

UNIMED SubNetwork on Journalism

Journalism is an essential resource for the culture of a country or society as it tackles daily events, reports ongoing societal changes and shapes citizens' perception of reality. In doing so, journalism contributes to the present and future of its citizens.

Moreover, journalism is a considerable reflection of a country's trends in terms of transparency, freedom and openness. Indeed, journalistic rules are not the same everywhere and the media organization and management, funding methods and regulations can differ significantly. For example, in some countries, the production of news is controlled, and governments do not allow media's fully independence or, in other countries, the media are independent of the government but work as private industries which are pushed by profit.

Nowadays the technological progress has a great impact on journalistic practices, since the coming of the Internet and smartphones implied many changes in both the production and consumption of the traditional print media channels. Social media news have also imposed the issue of the so-called fake news, in other words deliberately untruthful information which can have a quick and alarming diffusion.

In this context, journalism must recall its concern for social responsibility - and this is one of the milestones of the intent of UNIMED to build up a SubNetwork on Journalism.

The general purpose is to bring students, faculties and staff of UNIMED associated universities to share values and culture of journalism across the Mediterranean area. Through its action the SubNetwork aims to encourage dialogue and collaboration towards a shared strategy of promotion and support of journalism with the aim to enrich journalism studies, to endorse collaboration and research opportunities, to enhance capacity building processes related to journalism issues as well as to explore new curricula in universities.

The SubNetwork will seek to profile the profession of journalist in relation to social responsibility issues, to educate critical and reflective journalism professionals, to stimulate relationships with active audiences in order to ensure the improvement of public debate and support the democratization process of the country, where needed.

Moreover, the SubNetwork aims to improve and modernise the way of studying communication and journalism, for example by including the capabilities to use video, audio, text in innovative ways as well as to experience new communication platforms, such as social media and blogs, to produce journalistic contents.



For all these reasons, the purpose of the relaunching of this SubNetwork is to endorse the cooperation among the UNIMED partners on the fields of Journalism, involving academics and experts from both shores of the Mediterranean basin.

Each UNIMED partner will decide its own level of involvement to join the subnetwork on one or more of the following tasks:

- Collecting information on the "state of art" of journalism within UNIMED members.
- Sharing and promoting networking with UNIMED partners for EU-funded projects on journalism.
- Facilitate the exchange of information and stimulate researches and publications on these issues, strengthening the collaboration between researchers of the UNIMED consortium.
- Involving students, faculty and staff of the universities partners to participate in local, national and international events related to journalism.
- Organizing conferences, seminars, round-tables and workshops on relevant topics for journalism.

If you are interested in participating to this initiative and in order to confirm your adhesion to the SubNetwork, please fill-out the [online form](#) with information about your current activities on the topic before the 15th July 2019.

Please indicate also the contact person at your University for the activities of this SubNetwork and the activities your organization is willing to participate in and to carry out.

For any further information do not hesitate to contact us at unimed@uni-med.net