



Political Communication in the digital media ecosystem

Annual Conference of the Italian Association of PolComm – Milan 12-14 Dec. 2019

Call for Abstracts

Where do we stand with political communication research in the digital age? What are the challenges of the Web to the democratic system and to its actors? To what extent political participation patterns are affected by digital media? We have entered a fourth phase of political communication (Blumler 2016) in which politics, leaders, parties, movements, news media and voters face every day a new communication environment that follows logics and displays dynamics very different from the traditional ones. Today's ecosystem is marked by virality of communications, by homophily of social media interactions, by polarization and 'balkanization' of public sphere, by obscure algorithms of platforms. It is also a "hybrid" system (Chadwick 2013), in which mainstream media, while welcoming digital media, are still decisive. This hybridity is systemic in nature, a source of complexity, is often disregarded by political actors, and it represents an environment that political communication research should hold as a firm departing point. Beside generating a new meaningful frame, hybridity raises important questions regarding research methodology, both on digital methods and through big data.

While the central theme of the Conference is "**Political communication in the ecosystem of digital media**", the Italian Association of Political Communication's policy is inclusive, and open to consider papers on any aspects of the relations between media and politics. PhD candidates and junior researchers are encouraged to submit their works. All submissions will be peer-reviewed. Suggestions how to write a successful abstract can be found [here](#).

- The paper proposals should include: Title, Name of author(s), affiliation, email, Abstract of 400 words, 3 keywords, and should be sent to: **convegno@compol.it**
- Deadline: **15 September**
- Notification of acceptance: **30 October**
- Full papers must be submitted by **30 November 2019**

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Conference Website: <https://www.compol.it/eventi/convegno/convegno-2019/>

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