

Medien & Kommunikationswissenschaft

Notes for Authors

The scientific quarterly journal “Medien & Kommunikationswissenschaft” (Media & Communication Research) is an interdisciplinary forum for theoretical and empirical contributions from the entire field of media and communication research. The Hans Bredow Institute has issued and exercised editorial responsibility for “Medien & Kommunikationswissenschaft” since 1953 (name of publication up to 1999: “Rundfunk und Fernsehen” = Radio and Television).



For publication in “Medien & Kommunikationswissenschaft” texts shall be considered, that:

- pinpoint a moment of original theoretical work and/or offer a line of argument that elaborates theory;
- present findings on an identified problem of relevance to theory or media practice;
- state positions and are able to foster the discussion within a scientific discourse. Speculative reflections can be fruitful in this context.
- summarise systematically and comparatively literature and/or a selection of literature on certain problem settings and provide an overview of the state of theory and/or empiricism.

Furthermore, the editors provide the opportunity to state opinions on and reply to contributions that have been published in the afore-mentioned categories. Opinions and replies that correspond to the customary content-related and formal standards in “Medien & Kommunikationswissenschaft” and that are suitable for the promotion of scientific discussion shall be published in the next possible issue of the journal. The editors give the author of the contribution addressed by the opinion the opportunity to reply.

Manuscripts that are submitted for publication in “Medien & Kommunikationswissenschaft” should not be published elsewhere and should not be offered for publication elsewhere until the peer reviewing procedure has been completed. In an effort to promote scientific discourse and cumulative research as well as to assure quality, the editors attach particular importance when reviewing contributions to the fact that the greatest possible transparency is established with respect to the data used. When submitting the manuscript, the authors of empirical contributions make a commitment that they shall sufficiently document the way in which data has been gathered and/or the data sets made available by third parties (e.g. databases) have been accessed in order to create the requirements for secondary analyses and replications. At the same time, they declare that they are willing to make the data used available for further analyses, within the framework of respectively existing possibilities, for scientifically grounded inquiries.

Formal requirements:

- Manuscripts should be sent to the editors by mail in triplicate or by email as rtf-file.
- As the manuscripts submitted will be reviewed on an anonymised basis, two title sheets are required: one bearing the title and the names and addresses of the authors, one without names and addresses. The manuscript itself should contain no references to the authors.
- A short summary of the contribution (max. 15 lines) should be enclosed, which provides the reader, as a stand-alone text, a sufficient insight into the content of the respective contribution.

- The contribution should not exceed 20 manuscript pages (55,000 characters) in size.
- The manuscript pages must be written in DIN A4 (one-sided), one-and-a-half-line format and have a sufficient margin.
- Structuring of the text: Each chapter and subchapter should have a heading (with decimal numbering).
- Emphasis in the text should be marked in italics or bold lettering.
- For notes and literary references, there is a choice of two possibilities: a) the author, year of publication and page number can be stated in the running text – e.g.: ... (Müller, 1990: 37-40) ...-, with the complete bibliographic documentation listed in a bibliography following the contribution; b) via consecutively ordered note numbers, with the text of the note presented on the corresponding page.

Whether the manuscript shall be accepted and when it shall be published will be decided by the editors following a peer review procedure on the basis of external reviews and reviews by the editors themselves. The author will receive written notification of the editors' decision. In the event of a decision in favour of revision, a new submission or rejection, the editors shall openly state the reasons for their decision. For this purpose, the anonymised reviews will be forwarded. The peer review procedure will usually be completed six weeks following the receipt of the manuscript; if the appraisal requires more time, the author will be notified.

After publication 20 separate copies of the original contribution will be made available free of charge. Further separate copies can be ordered in writing, against payment, when returning the corrected proofs to the editors.

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