on digital journalism start-ups in India as well as on Indian newspapers' digital transition, and are currently investigating the social media strategies of India's most important news organisations. Our work on this project is funded from our core grant and overheads from other activities.



Digital Intermediaries Project

The Digital Intermediaries Project examines the interplay between platform companies like Facebook and Google and publishers including digital-born, newspaper, and broadcasting organisations. The project is based on historical research as well as interviews with people from both platforms and publishers across France, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The first main research phase ran 2015-16 and we are looking to expand and continue our work in this area. The first phase was funded by the Danish Society for Education and Business.





Trusted Innovation Project

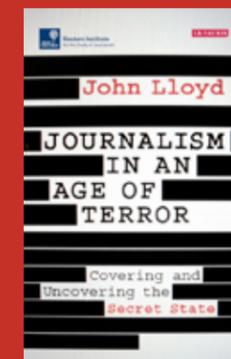
The Trusted Innovation Project is a new project we are launching in collaboration with the Oxford Internet Institute to investigate the interplay between misinformation campaigns, news, and increasingly important social media platforms for public understandings of science and innovation. The project will start with a focus on discussions around artificial intelligence and climate change, and we hope to expand it to cover many other important issues in the future. The start of the project is funded by the Oxford Martin School.

Beyond these projects, we continue to pursue both in-house and collaborative research on a range of other important issues facing journalism and news media around the world, across all our three main research themes: journalism and democracy, the business of journalism, and the evolving practice of journalism.

THIS PAGE: A DC-10 aircraft drops fire retardant on a wind driven wildfire in Orange, California, U.S., October 9, 2017. REUTERS/Mike Blake

Many RISJ publications are available for free download from our website. Hard copies can be purchased via our partner publisher, I. B. Tauris, Amazon, or the University of Oxford Online Store.

BOOKS



Journalism in an Age of Terror

John Lloyd

SPONSOR: David Ure

The threat of terrorism and the increasing power of terrorist groups have prompted a rapid growth of the security services and changes in legislation permitting collection of communications data. This provides journalism with acute dilemmas. The media claims responsibility for holding power to account, yet cannot know more than superficial details about the newly empowered secret services. This book is the first to analyse, in the aftermath of the Snowden/NSA revelations, relations between two key institutions in the modern state: the intelligence services and the news media. It provides the answers to crucial questions including: how can power be held to account if one of the greatest state powers is secret? How far have the Snowden/NSA revelations damaged the activities of the secret services? And have governments lost all trust from journalists and the public?



Journalism and the NSA Revelations: Privacy, Security, and the Press

Risto Kunelius, Heikki Heikkilä, Adrienne Russell, and Dmitry Yagodin (eds)

SPONSOR: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

Edward Snowden's revelations about the mass surveillance capabilities of the US National Security Agency (NSA) and other security services triggered an ongoing debate about the relationship between privacy and security in the digital world. This discussion has been dispersed into a number of national platforms, reflecting local political realities but also raising questions that cut across national public spheres. What does this debate tell us about the role of journalism in making sense of global events? This book looks at discussions of these debates in the mainstream media in the USA, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Russia, and China. The chapters focus on editorials, commentaries, and op-eds, and look at how opinion-based journalism has negotiated key questions on the legitimacy of surveillance and its implications to security and privacy. The authors provide a thoughtful analysis of the possibilities and limits of 'transnational journalism' at a crucial time of political and digital change.



Something Old, Something New: Digital Media and the Coverage of Climate Change

James Painter, Maria Carmen Erviti, Richard Fletcher, Candice Howarth, Silje Kristiansen, Bienvenido León, Alan Ouakrat, Adrienne Russell, Mike S. Schäfer

SPONSORS: Google and the Digital News Initiative; the European Climate Foundation; and the Energy Foundation

New 'digital-born players' such as Huffington Post, BuzzFeed, and Vice are challenging traditional media in their provision of news in general, and about the environment in particular. They have invested heavily in a wide range of countries and languages in an attempt to reach young audiences, who increasingly use social media as their source of news. They employ a wide range of novel reporting styles, formats, and tone that marks them out from more established media. Despite their success, they have hardly been studied. This book, written by lead author James Painter and a team of researchers, takes as a case study the UN summit on climate change in December 2015, and analyses five online sites in France, Germany, Spain, the UK, and the USA. It shows that new players are a relevant and important addition to climate change coverage which reaches new segments of the audience with a content, format, and style that are at times very different to that of older media.

CHALLENGES IN MODERN JOURNALISM



The Right to Be Forgotten: Privacy and the Media in the Digital Age

George Brock

SPONSOR: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

This study examines the origins, consequences, and risks of the 'right to be forgotten' which came to wide public attention as a result of an EU court case in 2014. As a result, hundreds of thousands of internet links have been taken out of Google searches – and we know very little of how these decisions are weighed. The wish to be able to remove harmful internet content is natural and understandable but this newly minted right carries dangers for freedom of information, journalism, and the right to know because it is rooted in EU data protection law which protects privacy at the expense of information rights. The EU decision has been influential worldwide but the study also traces how judges in some states have limited the right's reach when cases have reached the courts.

REPORTS



Coverage of the EU Referendum

David A. L. Levy, Billur Aslan, Diego Bironzo

SPONSORS: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism and PRIME Research

This report examines how the UK press covered the EU referendum story, and looks at what the key arguments, spokespeople, tone of articles, and areas of focus were during the referendum. The report is based on analysis of two days of press coverage each week for London editions of nine national newspapers over four months of the campaign. Of the 2,378 articles analysed which were focused on the referendum, 41% were pro-Leave as against 27% pro-Remain. Press coverage focused heavily on politicians and campaign spokespeople with relatively few analysts/experts, academics, and foreign politicians cited, and with more attention to personalities and the contest than the issues. The press reflected the generally negative tone of the campaign, but the Remain camp's future-focused messages were the most negative, particularly on the economy, compared to the Leave camp's more positive tone about a UK outside the EU.

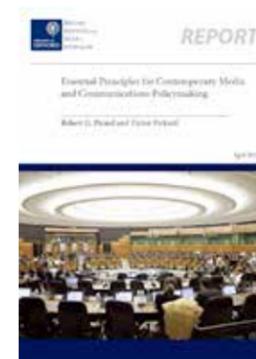


Indian Newspapers' Digital Transition: Dainik Jagran, Hindustan Times, and Malayala Manorama

Zeenab Aneez, Sumandro Chattapadhyay, Vibodh Parthasarathi, Rasmus Kleis Nielsen

SPONSOR: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

This study situates itself at the intersection of global trends in news and journalism, and emergent practices of print media in India. Using three case studies of newspapers from different language markets, it explores how print newspapers in India are transitioning to the online space by focusing on two key questions: (1) how the expansion of the digital, both as a source of news, and the medium of distribution, is shaping the work of journalists, and (2) what different modalities of convergence are emerging in Indian newsrooms. Also, it documents the organisational re-engineering that is being attempted in order to do journalism in a space where professional editors and journalists no longer have dominance with respect to the production and distribution of content.



Essential Principles for Contemporary Media and Communications Policymaking

Robert G. Picard and Victor Pickard

SPONSOR: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

This report proposes a set of principles as a guide for contemporary media and communications policymaking. It articulates statements of principles to inform the development of policy objectives and policy mechanisms and to provide consistency across varying issues, technologies, and actions by defining fundamental criteria that can be used to inform discussion and guide policy decisions. It does not suggest specific policy measures but articulates principles that are relevant and applicable to a wide range of media and communications platforms, infrastructures, and activities addressed at the local, national, regional, and global levels. The purpose is to help policymakers and policy advocates think initially at a more principled level and then link policy objectives and tools to these normative foundations rather than merely seeking immediate problem solutions.



Digital News Report 2017

Nic Newman with Richard Fletcher, Antonis Kalogeropoulos, David A. L. Levy, Rasmus Kleis Nielsen

SPONSORS: BBC News, Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, Centre d'études sur les médias, Université Laval, Edelman, Fritt Ord Foundation, Google, Hans-Bredow-Institut, Korea Press Foundation, Media Industry Research Foundation of Finland, Ofcom, Roskilde University, University of Navarra

Fuller report supplied on pages. 28–30.



The Emotional Toll on Journalists Covering the Refugee Crisis

Hannah Storm and Anthony Feinstein

SPONSORS: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism and International News Safety Institute

This report looks at how journalists were affected by their coverage of the refugee crisis which reached its peak in 2015, when more than one million migrants arrived in Europe.

Through quantitative research and industry-wide discussions, this is the first time a study of this kind has been undertaken into the psychological response of journalists covering a humanitarian crisis.

DIGITAL NEWS PROJECT REPORTS

SPONSOR: Google's Digital News Initiative



Brand and Trust in a Fragmented News Environment

Jason Vir and Andrew Dodds (Kantar Media)

SPONSOR: Google's Digital News Initiative

This qualitative research conducted by Kantar Media looks at issues of brand and trust in an increasingly fragmented distributed news environments, where aggregators and social media play a key role. The project covers four countries: Germany, Spain, the UK and the US. The report asks how people make sense of the plethora of providers and the cacophony of voices they face online. It explores the level of attribution that takes place on social media and aggregator websites and what drives trust within these distributed environments.

Private Sector Media and Digital News

Alessio Cornia, Annika Sehl and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen

News organisations are investing in digital, but most of their revenues still come from traditional operations. This report investigates how private sector legacy news organisations in six European countries are adapting to an evolving digital environment by searching for new business models and distributing news through social media and mobile.





The Rise of Fact-Checking Sites in Europe

Lucas Graves and Federica Cherubini

Independent political fact-checkers have emerged across Europe over the last decade. This report surveys the landscape of European fact-checking outlets, examining the mission, the methods, the funding, and the organisational structure of these groups across the continent, with a focus on their fraught relationships with traditional news media.



News Alerts and the Battle for the Lockscreen

Nic Newman

Mobile news alerts are becoming a critical way for publishers to engage the smartphone generation. This report from the Reuters Institute finds significant demand for a range of personalised alerts, beyond breaking news, and points to the opportunities opened up by the introduction of richer notification options in both Apple and android devices.



Digital-Born News Media in Europe

Tom Nicholls, Nabeelah Shabbir, Rasmus Kleis Nielsen

We examine funding models, distribution, and editorial priorities at 12 European digital-born news media. They are clearly rooted in the profession of journalism and seem most successful where old media are weak, not where online ad markets are most developed. Digital-born and legacy news media are similar; they also face similar challenges online.



Journalism, Media and Technology Predictions 2017

Nic Newman

This report covers possible developments with fake news, the role of platforms, new business models, online video, the growing importance of messaging apps, virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and the potential impact of artificial intelligence and automation for journalism. It includes the results of a survey of 142 leading editors, CEOs, and digital leaders of whom 70% thought that worries over fake/inaccurate news in social networks would strengthen their position in the coming year.



Beyond the Article: Frontiers of Editorial and Commercial Innovation

Kevin Anderson

This report looks at innovative journalism formats that are not traditional articles. It focuses on case studies in three areas: distributed content, conversational interfaces, and new video formats including virtual reality. The report explores the development models as well as revenue streams being tested to support these formats.



Developing Digital News in Public Service Media

Annika Sehl, Alessio Cornia, Rasmus Kleis Nielsen

This report explores how public service media across six European countries are developing new projects and products to deliver digital news. The focus is specifically on the internal factors that those involved see as influencing the process of product development. We identify four foundational and three additional factors.



VR for News: The New Reality?

Zillah Watson

This report provides a snapshot of developments in virtual reality (VR) in the news industry in 2017 and the motivations for early investment in this emerging technology. Over 20 VR experts are interviewed to demonstrate the range of VR content being created, and early thinking about the production, distribution, and monetisation of VR for news.



'I Saw the News on Facebook': Brand Attribution When Accessing News from Distributed Environments

Antonis Kalogeropoulos and Nic Newman

The growth of social media and aggregators has changed the nature of online consumption. Do people remember the news brand when they visit a story via a sideways access? This report investigates such questions by employing a tracking study and survey.

FACTSHEETS

SPONSOR: Google's Digital News Initiative



Pay Models in European News Factsheet

Alessio Cornia, Annika Sehl, Felix Simon and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen

More and more news organisations are implementing paywalls, as legacy revenues continue to erode and digital advertising increasingly goes to large technology companies. In this factsheet, we present an overview of the diffusion of different forms of pay models across a sample of 171 of the most important news organisations in six European countries (Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, and the UK). Results show that different types of news organisations adopt diverse approaches. A clear majority of newspapers and weeklies operate a pay model (freemium, metered paywalls, hard paywalls), whereas all broadcasters and almost all digital-born sites offer free access to their news. Pay models adoption is widespread especially in Finland, France, and Poland, where from 87% to 95% of newspapers and weeklies have adopted paywalls. By contrast, in Italy, Germany, and the UK, many of the most important news outlets continue to offer free access to their digital content.



French Election Factsheet

Silvia Majo-Vasquez, Jun Zhao, Rasmus Kleis Nielsen

Digital-born and legacy news media are competing to control the most central positions in the flow of online news. In this RISJ Factsheet, we examine how this competition unfolds during the French presidential election. We analyse a sample of 2.96 million news-related tweets from a larger dataset of 43.5 million messages collected during the 2017 French elections. We find that legacy media, most notably newspapers and broadcasters, figure very prominently in the political discussions on Twitter. Legacy media generated more than seven times as much activity and engagement as digital-born news media during the election. The results suggest that some newspapers and digital-born news media have much lower levels of engagement than their general audience reach, follower count, and their frequent tweeting would lead one to expect. According to our analysis, audience attention and engagement is very unevenly distributed and it is not always proportional to the level of media activity.

WORKING PAPERS



Political Influence Index Pilot Study Results

Robert G. Picard and Janice Winter

The Political Influence Index project was designed to develop an assessment instrument for comparative national measurements of the influence of media on politics/government and the influence of politics/government on media. The hope was that implementation of the index would create a dataset for use in a variety of media, political, and political communication research settings. The index would be far more focused and precise than existing transparency, corruption, and free press indices that are widely used in a variety of media, political, and policy research. The index was initially developed in 2013-14 and a pilot test was conducted in 2015 to assess its applicability in a variety of media, political, and cultural settings. The test implementation was made in Germany, France, Italy, Hungary, India, Russia, United Kingdom, and United States, where we were very grateful to the experts who assisted us. Unfortunately, while the initial findings were encouraging, a lack of external funding for the project meant that we were not able to develop it and apply it to a wider range of countries.



Editorial Email Newsletters: The Medium is Not the Only Message

Andrew Jack

An analysis of the content, business models, trends, advantages, and limitations of the growing number of editorial email newsletters. The study, based on analysis and interviews with leading outlets, highlights email's continued popularity for marketing and stresses its value in journalism. It offers a way to maintain a strong direct relationship with readers, a high degree of targeting, better showcasing of existing content, and original analysis and commentary. Editorial emails provide short, simple, primarily text-based content, 'pushed' to readers in a way that is easily retrievable and quick to skim. The best ones have parallels in other forms of journalistic output: discovery, curation, serendipity, and 'finishability' in an ever-growing universe of digital content beyond the capacity of any individual to identify or absorb. While falling demand among younger users and more innovative digital platforms may ultimately supersede emails, these underlying characteristics will be ever more important and should be preserved.

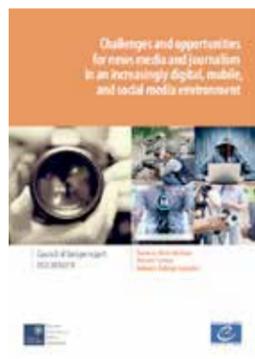


The ABC: A Case Study in Updating PSB in Politically Polarised and Cash Strapped Times

David A. L. Levy

Focusing on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), the paper examines how the corporation is meeting the challenge of reaching diverse, younger audiences through digital media without alienating loyal audiences or antagonising commercial providers. It focuses on the ABC's first year under a new Managing Director, Michelle Guthrie, against the backdrop of the organisation's recent and often turbulent history, and makes comparisons with the BBC along the way. It explores Guthrie's new strategy of establishing partnerships with third-party digital platforms, as a way of extending the organisation's reach from 70% to 100% of Australia's population.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS



Challenges and Opportunities for News Media and Journalism in an Increasingly Digital, Mobile, and Social Media Environment

Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, Alessio Cornia, Antonis Kalogeropoulos. Commissioned by the Council of Europe

This report reviews challenges and opportunities for news media and journalism in today's changing media environment. As more people get news via mobile devices and rely on social media and other intermediaries for accessing and finding news, legacy media are becoming relatively less important distributors of news and are under growing pressure as existing sources of revenue decline or stagnate. Instead, a limited number of large technology companies play an increasingly important role both in the distribution of news and in digital advertising. Domination by these new players together with consolidation and cost-cutting elsewhere in the media landscape can reduce media pluralism by undermining the diversity of news production. The move to an increasingly digital, mobile, and social media environment also means that forms of policy intervention designed for twentieth-century media environments will need reform to be effective and efficient in this century.



Analysis of the Relation and Impact of Public Service Media and Private Media

Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, Richard Fletcher, Annika Sehl, David A. L. Levy

The Reuters Institute prepared this report for the Ministry of Culture – Denmark. The purpose of the report is to map relevant academic and stakeholder (industry/regulatory) research on the relation between public service media and private sector media with regard to their political impact, social impact, and market impact. The report maps what we know, where there is disagreement, and what we do not know, with a special emphasis on implications for Denmark.

Research Associates



John Lloyd

John Lloyd is a co-founder and Senior Research Fellow at the Reuters Institute and member of the Advisory Board. He is a Contributing Editor to the *Financial Times*, a columnist for *reuters.com*, and chairman of the Moscow School of Civic Education (though, having been declared a 'Foreign Agent', is presently unable to work within Russia). His book for the Institute, on the contemporary relationship between journalism and the secret services, prompted by the leaks from the National Security Agency in the US, was published by I. B. Tauris in January 2017 under the title *Journalism in an Age of Terror*. The book, supported by David Ure, examines the relationship between journalism and the security services in France, the UK, and the US, to determine how far and in what ways it has changed as both journalism and the intelligence agencies evolve with the advent of the internet, and with the focus of the agencies on terrorism. It asks: how far must journalism change to reflect a new reality in a world where mass monitoring of activities and communications has become routine? And how can these agencies ensure that they work, and are seen to work, in the service of the democracy? He will publish, in the autumn of 2017, *The Power and the Story*: a book on journalism in the world, from Atlantic Books. He is working on a new book on nationalism.



Richard Sambrook

Richard Sambrook is professor of journalism at Cardiff University and Senior Research Associate at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism. In the past year he has assisted James Painter with many aspects of the Fellowship Programme including chairing our Wednesday seminars and co-chaired a workshop with Rasmus Nielsen on the collaboration in investigative journalism involving participants from across Europe, the UK, and the USA. This will be published in early 2018. Previously he had a 30-year career at the BBC as a producer and programme editor in BBC News, working across national radio and TV programmes, and in senior management as head of newsgathering, director of news, and finally director of global news and the world service. He has written and spoken frequently on journalism and the future of news. His other publications include *Are Foreign Correspondents Redundant?* (RIS) 2010), *Delivering Trust: Impartiality and Objectivity in the Digital Age* (RIS) 2012), *Reporting Dangerously: Journalist Killings, Intimidation and Security* (with Simon Cottle and Nick Mosdell) (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016), and *The Future of 24-Hour News: New Directions, New Challenges* (Peter Lang, 2016, edited with Stephen Cushion).



Federica Cherubini

Federica Cherubini is Head of Knowledge Sharing at Condé Nast International. In her role she leverages and supports the exchange of knowledge, ideas, and best practices between editorial, commercial, and product teams of the CNI's portfolio across 11 countries. Previously, she was part of the Digital News Project team at the RISJ, for which she wrote, together with Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, the report *Editorial Analytics: How News Media are Developing and Using Audience Data and Metrics*. She is also one of the co-authors of the reports *The Future of Online News Video* and *The Rise of Fact-Checking Sites in Europe*. From 2010 to 2016 she worked for the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (WAN-IFRA) on projects focused on examining how journalism's present will lead to its future. She is one of the co-organisers of Hacks/Hackers London, which brings together journalists ('hacks') and technologists ('hackers') to rethink the future of news and information.



Lara Fielden

Lara Fielden has had an association with the Reuters Institute since 2011, as a Research Associate and as a Visiting Fellow. Building on her RISJ publications on media regulation she has published numerous articles, contributed to academic conferences and Select Committee inquiries, and gave oral and written evidence to the Leveson Inquiry. Her participation in the September 2015 Middlesex University conference on press regulation in an era of convergence resulted in an article for a special edition of the journal *Convergence* (June 2016). She also supervises RISJ Journalist Fellows who have a particular interest in regulation. Since 2014 Lara has served on the Complaints Committee of the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO) adjudicating on press complaints. In 2016 she joined the Advisory Board of the University of Sheffield's Department of Journalism Studies.



Sarah Ganter

Dr Sarah Anne Ganter is an Assistant Professor (tenure-track) at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, where she recently joined the School of Communication at the Faculty of Arts, Communication and Technology. She is also a Research Associate at the RISJ. Her main research interests include media governance and media policy in the digital era, media industries (journalism and cultural industries), comparative and cross-border research, and qualitative methods. Whilst working as Research Fellow at the RISJ, she developed work on the relationship between legacy media organisations and digital intermediaries, and their broader emerging implications for news production and dissemination from a comparative perspective. Sarah obtained her PhD at the University of Vienna, Austria (2017). Her work has been published in journals including *New Media and Society* and *the European Journal of Communication*, and in various book projects.



Geert Linnebank

Geert Linnebank was Editor-in-Chief of Reuters from 2000 to 2006. He started his career as a reporter in Brussels with Agence Europe and AP-Dow Jones before joining Reuters in 1983, where he held reporting and editing positions in Belgium, the Netherlands, and, latterly, at Reuters London head office. Linnebank is non-executive Chairman at Independent Television News (ITN), a non-executive director at Salini Impregilo Spa, a member of the RISJ Steering Committee, and he is a Trustee of the Thomson Reuters Foundation, which he chaired until 2008.



Nic Newman

Nic Newman is a journalist and digital strategist who played a key role in shaping the BBC's internet services over more than a decade. He was a founding member of the BBC News Website, leading international coverage as World Editor (1997–2001). As Head of Product Development he led digital teams, developing websites, mobile, and interactive TV applications for all BBC Journalism sites. Nic is the lead author of the annual Reuters Institute *Digital News Report*. He is also a consultant on digital media, working actively with news companies on product, audience, and business strategies for digital transition.



Lucy Küng

Lucy Küng is the first Google Digital News Senior Research Fellow. She is a professor and expert on strategy, innovation and leadership with particular emphasis on mastering technology shifts. In addition to her role at the Reuters Institute, she is Non-Executive Board Member of the NZZ Media Group, and Visiting Professor of Media Innovation at the University of Oslo. She holds a PhD and Habilitation from the University of St Gallen, Switzerland and an MBA from City University London/Ashridge. She is author of numerous books, including *Innovators in Digital News* (2015), *Strategic Management in the Media: From Theory to Practice* (winner of the AEMJM Media Management Book Award) (2nd edition 2017), *Inside the BBC and CNN – Managing Media Organizations*, and *When Innovation Fails to Disrupt: The Case of BBC News Online*. In 2017 she was awarded the European Media Management Award for Excellence in Media Management Scholarship and Practice.



Frances Stead Sellers

Frances Stead Sellers is a reporter on the national staff of the *Washington Post* who wrote in-depth news features on the leading presidential candidates as part of the newsroom's 2016 election campaign coverage. In her time at the RISJ, she has been looking at the emergence of the alt right, a far-right fringe group that gained widespread name recognition a few months before Donald Trump became president when he selected Breitbart News Daily host Steve Bannon to lead his campaign. In Oxford, Frances has also given radio and TV interviews about Trump's ascendancy and the early days of his administration and about the influence of Steve Bannon. She has given talks and appeared on panels both at Oxford, including the Reuters Institute and the Rothermere American Institute, and at other academic institutions such as King's College, London. The most rewarding part of her time at Oxford, she says, has been the opportunity to exchange ideas and gain insights from the visiting Journalism Fellows.

Events



Zeinab, 14, sits as she holds her nephew at a camp for internally displaced people from drought hit areas in Dollow, Somalia April 4, 2017. REUTERS/Zohra Bensemra

SPECIAL EVENTS

News Avoidance Workshop 15 September 2016 RISJ, Oxford

This workshop marked the start of a new research programme at the Reuters Institute focused on news avoidance. The aim was to seek advice on how to define the phenomenon and its manifestations, how to approach it conceptually and practically, and how to devise the right combinations of methods for studying its causes and consequences. Academics from across Europe joined us for this important discussion.

Public Service News Forum 15-16 September 2016 RISJ, Oxford

The Reuters Institute held its second high-level, off-the-record, forum with the Heads of News of Public Service Broadcasters. The forum provided research-informed insight into new digital developments, changing audience behaviour, and the strategic challenges posed by political, regulatory, and competitive pressures, including the rise of platforms and digital intermediaries like search engines and social media. Participants had a unique opportunity to learn from each other and share experiences of tackling digital transitions and responding to the new competitive landscape. Attendees included **Maria Rørbye Rønn** (Director General, Danish Broadcasting Corporation), **Gautam Rangarajan** (Director of Strategy, BBC), **Benedicte Autret** (Head of Strategic Relations News & Publishers, Google), **Jennifer McGuire** (General Manager and Editor in Chief of CBC News), **Atte Jääskeläinen** (Director of News and Current Affairs, YLE), **Gaven Morris**

(Director of News, ABC Australia), **Christopher Turpin** (Vice President, News Programming and Operations, NPR), and **Guido Baumhauer** (Managing Director of Distribution, Marketing and Technology, Deutsche Welle). Representatives from the Reuters Institute led presentations and discussions, namely **David A. L. Levy**, **Rasmus Kleis Nielsen**, **Nic Newman**, **Richard Sambrook**, and **Lucy Küng**.

International Journal of Press/ Politics Conference 28-30 September 2016 St Anne's College, Oxford

The second annual conference of the International Journal of Press/Politics brought together 60 scholars working on the intersection between news media and politics around the world. **Rasmus Kleis Nielsen** (RISJ) and **Katrin Voltmer** (Professor of Communication and Democracy, School of Media and Communication, University of Leeds) gave key note addresses.

Investigative Collaborations Workshop 2 December 2016 RISJ, Oxford

Richard Sambrook and **Rasmus Kleis Nielsen** hosted an intimate roundtable workshop on the editorial, legal, and technical issues surrounding collaborative journalism. Attendees included representatives from the Center for Public Integrity; Bellinacat, the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists; BuzzFeed; *El País*; and the Bureau of Investigative Journalism.

FAR RIGHT: From Left: Rasmus Kleis Nielsen and John Lloyd at the launch of *Journalism in an Age of Terror*, Institute for Government, January 2017

BELOW RIGHT: Alan Rusbridger and Ritu Kapur at Reuters Memorial Lecture, February 2017

BELOW: Jonathan Whitten Executive Director of News Content, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) at the Public Service News Forum, September 2016

FAR BELOW: James Painter at the launch of *Digital Media and the coverage of Climate Change*, CCLA, December 2016



ABOVE: Public Service News Forum, September 2016 - From left: Jennifer McGuire (General Manager and Editor in Chief of CBC News); Christopher Turpin (Vice President, News Programming and Operations, NPR); Maria Rørbye Rønn (Director General, Danish Broadcasting Corporation)

RIGHT: Lord Patten introducing the Reuters Memorial Lecture, St. Anne's College, February 2017

Special Events

Reuters Memorial Lecture: We Broke the News, How do we Fix it?

10 February 2017
St Anne's College, Oxford

This year, the Reuters memorial lecture featured guest speaker **Melissa Bell** of Vox Media. The lecture saw Bell call for the media to stop 'worshipping objectivity', admit its problems, and be more frank about its position and purpose. Bell shared nine key ways in which she sees the media as failing, along with some of her suggestions for solutions to the challenges. She then joined a lively panel discussion featuring **Marty Baron** (Editor, *Washington Post*), **Tom Standage** (Deputy Editor, *The Economist*), **Ritu Kapur** (Co-founder and CEO, Quintillion Media). It was chaired by **Alan Rusbridger** (Former Editor, *Guardian*).

Fake News Workshop

11 February 2017
RISJ, Oxford

The Reuters Institute convened a group of editors, researchers, and industry professionals to assess the contemporary challenges related to the spread of fake news. This workshop, convened by **Alan**

Rusbridger and **Rasmus Kleis Nielsen**, was an effort to bring experts together from varied backgrounds to debate the multiple dimensions of the problem, clarify its scope, and consider informed and appropriate solutions if and where it is warranted. There were 16 participants in this invitation-only workshop, including **Stephen Ansolabehere** (Professor of Political Science, Harvard), **Marty Baron** (Editor, *Washington Post*), **Madhav Chinnappa** (Director of Strategic Relations for News and Publishers, Google), **Timothy Garton Ash** (Professor of European Studies, Oxford), **Philip Howard** (Professor of Internet Studies, Oxford), **Kate O'Regan** (Director of the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights), **Vivian Schiller** (Former Global Chair of News, Twitter, and former President and CEO of NPR), Sir **Nigel Shadbolt** (Principal, Jesus College, Oxford), **Monique Villa** (CEO, Thomson Reuters Foundation), and **Patrick Walker** (Director of Media Partnerships EMEA, Facebook).

Editor and CEO Forum

30–31 March 2017
RISJ, Oxford

The Reuters Institute gathered together a very distinguished group of news industry leaders, Editors-in-Chief, and CEOs from 13 countries for 24 hours to learn from RISJ research

and to share, off the record, their ideas and experience about how their organisations are confronting the key challenges of digital transformation. The forum brought together participants from India (*Indian Express*), Canada (*The Globe and Mail*), and across Europe: *Irish Times*, *JP/Politikens Hus* (Denmark), *NRC Handelsblad* (Netherlands), *Dagens Nyheter* (Sweden), *Upday* (Germany), *24MEDIA Group* (Greece), *El País* (Spain), *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* (Switzerland), *Der Standard* (Austria), *Le Monde* (France), and the *Financial Times* and the *Guardian* (UK). The group was joined throughout by **Monique Villa** (CEO of the Thomson Reuters Foundation), and **Alan Rusbridger** (Principal, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, Chair of the RISJ) and former Editor-in-Chief, *Guardian*. Issues covered included 'attribution, data and money in a distributed environment', 'Driving change in the news media', and 'Challenges and opportunities for innovation'. The sessions were led by **David A. L. Levy**, **Rasmus Kleis Nielsen**, **Lucy Küng**, and **Nic Newman**. The gathering testifies to the role of the RISJ in bringing together industry leaders for a frank exchange of ideas in a time of rapid change. This was the fourth such meeting of industry leaders convened by the RISJ, aimed at sharing experience and stimulating new thinking, as well as contributing new insights that further enrich the research agenda and relevance of the work of the Institute.



LEFT: Attendees at the Editor and CEO Forum, at Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, March 2017

RIGHT: John Lloyd at the launch of *Journalism in the age of Terror*, January 2017



Publication Launches

PUBLICATION LAUNCHES

Trust in a fragmented news environment

11 October 2016
BBC New Broadcasting House, London

The Reuters Institute and Kantar Media presented the report *Brand and Trust in a Fragmented News Environment*. The event aimed to answer topical questions. What level of attribution takes place within social media and aggregator's websites? What drives trust within these distributed environments? How is the relationship between news content and the consumer shifting? And what are the implications for journalism, the press, news media, and traditional news brands? Speakers included **James Montgomery** (Digital Director, BBC News), **Nic Newman** (Digital Strategist and Research Associate, RISJ), **Jason Vir** (Director Insight Solutions Kantar Media) and **Rasmus Kleis Nielsen** (RISJ).

Digital Media and the Coverage of Climate Change

14 December 2016
CCLA, London

Over 100 people attended the launch of Dr James Painter's new report: *Something Old, Something New: Digital Media and the Coverage of Climate Change* at the CCLA offices in Queen Victoria Street, London. Journalists, academics, and professionals from the environmental sector gathered to hear an opening talk by **Lord Nicholas Stern**, followed by an overview of the book by **James Painter** and finally a panel discussion chaired by **Richard Black**, former BBC Environment Correspondent. Representing the diversity of old and new media organisations, the panel

was made up of **Fiona Harvey** (*Guardian* Environment Correspondent), **Kelly Oakes** (BuzzFeed Science Editor), **Megan Darby** (*Climate Home News* Editor), and **Helen Wildsmith** (CCLA Stewardship Director, Climate Change).

Journalism in an Age of Terror

11 January 2017
Institute for Government, London

John Lloyd presented some of the key findings from his fascinating and timely new book at this event. A panel of experts then debated the answers to crucial questions including: how can power be held to account if one of the greatest state powers is secret? How far have the Snowden/NSA revelations damaged the activities of the secret services? And have governments lost all trust from journalists and the public? The panel was chaired by **Rasmus Kleis Nielsen** (RISJ), and speakers included **Andrew Dorman** (Professor of International Security, Kings College), **Stephen Grey** (Security Correspondent, Reuters), and **Sir David Omand** (former head of GCHQ).

Attacks on the Press

25 April 2017
Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford

The RISJ, in partnership with the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) launched the 2017 report *Attacks on the Press: The New Face of Censorship*. The report is a comprehensive guide to the state of press freedom around the globe, and within its pages, journalists and media observers examine abuses, expose nations that violate press freedom with impunity, and provide potential solutions – including guidance on possible work-around, on how to ensure the safety of journalists and

their sources, and how to fight against the powers that seek to silence criticism and call into question the media's credibility. At the event, **Joel Simon** (Executive Director of CPJ) gave a short overview of the report which was followed by a fascinating panel discussion delving deeper into some of the issues raised. On the panel were **Alan Rusbridger** (former Editor-in-Chief, *Guardian*, and author of the 'Fiscal Blackmail' chapter on Kenya in this report), **Lindsey Hilsum** (Channel 4 News International Editor and the author of 'Sandstorm; Libya in the Time of Revolution'). It was chaired by **Razia Iqbal** (Presenter, *Newshour*, on the BBC World Service, and the *World Tonight* on BBC Radio 4).

VR for News: The New Reality?

10 May 2017
BBC New Broadcasting House

Virtual reality (VR) journalism has emerged from its experimental phase in the past three years to become an integrated part of many newsrooms. At the same time, technological advances have made the medium available to consumers, especially in the form of 360 videos watched on smartphones, sometimes supplemented by a cheap cardboard headset. Zillah Watson presented the finding of her report, covering questions such as: Will consumers ever really use VR beyond gaming? Can we find good user cases for the technology in medicine, architecture, education – and journalism? Can media organisations overcome the content and technical challenges to make VR the new reality? A panel discussion followed, chaired by **Nic Newman** (Research Associate, RISJ), with input from **Kay Meseberg** (Head of VR, ARTE) and **Anna Bateson** (VP – Platforms and Partnerships, the *Guardian*).



TOP LEFT: From left: Rasmus Kleis Nielsen and George Brock at *The Right to be Forgotten – Privacy and the Media in the Digital Age* event, October 2016

TOP RIGHT: Panel discussion on *Attacks on the Press* at Lady Margaret Hall, April 2017

ABOVE LEFT: Panel discussion for *Journalism in an Age of Terror* at the Institute for Government, January 2017. From right: Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, Andrew Dorman and Sir David Omand

ABOVE RIGHT: Razia Iqbal chairing *Attacks on the Press* event at Lady Margaret Hall, April 2017

PARTNERED EVENTS

Whose Media, Whose Interests? Ownership, Public Sphere and Online Space 18 September 2016 Václav Havel Library, Prague

This conference was jointly organised by the Václav Havel Library, Aspen Institute Prague, and the Centre for the Study of Political Philosophy, Ethics and Religion, Charles University in Prague, with support from the RISJ. The aim of the conference was to critically reflect upon some of the main issues which currently surround debates about the performance of media in the Czech Republic and Central Europe in general, namely the changing models of media ownership, the independence of public service broadcasting, as well as the spreading of disinformation and propaganda via the social network sites. **John Lloyd** (Senior Research Fellow, RISJ) was a keynote speaker and **David A. L. Levy** (Director, RISJ), chaired a session on public broadcasting.

Press Coverage of the European Referendum 20 September 2016 European Parliament Office, Europe House, London

This event launched the RISJ report of the same name which resulted from a partnership with media insight specialists, PRIME Research, to examine the output of the nine British national newspapers across the four months of the highly charged and divisive referendum campaign. The London office of the European Parliament Office partnered with RISJ to launch this timely and insightful report addressing issues such as: Was press

reporting of the referendum campaign fair? Did Leave and Remain get equal and due coverage? Speakers at the event included **David A. L. Levy** (Director, RISJ), **Matthew Elliott** (Chief Executive, Vote Leave), **Lucy Thomas** (Deputy Director, Britain Stronger In Europe), **Jonathan Isaby** (Editor, BrexitCentral, and former journalist), **Richard Corbett** (Labour MEP for Yorkshire and Humber, and Founder of mythbusters); and the debate was chaired by **Dr Sara Hagemann** (Assistant Professor, European Institute).

The Right to be Forgotten – Privacy and the Media in the Digital Age 12 October 2016 City, University of London

At this event, co-hosted with the City, University of London, **George Brock** (Professor of Journalism, City, University of London) presented key findings from his new book. A panel of experts (including **Dr Julia Powles** (Faculty of Law, Cambridge University), **Dr Paul Bernal** (Lecturer in Information Technology, University of East Anglia), **Peter Barron** (Head of Communications EMEA, Google), and **Dr Rasmus Kleis Nielsen** (Director of Research, RISJ)) then discussed the history behind the judgment, the varied motives behind it, and the wider implications for freedom of speech and journalism.

Public Debate: What President Trump Means 16 November 2016 Blavatnik School of Government, Oxford

Following a bruising and often controversial campaign, Donald Trump was elected as the

President of the United States. How did he do it? What will it mean for America and the wider world? Will he go ahead with his radical policy agenda? The RISJ partnered with the Blavatnik School of Government to convene an expert panel which led a lively debate into these questions. The panel featured **Bill Emmott** (former Editor of *The Economist*, Visiting Fellow of Practice at the Blavatnik School of Government), **Sohrab Ahmari**, (Columnist, *Wall Street Journal*), **Sarah Churchwell** (Professor of American Literature and Public Understanding of the Humanities at the University of East Anglia), **Pepper Culpepper** (Professor of Politics and Public Policy, Blavatnik School of Government), and **Rasmus Kleis Nielsen** (Director of Research, RISJ).

Independence Day: Did the British Media Enable Voters to Make an Informed Choice in the Brexit Referendum? 18 November 2016 St Antony's College, Oxford

RISJ co-sponsored a panel discussion with Free Speech Debate and the European Studies Centre to delve deeper into some of the issues surrounding the European Referendum. The panel was chaired by **Timothy Garton Ash** (St Antony's College, Oxford) and featured guest speakers: **Billur Aslan** (RISJ), **David Deacon** (Loughborough University), and **Caroline Lees** (European Journalism Observatory/RISJ).

SEMINARS`

THE BUSINESS AND PRACTICE OF JOURNALISM SEMINARS
Green Templeton College

Michaelmas Term 2016

How Journalism Faces a Second Wave of Disruption from Technology and Changing Audience Behaviour

Nic Newman, Digital Media Strategist and Research Associate, RISJ

How the BBC Reaches Digital Audiences in South Asia

Roopa Suchak, South Asia Workstream Lead, BBC

From Afghanistan to a More Dangerous World

Christina Lamb, Foreign Affairs Correspondent, Sunday Times

Quartz: A Mobile-First Approach to News

Akshat Rathi, Reporter, Quartz

Strength in Numbers – How Journalists Cracked the Panama Papers

Holly Watt, Investigations Correspondent, Guardian

Reuters: Innovating to Stay Ahead – From Pigeons to Multimedia

Jane Barrett, Global Head of Multimedia, Editorial, Reuters

Catastrophic Success: President Erdoğan of Turkey and the Opposition Media

Kerim Balci, Editor-in-Chief, Turkish Review

Statistics, the BBC, and Impartiality

Dame Jil Matheson, former UK National Statistician and leader of BBC Trust Review of Statistics

Hilary Term 2017

Old Media, New Media, and Politics in Brazil

Americo Martins, Editor, Global Editorial Partnerships, BBC, and former Director General of Brazil's public broadcasting company

Making an Impact with Journalism in Today's 24/7 Digital News Landscape

Rachel Oldroyd, Managing Editor, Bureau of Investigative Journalism

Is Censorship Stifling China's Media?

Vincent Ni, Senior Producer, BBC World Service, and former Foreign Correspondent for Caixin Media

Digital Transformation – The Organisation Challenges

Lucy Küng, Google Digital News Senior Research Fellow, RISJ

Reporting Africa: New Storytellers, New Stories?

Melanie Bunce, Senior Lecturer in Journalism, City University, co-editor of Africa's Media Image in the 21st Century

Freedom of Information and the Informed Citizen

Heather Brooke, Investigative Journalist, author, and Professor of Journalism at City University

Newsweek: Legacy Title as Startup

Owen Matthews, Contributing Editor, and former Moscow and Istanbul Bureau Chief, Newsweek International

Investigative Journalism in the Age of Social News

Tom Warren, Investigations Editor, BuzzFeed UK

Trinity Term 2017

The Enemy of my Enemy is Still my Enemy: The Polarised Media Landscape in Syria

Rima Marrouch, Freelance Journalist for Reuters, BBC, CBS, and Al Jazeera, and former Journalist Fellow

Why Facebook Matters and What you Need to Know about Digital

Esra Dogramaci, Senior Digital Editor, Deutsche Welle

Women on Air – Where are the Experts?

Suzanne Franks, Professor of Journalism, City University, London

News in the Digital Age, and How The Economist Fits in?

Tom Standage, Deputy Editor, The Economist

The Optician of Lampedusa – Opening the World's Eyes to the Human Story behind Mass Migration

Emma Jane Kirby, BBC Correspondent, author of the Optician of Lampedusa, and former Journalist Fellow

Producing News Videos that Young People Care about

Sakhr Al-Makhadhi, Acting Executive Producer, AJ+

Broadcasting in the Age of Brexit and Trump

Justin Webb, BBC Today Presenter, Radio 4

OPPOSITE PAGE LEFT: *The Right to be Forgotten – Privacy and the Media in the Digital Age* panel discussion. From left: Peter Barron; Paul Bernal; George Brock and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen

OPPOSITE PAGE RIGHT: Lord Stern at the launch of the *Digital Media and the Coverage of Climate Change* at the CCLA, December 2016

MEDIA AND POLITICS SEMINARS

Nuffield College

Michaelmas Term 2016

The Need for Slow Media in the Digital Age
Helen Boaden, Director of BBC Radio

Journalism in the Age of Terrorism

John Lloyd, Senior Research Fellow, the RISJ

Different Styles of Journalism in Japan and the UK

Reiko Saisho, Bureau Chief, NHK London Bureau and former Journalist Fellow

Reflections on Media and Politics: From Margaret Thatcher to Brexit

The Rt Hon. the Lord David Willetts, former Minister for Universities and Science, 2010–14, and MP for Havant, 1992–2015

Politics, Media, and Language in the era of Trump and Brexit

Mark Thompson, CEO of the New York Times and former Director-General of the BBC

Hilary Term 2017

Russian Politics and Russian Journalism in the Time of Putin and Trump

Vladimir Ashurkov, member of the Central Council of Progress Party

A German Experience of Covering Brexit

Diana Zimmermann, London Correspondent for ZDF German public television

Analysing Foreign Affairs for a Global Audience

Gideon Rachman, Chief Foreign Affairs Commentator, Financial Times

The Value of Being Right

Niko Price, Europe Editor, Associated Press

The Assault on Reason: Fake News, Post Truth and the Media

Richard Sambrook, Professor of Journalism, Cardiff University, and Senior Research Fellow, RISJ

Trinity Term 2017

How the Global Financial Crisis is Shaping Political Upheavals: Reflections on UKIP, Brexit, and Trump

Jane Green, Professor of Political Science, University of Manchester, and co-director of the 2015 British Election Study

From Black and White to Read All Over – Political Reporting in a Digital Age

Isabel Oakeshott, political journalist and commentator, and co-author of Call Me Dave

Talking to Trump

Frances Stead Sellers, senior writer, Washington Post

Media Freedom and Free Speech in South Africa

Kate O'Regan, Director of the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights, Faculty of Law, and former constitutional court judge in South Africa



About Us



Seagulls and rock-fishing couple, Arie and Zakiyyah Widodo are sprayed by a large wave breaking against the rocks near Sydney's Bronte Beach, Australia, February 26, 2017. Picture taken February 26, 2017. REUTERS/Aaron Bunch

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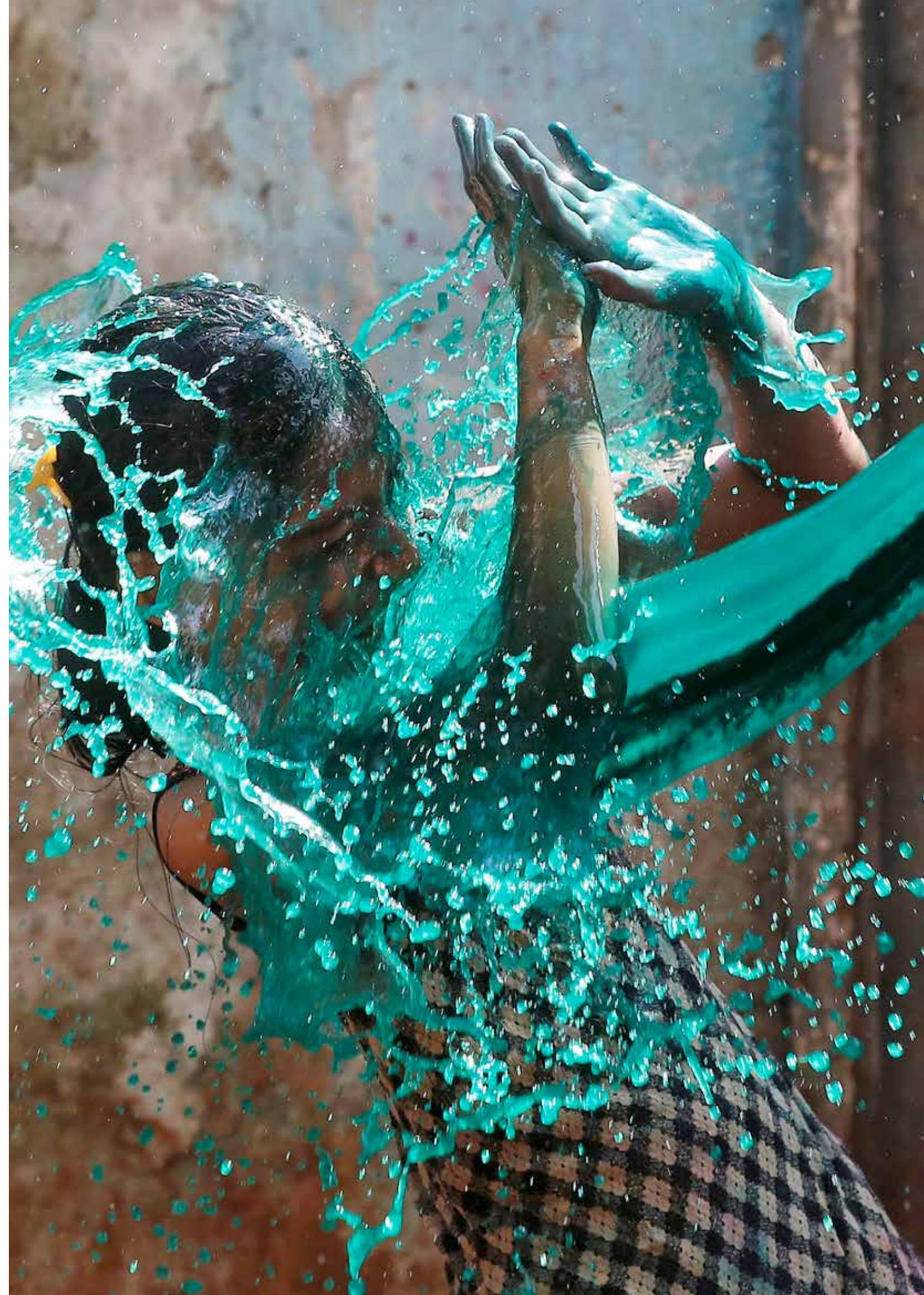
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FRONT COVER: *A Turkish student cries during a protest to show solidarity with trapped citizens of Aleppo, Syria, in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina December 14, 2016.*
REUTERS/Dado Ruvic

INSIDE BACK COVER: *A girl reacts as coloured water is thrown on her face while celebrating Holi, the Festival of Colours, in Mumbai, India, March 13, 2017.*
REUTERS/Shailesh Andrade