

# **Children, Youth and Media**

## ***An ECREA Temporary Working Group***

### **MODUS OPERANDI**

1. The ECREA Temporary Working Group (TWG) “Children, Youth and Media” comprises all ECREA members who express an interest in joining the TWG.
  - 1.1 The TWG is established for a term of 4 years. After the end of the term and upon request of the Chair of the TWG, the TWG can be renewed only once for 4 more years, or it can be granted the status of Section. These are decided upon by the ECREA Executive Board.
  - 1.2 ECREA members can join the TWG by indicating their membership on the ECREA website.
  - 1.3 All interested ECREA members can attend the business meetings of the TWG.
  
2. The day-to-day running of the TWG is the responsibility of the TWG Management Team (the chair and the two vice-chairs).
  - 2.1 They are chosen every two years at an ECREA event or another event where the TWG convenes. The election will take place by email, as well as through a voting procedure at the event where the yearly section business meeting will be held. A simple majority of votes is required.
  - 2.2 Members of the TWG management team can serve a maximum of 3 consecutive terms (i.e. 6 years in total).
  - 2.3 Six months before the end of the mandate of the outgoing team, members of the TWG can put themselves forward for election, as a team, by sending an email to the chair of the TWG.
  - 2.4 The results will be communicated at the TWG business meeting.
  - 2.5 If no TWG business meeting is held, the election will nevertheless take place, but only email will be used.
  
3. The TWG business meeting is the primary decision making body regarding the general direction of the TWG, determining current issues to be addressed by the TWG and changing the statutes or mission statement.
  - 3.1 Only members of the TWG have the right to vote.
  - 3.2 Votes are decided by simple majority.
  - 3.3 The TWG business meeting cannot take decisions that go against the spirit or the general statutes and bylaws of ECREA and the ECREA Executive Board maintains the ultimate decision powers.

4. The TWG Management Team is accountable for its decisions to the ECREA-board and the TWG business meeting. Decisions being made by the TWG Management Team are always provisional, until the TWG business meeting formally approves them.

## **CHAIR**

Prof Sonia Livingstone  
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Sonia Livingstone is Professor of Social Psychology and Head of the Department of Media and Communications at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Her research examines children, young people and the internet; media and digital literacies; the mediated public sphere; audience reception for diverse television genres and public understanding of communications regulation. Recent books include *Children and their Changing Media Environment* (edited with Moira Bovill, Erlbaum, 2001), *Young People and New Media* (Sage, 2002), *Audiences and Publics* (edited, Intellect, 2005), *The Handbook of New Media* (edited, with Leah Lievrouw, Sage, 2006), *Public Connection? Media Consumption and the Presumption of Attention* (with Nick Couldry and Tim Markham, Palgrave, 2007), *International Handbook of Children's Media Culture* (edited, with Kirsten Drotner, 2008), *Children and the Internet* (2009, Polity) and *Media Regulation* (with Peter Lunt, Sage, 2012). She was President of the International Communication Association (2007-8).

## **VICE CHAIRS**

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Brian O'Neill is Head of the School of Media at Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland and Government of Ireland Senior Research Fellow for 2012. His areas of research include media literacy, policymaking and public interest issues relating to children, youth and media. He has

contributed research on media literacy and journalism education for organisations such as UNICEF and the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland. He is co-editor of the forthcoming book *Promoting a Safer Internet for Children. European Policy Debates and Challenges* to be published by Nordicom in 2012. He is a member of the Management Committee of COST Action ISO906 - *Transforming Audiences, Transforming Societies* and as Vice Chair of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) Audience Section. He is also member of the Management Group of EU Kids Online (EU Safer Internet Programme) and leads the work package on Policy.

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Cristina Ponte is Assistant Professor with Habilitation at FCSH, Universidade Nova de Lisboa. Her research examines media and society; children, youth and media; media and generations, with a focus on the family; digital inclusion and participation. Coordinating the Portuguese team in the EU Kids Online since 2006, she has a wide experience on coordinating international and large teams of researchers: Digital Inclusion and Participation (2009-2011), a funded project in partnership with the University of Texas at Austin; the Working Group on Social Integration in the COST Action Transforming Audiences, Transforming Societies (2010-2014); the funded national Project Children and Young People in the news (2005-2007). Author of nine books and several articles in Portuguese, among her English production are:

Ponte, C. (2007). "Mapping news on children in the mainstream press." *European Societies* 9(5): 735-754.

Ponte, C., J. Bauwens, et al. (2009). Children and the internet in the news: Agency, voices and agendas. In Kids Online. S. Livingstone and L. Haddon (pp. 159-172). Bristol, Policy Press.

Paus-Hasebrink, I., C. Ponte, et al. (forthcoming). Understanding digital inequality: the interplay between parental socialisation and children's age development. In Children, risk and safety online. S. Livingstone, L. Haddon and A. Gorzig. Bristol, Policy Press.