COMMUNICATING SCIENCE: THE PROFILE OF SCIENCE JOURNALISTS IN SPAIN

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• Science journalism has been one of the journalistic specializations hardest hit by the economic crisis.

INTRODUCTION

• The purpose of this article is to explore the academic profile of the science journalist from the analysis of their academic training and the shortcomings that the Spanish educational system presents in this area.

METHODOLOGY



Structured in-depth interviews based on open questions and focus group discussions

Quantitative techniques

A closed-question survey

Ethnographic methodological context

RESULTS



More journalistic than scientific training.

- Graduated journalist without specialization in science.
- Journalistic training takes priority over scientific training.



Academic profiles in the development of science journalism

- Most science journalists in Spain do not believe science training is necessary.
- «What is the best academic profile to develop your role ?» Journalism training is more highly regarded (48.97% of those interviewed)

CONCLUSIONS

The journalists attach great importance to ongoing learning and the experience and knowledge that can be acquired outside academia. A considerable number suggests that specific training in science journalism should be acquired through elective subjects taken as part of the undergraduate degree or through a master's degree.

The shortcomings in training are attributed not so much to academic institutions, but to the working conditions of journalists in Spain.

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