Call for Papers
Special Issue of *International Communication Gazette*: Media and Post-Conflict (Re)Development

Media and Post-Conflict (Re)Development

Scholars have suggested that Rwandan media played a role in perpetuating the 1994 Rwandan genocide by “inciting the hatred that led to violence by using an ethnic framework to report what was essentially a political struggle” (Kellow & Steeves, 1998, p. 107). The Rwandan government and military used national radio to perpetuate a “kill or be killed” narrative and radio broadcasts called Tutsis cockroaches, disclosed their hiding spots, and urged Hutus to slaughter their Tutsi neighbors (Kasoma, 1995; Kellow & Steeves, 1998; Mamdani, 2018; Paris, 2004). Critics also argue that international media hold some responsibility because media attention to distant crises can trigger policy responses (McCombs & Shaw, 1972), but foreign news coverage was largely absent during the Rwandan Genocide (Livingston, 2007).

While Rwanda still faces development challenges, numerous positive achievements have taken place in the 24 years since the genocide relating to education (UNICEF, 2012), politics (Inter-Parliamentary Union, 2016) and the economy (Howard, 2014). Recent research has shown that media have played an important role in this post-genocide era of reconstruction, with journalists actively working to promote unity and redevelopment, even, to some extent, at the expense of their own press freedom (McIntyre & Sobel, 2017; Sobel & McIntyre, 2018).

In order to better understand the ways that media function in post-conflict times, this special issue of *International Communication Gazette* aims to address theoretical, social, cultural, and political issues surrounding the role of media in post-conflict eras of redevelopment. We are particularly interested in the role of media during and after conflicts such as genocides, civil wars or between-nation wars, but would consider submissions regarding media during and after coup d'états and/or times of martial law, large-scale protests, pronouncements of independence, etc.

In this regard, we welcome global comparative research and empirical studies that highlight unique media characteristics/practices/mechanisms/restrictions present in post-conflict zones and/or advance theories explaining post-conflict media phenomena. We invite contributions including but not limited to the following areas:

- Case studies surrounding the applicability and validity of media development theory (also known as development media theory).
• Discussions regarding which models/theories the development of media systems in post-conflict zones have been based. There is growing awareness and critique that media theory used in the context of developing countries remains largely western-centric, so what non-hegemonic models/theories are being used?
• Questions surrounding the ways that development communication or Information Communication Technologies for Development (ICT4D) have helped and/or hindered reconstruction in specific post-conflict zones?
• Case studies and examinations of the ways in which specific national or local media environments changed before and after a conflict.
• Discussions and examples of the ways in which media have been used as tools to stop conflict and promote peace/development.
• Case studies illuminating challenges faced by media organizations in times of post-conflict redevelopment.
• Impacts of post-conflict development on press freedom.
• Ways in which journalistic practices such as peace journalism or constructive journalism have been used in post-conflict contexts.

Although we are especially interested in submissions focused on media in a post-genocide or post-civil war context, we will consider all submissions on the relation between media and post-conflict reconstruction and/or challenges that media practitioners/organizations face in post-conflict zones, regardless of theory, research design, and method.

Submission Guidelines:
Please submit an extended abstract of 800-1,000 words (not including references) describing the manuscript’s research questions, methodology and primary contribution as well as a title page that includes contact information and abbreviated biographies for all authors.

Abstracts should be submitted directly via email to Dr. Meghan Sobel at msobel@regis.edu by October 30, 2018.

Tentative Timeline:
Submission deadline for extended abstracts: October 30, 2018
Editorial decision: November 30, 2018
Full manuscript deadline: April 1, 2019
Final revision deadline: October 1, 2019
Publication date: August 2020