

Temporary Working Group “Media & The City”

Report for 2012-2013

The “Media & The City” Temporary Working Group was established in mid-2011 and, as of January 2014, features 74 members. After a first year of network building and consolidation, the TWG has started its regular activities in a systematic and continuous way under both the conference organization and the editorial side.

Regarding the scientific conferences organization, after its initial workshop (Milan, February 2012), the TWG has organized three main events:

- a) On October 26, 2012, the TWG organized a panel at the ECREA international conference in Istanbul, hosting five talks on the topic of Space, Media and Conflict. Panel attendance was good, and during this occasion the TWG has established bridges and started a joint project with the Urban Communication Foundation chaired by Gary Gumpert (see point b).
- b) On June 14, 2013, the TWG co-organized along with Leeds University and the Urban Communication Foundation the international conference “Voices, Space and Media” in Leeds. The conference included 70 presentations from 20 countries. The proceedings are in the process of originating two publications: a volume with selected papers (edited by Matteo Tarantino, Giorgia Aiello and Kate Oakley) and a methodological special issue of the “International Journal of Communication”.
- c) The TWG is currently organizing a panel titled “Bodies, City and Media” for the 2014 ECREA conference to be held in Lisbon in November 2014. The related TWG business meeting will be the occasion to elect the new TWG Management Team.

On the publication side, on September 2013 the TWG published with Cambridge Scholar Publishing a volume (“Media & The City: Urbanism, Technology and Communication”)

edited by Simone Tosoni, Matteo Tarantino and Chiara Giaccardi, with selected proceedings from the first TWG conference in Milan, 2012.

Moreover (see point b) a Special Issue of the International Journal of Communication and a volume of selected paper are being edited by TWG members, with the purpose of presenting a selection of Leeds' Conference papers.

Concerning communication activities, in 2012 a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/mediaandthecity>) has come to integrate the TWG website, as a tool to strengthen members' connections and interactions.