

OBJECTIVES

ECREA “Media & The City” Temporary Working Group

Mission Statement

The Media & The City Temporary Working Group intends to constitute an inter-disciplinary platform for European research and education around the manifold relationship between media and urban environments. It aims at establishing a strong international network, and welcomes scientific production of theoretical, empirical and methodological nature, with a strong emphasis on interdisciplinarity.

Objectives

- 1) To further the research on the field, developing and testing existing approaches and exploring new venues whenever possible;
- 2) To establish and consolidate an international and interdisciplinary network of scholars;
- 3) To broaden the dialogue between communications studies and disciplines such as architecture, urban planning and urban sociology, cooperating with ECREA Sections, Networks and other TWGs, and other relevant research groups and associations;
- 4) To encourage junior researchers;
- 5) To disseminate proceedings from the TWG activities to the academic world and to the public at large;

Some Research topics

1) Representations of the city articulated by the media and their relationships with ongoing urban-level social, political, economic and cultural processes. The main foci here are the practices and modalities of city representation and how they contribute to the production of city spaces (Lefebvre) and to the shaping of city experience.

2) The relationships among ubiquitous/diffused media fruition (and production) and the experience of urban space by citizens and city users, along with the impact on media contents, devices, languages and aesthetics of the urban relocation of fruition practices.

3) The reconfiguration of city spaces related to the physical presence of diffused city media devices. The urbanistic and architectonic “strategies” of integration of media devices into city spaces and buildings are covered by this area, along with the “tactical” use of these spaces by city users.

4) The relationships between cities and the media industry, focusing on the impact of media companies (and their employees) on urban structural organization, culture and life, and on how specific city features (global connections, infrastructure, cultural/leisure resources) facilitate the networking of media companies, attract media enterprises, and contribute to shape the structural organization of these networks and enterprises.