Media Research on Climate Change: Where have we been and where are we heading?

This special issue to be published in March 2014 aims to critically appraise the field and map out the future direction of research on media coverage of climate change. Along with the past decade’s general acknowledgement of climate change as one of the most serious challenges to a sustainable society, the body of media research on climate change has rapidly grown. The climate coverage of various national media has been extensively analysed from various perspectives (scientific, democratic, political, visual, emotional, cultural, etc.), and the quest for the development of a global understanding of climate reporting has resulted in a number of international comparisons. Additionally, media research has, to some extent, addressed citizens’ representations of climate change in relation to media discourse. Thus, a great deal of academic work has been directed towards the mapping out of media representations, something which has generated vital basic knowledge about the role of the media in the social construction of climate change. The timely question at this point is: how should we best proceed in order to take media studies on climate change to the next level? More specifically, what conclusions can be drawn in light of the existing body of work and how might the research move into the next phase? In which direction should the field orient itself, theoretically and empirically speaking? Articles will address the lessons to be learnt, the challenges to be met, and the directions to be taken in order to meet imminent challenges and further develop the field of media research on climate change.

Possible themes papers address may include:

- The development of theoretical and conceptual frameworks for media studies on climate change
- (New) methodological procedures for media studies on climate change
- Particularly important empirical aspects of future media studies on climate change, such as online representations and/or the role of communications campaigns/persuasive communication
- Ways in which media studies on climate change can be integrated into interdisciplinary collaborative research aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change impacts

Submission Instructions

Deadline for submissions: 28 February 2013  (full papers)

Word limit: 8,000 words (including references)

Queries: ulrika.olausson@oru.se

Submit: www.tandfonline.com/renc

The journal adheres to APA Style. Manuscripts must not be under review elsewhere or have appeared in any other published form. All submissions should use MANUSCRIPT CENTRAL, accompanied by a cover letter indicating the desire to have the submission reviewed for this special issue.

For further details on manuscript submission, please refer to the “Instructions for authors” page on the journal’s website www.tandfonline.com/renc

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