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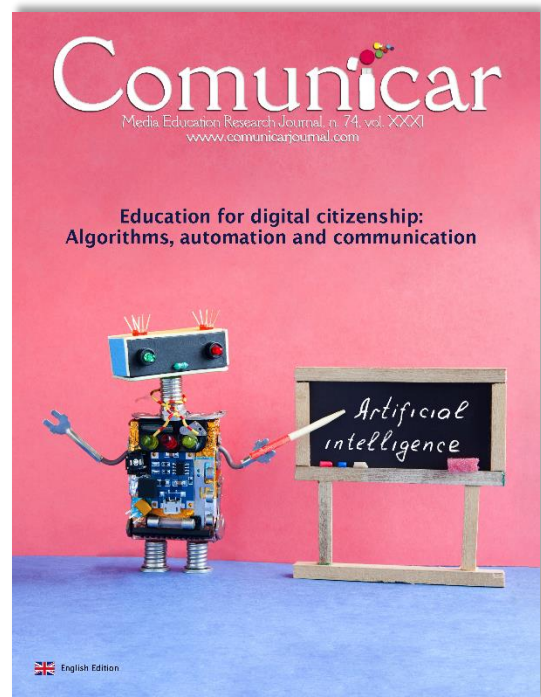
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Education for digital citizenship: Algorithms, automation and communication

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Scope

The influence of algorithms in the public sphere continues to grow due to their ability to create artificial opinion, to turn minority options into hegemonic ones, and to structure their dissemination. The opacity as the key to its success reveals the importance of information and, above all, of citizenship training. Citizens have new resources available to participate in the construction of public space, but, simultaneously, they stumble upon increasingly sophisticated strategies that impose their messages and, especially, their frames. Bots, fake news, new political agents, the influence of digital platforms, data mining or Artificial Intelligence reshape the public sphere; hybrid intelligence allows citizens to become aware and prepare for the intensive intervention of these actors.

This Special Issue aims to provide an innovative perspective on the study of automation, algorithms and public opinion, understanding the influence of platforms on current life. Contributions are welcome from insights related to artificial intelligence, big data and language processing from communication, education or both.

Descriptors

- Media literacy
- Disinformation (misinformation / fake news)
- Citizenship education
- Innovation
- New literacies
- Hybrid intelligence
- Critical thinking
- Social media (social networking sites)
- Robotics
- Cyber security
- Algorithms

Questions

- What is the role of digital platforms in communication, educational and social systems?
- What is the influence of digital platforms on formal university and non-university education? And in informal training?
- What influence does computational propaganda have on the life of the citizen? Can the influence of big data on cognitive biases be confirmed?
- What experiences exist from the point of view of education to train citizens for this context?
- What effects can be observed from the automation of communication? What about formal university and non-university education? And what about informal education?
- What applications can algorithms and bots have in teaching? How can citizens be educated to avoid the consequences of bubble filters and echo chambers?
- What digital pedagogical strategies can be used to promote a critical participation of children and adolescents in this context? What are the training needs of teachers regarding automation? What international hybrid intelligence and algorithm teacher training experiences are being implemented?
- What international experiences stand out in Deep Learning?
- What state and supra-state public education policies are being promoted?
- What risks does education face in the coming years?

Editors

Berta García-Orosa (University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain)

She is a Professor of Journalism at the University of Santiago de Compostela and a member of the research group Novos Medios. The dissemination of her scientific work is supported by 3 six-year research and includes more than 130 publications (Q1, Q2 and Q3 including publishers such as Springer, Routledge or McGraw Hill). She has participated in more than 30 funded research projects and is co-director of the latest digital native Cybermedia in Spain: narrative formats and mobile strategy" (RTI2018-093346-B-C33) financed by the National R + D + I Plan of the State Program of Research, development and Innovation. She has carried out research stays in different European and Latin American universities (Portugal, Costa Rica, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico, Uruguay, Argentina). She is secretary of the Spanish Society of Journalism (SEP).

João Canavilhas (Universidade Beira Interior-Covilha, Portugal)

PhD and DEA in Communication, Culture and Education (USAL, Spain) and Bachelor in Social Communication (UBI, Portugal). Associate Professor at the Universidade da Beira Interior (Covilhã, Portugal) and researcher at Labcom – Communication and Arts. He is the author or co-author of 10 books, 38 chapter books and 50 papers in national and international scientific journals. His research work focuses on various aspects of journalism and new technologies.

Suso Benítez-Baleato, Harvard University (USA)

Suso Baleato (PhD Political Science, Linux Engineer) is specialised in the application of computational methods to support scientific inquiry and policy analysis. His research focuses on Internet measurement and the causality of digitalisation, and it has been published in academic outlets such as Science. Dr. Baleato contributes to the global digitalization policy-making process in the context of the OECD and G7/ G20 dialogue, with an emphasis on privacy and data protection, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity. He has been appointed Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard University Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS), Martin Associate at the Oxford Cybersecurity Capacity Center, and Liaison of the Civil Society Council for the OECD Committee on the Digital Economy Policy. He has been member of the Society for Political Methodology (POLMETH), the International Studies Association (ISA), the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) and the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Guidelines for authors and submission

Editorial guidelines:

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