

Call for Papers – Special Issue Proposal

[English]

Title: Reimagining journalism in the era of digital innovation

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Journalism is undergoing a profound transformation driven by digital innovation, artificial intelligence and changes in audience habits. From automation in journalistic practice and personalization of content to new narrative formats and emerging modes of consumption, journalism is being redefined on multiple levels: technological, professional, ethical and educational.

The convergence of factors such as digital acceleration, the emergence of new narratives, the redefinition of business models and the change in social expectations of the media is shaping a new media ecosystem in which the foundations of the profession are being rethought (Peña-Fernández et al., 2023). These transformations affect all links in the information value chain in a transversal manner: from sources to audiences, including newsrooms, distribution channels and financing models.

Innovation in journalism cannot be analyzed solely as a response to technological advances, but as a complex process, located at the intersection between culture, economy, education and citizenship. New formats such as podcasts, immersive journalism, interactive visual projects or newsgames not only incorporate digital tools, but also imply a reconceptualization of storytelling, modes of production and the relationship between journalists and audiences (Paulussen, 2016; García-Avilés et al., 2022).

Added to this are transformations in labor and training dynamics. Precariousness, professional polyvalence and the need for multidisciplinary skills pose challenges for training and education systems in communication (Hossain & Wenger, 2024). In addition, the growing disconnect between younger generations and traditional media opens questions about how journalistic trust, credibility and relevance are built today (Newman et al., 2024).

In this scenario, the sustainability of journalism requires new perspectives on business models, information entrepreneurship, the role of local and community media, and strategies to strengthen the social function of journalism in contexts of misinformation and polarization. Media literacy and citizen participation emerge as essential axes to renew the symbolic pact between media and society (Wardle & Derakhshan, 2021; Pérez-Escoda et al., 2022).

Artificial intelligence is one of the elements of this most recent transformation. However, its analysis should not be isolated, but incorporated into a comprehensive approach to the mutations of the ecosystem. From the automation of editorial processes to content generation and news personalization, AI raises ethical, political and professional questions that can only be addressed from a multidisciplinary and inclusive perspective (Carlson, 2016; Luengo & Herrera-Damas, 2021; Cerezo, 2024).

The proliferation of digital positions linked to specific machine learning functions - transcriptions, text translation and pattern identification in large volumes of data - has not only failed to displace traditional positions in sectors where interpersonal skills - such as adaptability to change - are valued (Ceide et al, 2023). It has also energized traditional skills such as analysis, interpretation and contextualization of information (Cerezo, 2024). In fact, it highlights the journalist's unique ability to culturally interpret data automated by machines (Carlson, 2016).

As traditional media try to reinvent their business models and younger generations reformulate their ways of relating to information, interdisciplinary research becomes essential to understand these evolving dynamics that affect the entire information value chain composed of three essential elements: sources, media and audiences.

This special issue seeks to bring together research that critically analyzes the processes of structural change that are affecting journalistic practice from an interdisciplinary perspective. Priority is given to approaches that go beyond technology to understand innovation as a cultural, professional, economic and educational phenomenon.

Papers should be original, theoretical essays and empirical studies addressing, among others, the following topics:

1. Incorporation and impact of artificial intelligence in journalism.
- Redefining journalism and technological innovations in the digital environment. 3.
3. New news formats in digital journalism (e.g., immersive, interactive, data journalism).
4. New formulas in the processes of creation, production, distribution and consumption of content.
5. Teaching innovation in journalism education and development of new professional profiles.
6. Disruptive business models and entrepreneurship in journalism.
7. Mechanisms against disinformation and promotion of new media literacy formulas.

Submission information

Manuscripts should be submitted through the Journalism of Media (MDPI) platform before December 31, 2025. All papers will undergo a rigorous peer review process in accordance with the journal's policies.

Guidelines for authors available at:

<https://www.mdpi.com/journal/journalmedia/instructions>

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