

**ECREA section
DIASPORA, MIGRATION AND THE MEDIA
Mission Statement**

Questions of identity and politics of difference have been in the heart of European communication research for decades. In the context of transnationalism and the growing diversity of European societies these questions take on a new urgency and have new implications for European communication practices and their study. Transnational and diasporic communications have brought a number of theoretical and methodological challenges for European communication research, such as those relating to the significance of the national public spheres, national broadcasting, multicultural media and communication practices at present and in the future. This section recognises that transnational and diasporic communications have become a fertile and challenging area for innovative theoretical and methodological approaches; this area of study urges the development of research with transnational and cross-European orientation, which however is not nation-centric and Eurocentric. The section invites and encourages theoretical and empirical explorations of European communications and diversity from across Europe and beyond. We welcome interdisciplinary approaches and innovative studies in all areas of media and communication research (media production; media texts; consumption of media and communications technologies; national and transnational policy; media ethics and the representation of difference).

The *Diaspora, Migration and Media* section promotes critical and interdisciplinary research that addresses the above questions and areas. It welcomes members from across Europe and for outside European geographical and political territories; it strongly encourages membership from across Europe's different regions. The section is open to scholars and research students who either have an established or a growing interest in the study of diaspora, migration and the media.

The themes addressed by the section are summarised under three main headings:

- ?? *The political question:* How might we think of the role of the media in culturally diverse democracies?
- ?? *The cultural question:* What types of links and connections between diasporic and migrant populations develop through the media and how do they relate to imagination, belonging and identity?
- ?? *The social question:* What are the mediated links between diasporic and the so-called host societies? What types of societies emerge in the mediated contemporary European spaces?