The preconference is organized by the Leading Research Environment, “Global Media Studies and the Politics of Mediated Communication”, based at the Department of Media Studies at Stockholm University, Sweden. The Leading Research Environment has a focus on human rights and the media, and has been hosting prominent guest professors focusing on socio-political and cultural dimensions of mediation. Sponsoring ICA Divisions ERIC (Ethnicity in Race and Communication); Political Communication; Environmental Communication; Global Communication and Social Change; Philosophy, Theory and Critique

DAY 1 (MAY 23, 2018)
(All sessions in Smetana Hall)

1230: Registration Opens

1300-1315: WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

1315-1415: MEDIA, HUMAN RIGHTS AND MIGRATION (Chair: Christian Christensen)

In the past few years, “the migration issue” and the contested concept “the migration crisis” have permeated public discourse, particularly in Europe and North America. The mediations of this discourse are often characterised by tension between the UN and international law-protected rights of freedom of movement, mobility rights and the right to seek and enjoy asylum on the one hand, and measures taken to tighten restrictions, close borders and control international migration, on the other. Moral aspects and values such as transnational solidarity and hospitality, their mediations and the role of the media themselves as social actors emerge as embedded questions in the context of legal and regulatory scopes.

Lilie Chouliaraki, The London School of Economics: Ethics of Witnessing in the Age of Social Media
Ekaterina Balabanova, University of Liverpool: Rights, mobility and the ‘illiberal wind’ in Europe?
1415-1515: MEDIA, HUMAN RIGHTS AND POPULISM (Chair: Miyase Christensen)

With the rise of the far-right, the media’s relations with politics and their role in fueling populism have become questions widely scrutinized over the past decade. The changes in the media environment, such as the growing influence and reach of far-right outlets, as well as the questioning of the legitimacy of the so-called “legacy media” have created an environment in which populist rhetoric has moved from the margins into mainstream discourse. Such developments have far-reaching implications for questions of communication rights and the increasing transnational mobility of nativist discourses.

Silvio Waisbord, George Washington University: Reassessing the fight for communication rights in times of right-wing populism: Analytical blind-spots and new questions

Christian Christensen, Stockholm University: The European Far-right and US Imagination of an Ethno-Disneyland

1515-1530 COFFEE BREAK

1530-1630: HUMAN RIGHTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATION (Chair: Kristina Riegert)

With the growing significance of environmental degradation and climate change in all spheres of human life and non-human systems (from marine and rainforest habitats to politics and questions of rights and justice), environmental communication today is a core area of research in media and communication studies with growing critical potential. Climate change threatens the livelihoods of communities in vulnerable areas such the First Nations peoples of Canada and indigenous populations in the Arctic. Environmental discrimination and geo-ethnic regimes in handling both the manufacturing industries and waste place questions of environmental justice and human rights center-stage. This panel addresses a number of emergent and existing issues in the context of environment and communication.

Miyase Christensen, Stockholm University: Media, Communication and the Environment in Precarious Times: Rethinking Questions of Justice and Rights
1630-1745: COMMUNICATION RIGHTS UNDER GLOBALIZATION
(Chair: Christian Christensen)
Media and political theory has long acknowledged that the right to communicate, to information, and to recognize oneself in media representations are key components of citizenship. Under globalization, such human rights are not just universal: they are also challenged, and in some cases increasingly threatened. This may come out, for instance, in the form of acts of terrorism, but also in less acute acts and processes that may nonetheless be threatening in the long-term, e.g. in terms of information inequality and how this may be connected to other forms of inequality. This panel reflects on some of these problems, by focusing on global issues in global and national media as well as in international development cooperation.

Kristina Riegert, Stockholm University: News Discourse on Defending Rights and Values around Terrorist attacks - A contribution to Human Rights Awareness or Rhetoric?
Alexa Robertson, Stockholm University: Global Media and Information Inequality
Florencia Enghel, Jönköping University: Can your attention save lives? Human rights intervention as digital business + social media as moral fix

1745: DINNER (ON-SITE)

DAY 2 (MAY 24, 2018)

0830: Registration Open

0900-0910 (Smetana Hall) WELCOME & BRIEF INTRODUCTION (INCL. PRACTICAL INFO)

0910-0955 (Smetana Hall) Keynote Silvio Waisbord, George Washington University: The media politics of the backlash against rights-based citizenship in Latin America (Chair: Christian Christensen)
1000-1115: Parallel Sessions

**Smetana Hall (Chair: Kristina Riegert)**

The spotification of musical World Memory
Patrick Burkart, Texas A & M University
Susanna Leijonhufvud, Luleå Tekniska Universitet

Disrupting the Public Sphere: The Civic and Participatory Potential of Media Start-Ups
Elfriede Fürsich, University of Pittsburg

Freedom of expression and children protection within the European political debate concerning audiovisual sexual contents on the Internet
Agnese Pastorino, Université Paris Descartes - Sorbonne

“Jakarta Unfair” Film Distribution on You Tube: Building Independence Against the Domination of Public Sphere
Eni Maryani, Universitas Padjadjaran

Popular digital culture, Social change and Feminist Discourse: a reception study on advertising, new media and activism campaigns in Spain
Eloisa Nos-Aldas, University Jaume I of Castellón, Spain
Alessandra Farné, University Jaume I of Castellón, Spain

**Eliska Junkova Hall (Chair: Alexa Robertson)**

Media reporting in West Africa: ‘a continuation of conflict by other means’
Jon Silverman, University of Bedfordshire

The Contested Visibility of War: Actors on the Ground Taking and Distributing Images from the War in Syria
Nina Grønlykke Mollerup, University of Copenhagen
Mette Mortensen, University of Copenhagen

Beyond the suffering subject: Complex coverage of human rights in American and Finnish mainstream news on South Africa and Brazil
Kirsi Cheas, University of Helsinki
Whose Rights? Image and representational rights in context and in conflict
Joselyn Jurich, Columbia University

“If the boat sinks we’ll just swim without our clothes on!”: Humor and collectivity as alternative framing of refugees in (non-)citizen journalism
Helena Hägglund, Stockholm University

1115-1130: COFFEE BREAK
1130-1245: Parallel Session 2

Smetana Hall (Chair: Christian Christensen)

Regulating Religion in the United States: Mormons, Quakers, and Muslims.
Kathryn Montalbano, Neumann University

John Pollock, The College of New Jersey

Forced Displacement and Child Sensitive Communication - Connecting Research and Advocacy
Emanuela Bianchera, UNICEF Office of Research – Florence, Italy

Hayek and the “social justice warrior”
Sean Phelan, Massey University

Pornscapes of Migration
Juan Llamas-Rodriguez, The University of Texas at Dallas

Rights and the mediation of migrant deaths at Europe’s borders
Karina Horsti, University of Jyväskylä

Eliska Junkova Hall (Chair: Kristina Riegert)

El-Jaida. The spark of the Tunisian women rights movement
Ilhem Allagui, Northwestern University

“The shrinking communicative space of civil society in pursuing gender equality in media
Bruktawit Ejigu Kassa, Haramaya University, Ethiopia
Katharine Sarikakis, University of Vienna

THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY: Challenges to Media Activism Confronted in Rural Community Rights Engagement Projects
Peter Lemish, Independent Scholar

mHealth and the Igorot: Narratives from Indigenous Mountain Province, Philippines
Dazzelyn Baltazar Zapata, National University of Singapore

Navigating local sensitivities: Human rights, communications strategies, and international organisations in Sri Lanka
Madhu Senaratne, University of Sussex
1245-1345: LUNCH

1345-1430 (Smetana Hall) Keynote Lilie Chouliaraki, The London School of Economics: *The rise of lifestyle solidarity* (Chair: Miyase Christensen)

1430-1445: COFFEE BREAK

1445-1600: Session 3

Smetana Hall (Chair: Alexa Robertson)

**Conceptualizing Newsgathering: Redefining the Human Right to ‘Seek ... Information and Ideas**
Erik Ugland, Marquette University

**Right to post or right to live? “Rights conflicts” in a global hybrid media event of terrorist violence**
Katja Valaskivi, University of Tampere
Johanna Sumiala, University of Helsinki
Minttu Tikka, University of Helsinki

**Human Rights Video Activism Through an Institutional Lens**
Sandra Ristovska, University of Colorado Boulder

**Global Flows, and “Universal” Human and Communication Rights**
Yael Warshel, Penn State University

‘**Good news for humanitarians? Journalist-foundation interactions and the consequences for specialist humanitarian news outlets**’
Martin Scott, University of East Anglia
Kate Wright, Edinburgh University
Mel Bunce, City University of London

1600-1630 (Smetana Hall): Concluding words/Wrap-Up (Discussion led by Miyase Christensen and Christian Christensen)