

Deep Internationalization - Media and public spheres in Global South: The case of Fragile State

A seminar of the Research Centre for Development Communication - Communication for Social Change

Thursday, 13:00 – 15:45 & 3 x 09:00 – 15:45

Room number: **2.17**. The seminar is held in a hybrid format

Instructor: Hazrat Bahar and colleagues

Introduction of the course:

Deep internationalization is becoming increasingly important in Germany. This importance has been identified and echoed by the DFG-funded network "Cosmopolitan Communication Studies," which calls for a "deep internationalization" or "cosmopolitan orientation" of German Communication Studies (KW). Deep internationalization is "a comprehensive recognition and integration of global diversity in knowledge production, measured in terms of the content and spatial dimension of the research and teaching output of professorships and the associated job structures." The results of the project show that "German HE has a lot of catching up to do in terms of 'cosmopolitan knowledge production'" and call for an "in-depth internationalization" of teaching and research in this country, which "essentially involves quantitative measurement and qualitative assessment of knowledge production oriented towards international topics, contexts, and comparisons." Looking beyond the Eurocentric horizon is seen as crucial for the contribution of KW. The recognition of the international diversity of academic cultures is also reflected in the use of theoretical perspectives and approaches, methodologies, and objects of study that go beyond or complement the traditional paths of Western research. Many societies outside Europe and the USA, for example, have a wealth of experience with multi-ethnic or multi-religious diversity and may have acquired valuable transformative knowledge through "asynchronous leapfrogging effects." Understanding these experiences can help avoid possible stagnation at the local level in Germany or Europe. In Germany, technological digitalization and the possibilities of digital mobility have yet to be fully exploited. Given the importance of global values, global knowledge, and global governance, there is a clear need for development in German communication studies.

This seminar will explore the largely unexamined topic of media and public spheres in fragile states, focusing on Afghanistan. We aim to understand how participatory media and communication structures develop in these challenging environments and how media fosters participation, communication, dialogue, social change, and sometimes fragmentation. Through analysis and research, we'll gain insights into how people in fragile states share information and engage in public discourse. Through comprehensive analysis and empirical research, we will gain insights into how people in such environments raise their voices, share information, and participate in public discourse. The seminar will be conducted in an interactive format where students will have opportunities to raise questions, share different perspectives, and deliberate on various concepts in particular geographical and political contexts. After the first few sessions, part of the class will be allocated to students' presentations and question-and-answer sessions.

Learning outcomes:

By the end of the course, students will be able to have a clear idea about 'deep internationalization' and why deep internationalization is essential. Equally important is the concept of the media system, what a media system is, the elements of media systems, the relationship between political systems and media systems, what and how the media system in Afghanistan in the past two decades was, and how it was developed and functioning. Besides that, participants will learn about the culture of journalism and social media and their roles.

Required Readings:

1. Hallin & Mancini (2004) *Comparing media systems: three models of media and politics* (Chapters: **Introduction, Conclusion**).
2. Richter & Kozman (2021) *Arab Media Systems* (Chapters: **Introduction, Conclusion**).
<https://www.openbookpublishers.com/product/1281>
3. Richter & et al. (2023) *Die „tiefe Internationalisierung“ der deutschen Kommunikationswissenschaft?: Eine Evaluation der Personal- und Forschungsstrukturen sowie der Lehrprogramme deutscher Hochschulen*, Global Media Journal. https://www.db-thueringen.de/receive/dbt_mods_00057904
4. Khalvatgar (2019) *Afghanistan - Media Landscapes*
<https://medialandscapes.org/country/afghanistan>
5. Hanitzsch, T., Hanusch, F., Ramaprasad, J., & De Beer, A. S. (Eds.). (2019). *Worlds of journalism: Journalistic cultures around the globe*. Columbia University Press.

Grading

- a) In-class presentation
- b) An essay, minimum/maximum 1000/1500 words without bibliography, about topics taught during the class or any other relevant topics. Please check and confirm the topic with the instructor before you start writing it. The essay is assessed for its argument, criticality, novelty, and syntax. It may also be checked against plagiarism and genuineness.

Date	Time
17.10.2024	13:15 - 15:45
07.11.2024	13:15 - 15:45
14.11.2024	13:15 - 15:45
28.11.2024	09:00 - 16:00 (block seminar)
12.12.2024	13:15 - 15:45
19.12.2024	13:15 - 15:45
09.01.2025	13:15 - 15:45

16.01.2025 **09:00 - 16:00 (block seminar)**

30.01.2025 **09:00 - 16:00 (block seminar)**

06.02.2025 13:15 - 14:45

A detailed syllabus will be shared later.