



Information Technology and Journalism 2011 (ITJ 16)

E-democracy – Virtual or Real

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Monday, May 30

Workshop: “Net Campaigning in the Global Context: Appropriation, Invention, Transformation”

Supported by the IPSA RC10

- 10.00-10.30 Registration
10.30-10.45 **Marijana Grbeša:** Opening remarks on Workshop - goals and themes
10.45-11.15 *Coffee break*
11.45-12.00 **Bernard Zenzerović:** E-participations in Croatia – Case of Pula to defend civil rights in digital environments
12.15-13.00 **Jasna Burić** New Media in the new era: the old ethical challenges
Lunch break

- 16.45-17.15 **Đorđe Obradović:** The Middle East Glocal Media Manipulation

Tuesday, May 31

- 9.30-10.15 **Mato Brautović:** Using Twitter in the organization of anti-government protests in Croatia
10.15-11.00 **Domagoj Bebić, Milica Vučković:** E-government and e-participation: Citizen's use of city web sites; The case of Croatia
11.00-11.30 *Coffee break*
11.30-12.15 **Jasper Zuure:** The Displacement of Political Campaigning
12.15-13.00 **Lana Milanović, Maja Šimunjak:** The role of the new media in raising/diminishing support for the EU: The case of Croatian generals' verdict
Lunch break

- 16.00-18.00 Panel discussion:
New Media and „Revolutions“ in Arab World
Participants: **Domagoj Bebić, Inoslav Bešker, Nenad Prelog, Boris Ružić**

Wednesday, June 01

- 9.30-9.45 **Nenad Prelog:** Conference Opening – What to do after 16 years
9.45-10.30 **Inoslav Bešker:** Was it indeed a 'Revolution 2.0'?



10.30-11.00 *Coffee break*

11.00-11.30 **Petar Jandrić, Damir Boras:** The Digital Divide and Media Literacy: a Critical Approach

11.30-12.15 **Veljko Mijić:** A Social Innovation Hermeneutic of the Operationalisation of the Development Project in the Few Post-Conflict South East European Municipalities

12.15-13.00 **Katarina Peović Vuković:** Cultural Transcoding. Croatian Media as Distributive Network

Lunch break

16.00-16.45 **Mira Zokić, Damir Boras:** Modelling of a language technology system to support air traffic control communication

16.45-17.30 **Ervin Šilić:** VRGT – Temporary Exhibition After Life

Thursday, June 02

9.30-10.15 **Anita Jeličić, Marija Stanojević:** Internet - an important marketing medium

10.15-11.15 **Viktorija Car:** Digital Activism: Facebook and Civic Engagement in Croatia

11:15-11:45 *Coffee break*

11:45-12:30 **Mislav Cimperšak, Damir Boras:** Analyzing the Croatian Tweetosphere

12.30-13.15 **Ivo Spigel:** Monetising digital content: Murdoch vs. LaPorte

Lunch break

16.00-18.00 Panel discussion:

Virtual or Real Identity

Participants: **Damir Boras, Inoslav Bešker, Nenad Prelog**

Friday, June 03

9.30-10.15 **Pero Maldini:** Internet and Social Capital: The Power of Virtual Bonds in Social Life

10.15-11.00 **Majda Tafra-Vlahović:** On-line Community Deliberative Engagement

11:00-11:30 Summing up



Workshop: “Net Campaigning in the Global Context: Appropriation, Invention, Transformation”

Workshop is organized by the Institute for New Media and E-Democracy and the International Political Science Association (IPSA) Research Committee 10 in partnership with DEL research network.

The general theme of the workshop is e-democracy and political communication with focus on the following topics:

- Transformation of political communication through new media
- ‘Americanization’ of the net campaigning
- ‘Glocalisation’: global distribution and local appropriation of the net campaigning
- Contribution of the emerging democracies to the net campaigning world-wide
- Elections and the net campaigning
- Issue campaigning on the net
- E-democracy and e-engagement
- Consumer citizens and the net
- Catching up with the net generation: governments, political parties and civil society
- The role of the new media in raising support for the EU
- EU institutions and the net
- Euroscepticism and the net
- Social networks, blogs and the EU

IPSA - The International Political Science Association

The International Political Science Association (IPSA), founded under the auspices of UNESCO in 1949, is an international scholarly association. IPSA is devoted to the advancement of political science through the collaboration of scholars in different parts of the world; to the organization of world congresses and other academic activities; to provide reference and documentation services; to facilitate diffusion of information linked to political science; and to promote internationally planned research.

IPSA’s academic activities fall under three main headings: 1) it organizes triennial world congresses and other academic events, 2) it promotes research in political science, notably through a wide-reaching network of research committees (RC) and 3) it engages in many publications.

IPSA’s principal academic activity is the triennial congress. Starting in 1950 and 1952, world congresses have been taking place every three years since. From small beginnings, they have developed into major international scientific occasions, typically attracting about 2000 participants. In addition to these major events, IPSA is sponsoring other types of scholarly meetings such as conference, roundtables and workshops.



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Digital rights campaigning on European Union policy-making to defend civil rights in digital environments

Collective action prompted by repressive intellectual property regulations is particular in that it mobilizes a constituency of “netcitizens” whose repertoire of action and underlying philosophy draw upon and extend free and open source principles and values. Digital rights groups operate not only at the technological and legal level (as do free and open source software supporters) but also at the political and social, intervening in a complex process of supranational and national lawmaking. The presentation is based on empirical evidence collected through in-depth interviews with activists and political representatives, document analysis and observations from February 2008 to April 2010.

The paper focuses on the distributed campaigning techniques of an *ad hoc* coalition of digital rights activists intervening in the European Union’s Telecoms Package Reform (2007-2009). It examines how technically skilled actors take advantage of networked collaboration and information production to modify European directives. Activists do not only question the *status quo* but advance alternatives built on innovative distribution systems of knowledge goods, such as free software and open access initiatives.

Then, it is investigated how members of the European Parliament, the main targets of the campaign, perceive the campaign’s effectiveness. To do so, we ask three interrelated questions: a) did the campaign generate awareness among representatives? b) Were protest actors perceived as credible and legitimate interlocutors? c) Did the campaign trigger concrete political and/or legal changes? The evaluation of the effectiveness of the campaign allows to draw nuanced conclusions as to the concrete impact of internet-based campaigning targeting European institutions and processes, and constitutes a major contribution to the literature on internet-based collective action. Technical skills and control of the informational environment emerge as key elements in successful campaigning, posing new challenges to political institutions that rely on extra-institutional expertise.



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Cloud Computing When the Digital Revolution emulates the Industrial Revolution

The advent of “cloud computing” has created an imbalance in authority structures which is very similar to the structural changes witnessed during the Industrial revolution. Just as the industrial revolution has progressively alienated workers from the means of production, today, most of the means of production (in terms of hardware, software, content or data) are concentrated into the hand of large Internet service providers. Although the Web 2.0 is generally regarded as a great opportunity for users to express themselves and to engage into collaborative production, it also drastically decreased the capacity (or willingness) of people to produce content by their own means. The problem has been exacerbated by the deployment of cloud computing. Given that everything can be stored, processed, or executed online, most of the means of production, as well as the output of production (user-generated content), are increasingly owned by large companies. The trend is clear. Resources are moving away from end-users, towards centralized systems that possess all the processing power and storage capacities. Users’ devices are devolving from personal computers to laptops, smart phones or integrated devices whose sole function is to access particular sections of the cloud. The implications are many: users are giving away their labor under an expectation of reciprocity; they are giving away their privacy for the sake of a more personalized service; they are giving away their rights in the name of comfort and accessibility; but, most importantly, they are giving away their freedoms and they do not even realize it.



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**A new secure and practical electronic voting protocol
 without revealing voters identity**

Abstract: Any e-voting system is based on an e-voting protocol. In this paper, a new secure and efficient e-voting protocol is proposed based on El-Gamal cryptosystem which provide all security requirements of a practical electronic voting. One of the new properties of proposed protocol is protection of voter's identity against election authorities and adversary by using implementable physical assumptions. In this protocol, each voter distributes his/her secret key among the elections' Authorities and finally eligible voters are recognizable from their public key (without revealing voters identity or his/her secret key).

Also, due to having low communication volume, the proposed protocol is suitable for internet voting and communication networks with less bandwidth. Security properties and complexity properties of the proposed protocol is compared with some earlier typical protocols in the table 1. “Comparing the earlier several typical protocols with our present protocol; the mark T represents the protocol has the property; the mark F represents has not the property.

Property	Proposed	Asghari [1]	Jafarizadeh et al. [2]	Meng [3]	Other general
Basic security requirements	Privacy	T	T	T	T
	Eligibility	F	F	T	T
	Universal verifiability	T	T	T	T
	Integrity	T	T	T	T
	Authenticity	T	T	T	T
	Ballot secrecy against				
	Authority	F	F	F	T
	Others	T	T	T	T
Extended security requirements	Universal verifiability	T	T	T	T
	Receipt awareness	F	T	T	T
	Function resistance	F	T	T	T
	With voter's identity against				
	Authority	F	F	F	T
	Others	F	T	T	T
Authority computational complexity					
Voter's communication complexity					

Table 1: comparing the earlier several typical protocols with our present protocol. the mark "T" represents the protocol has the property; the mark "F" represents has not the property.



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The Displacement of Political Campaigning

Many scholars have studied campaigns run by political actors with a complete political program. However, more and more the public organizes itself around single-issues. Also, politics has been shifted from the traditional arena of representative democracy to NGO's, courts and industry. Scholars in political and social science have called this the “displacement of politics”. According to them politics continuously shifts among various locations, many of which lie beyond the reach of established democratic arrangements. In the proposed paper we will argue that the “displacement of politics” also leads to the “displacement of political campaigning”. What we mean by this is that political campaigns are not only run by political actors with a complete political program, but are rather run by dispersed actors with single issue purposes. This leads to a fragmentation of political campaigns. Citizens identify themselves less with ideologies carried out in the complete programs of political actors, for instance liberal or labour, and more with single-issues, like the environment or education. For campaigners of single-issues this has certain advantages, because it is far more easy to mobilize people for a single-issue than for a complete political program. The emergence of new media thereby facilitates campaigners in mobilizing the masses. The main question that this paper addresses is how net campaigning is used by citizens and organizations, to organize publics around single-issues that they want to put on the political agenda. Therefore, the proposed paper will study three Dutch case-studies of net campaigns for environmental issues (fair trade chocolate, rainforest-protection, and renewable energy). Also, the proposed paper will address the question if the displacement of political campaigning leads to democratic deficits, like lack of representation and legitimacy.



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Was it indeed a 'Revolution 2.0'?

Possibilities and limits of the new technologies in the political perturbations through the Arab world and Spain in the first half of 2011

Jasmine Revolution in Tunis and *Revolution 2.0* in Egypt, with the wide use of Facebook and Twitter for the virtual convocation of the real rallies, the role of Internet in the movements in Libya, Syria, Bahrain etc. across the Arab world, and the recent *M15 movement* or *#spanishrevolution* in Madrid, demonstrate the trend of intertwining between the e-democracy and the longing for political democracy, basilar one in some southern Mediterranean countries, and direct one on the European shores of the same sea.

Instruments of the new technologies are the result of the technological progress, they participate in the progress of the social communications, but there is no a strict correlation between them and a social progressivity of the political content transmitted by those instruments. The new technologies have been used sometimes for a propagation of very conservative or even reactionary positions (Khomeini's audiocassettes, Osama's video messages, Vatican's multimedia etc.), and not only as a vehicle for the better new world. On the other hand – as showed in different countries – even the most penetrating use of the new technologies is not able to move the waters if the critical level of the social malcontent is not achieved at least in one of the main social strata in the country.

Revolution can be propagated and organized in Internet, but (still) cannot be caused by Internet.



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The Digital Divide and Media Literacy: a Critical Approach

The digital divide is the division between information haves and have-nots. A typical approach to the digital divide consists of interpreting population statistics. Positivist approach provides valuable data that significantly improves our understanding of the problem. In order to reach beyond surface of the problem, however, positivist approach should be replaced by a more holistic view that takes into account various technological, social, historical and other parameters (Castells, 2003; Mason i Hacker, 2003: 40). On such basis, van Dijk and Hacker develop a critical approach to the digital divide that identifies four kinds of barriers to access to information and communication tehnologies and the type of access they restrict:

- 1. Lack of elementary digital experience caused by lack of interest, computer anxiety, and unattractiveness of the new technology (“mental access”).
- 2. No possession of computers and network connections (“material access”).
- 3. Lack of digital skills caused by insufficient userfriendliness and inadequate education or social support (“skills access”).
- 4. Lack of significant usage opportunities (“usage access”) (van Dijk & Hacker, 2003: 315-316).

In this presentation we shall analyze each kind of barriers in the context of media literacy. On such basis we shall develop recommendations that could tighten the gap between information haves and have-nots, and develop media literacy on both sides of the digital divide.



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A Social Innovation Hermeneutic of the Operationalisation of the Development Project in the Few Post-Conflict South East European Municipalities

In the year of 2004, in the margins of the inter and intra-national post-conflict agreement, the bricolage was organized by the international donor with the aim to set up the new implementation bodies for local economic development. The field project implementation goals were set to solve part of existing social problems by the following means:

- Several LED and SME teams prepared to produce Strategy and Action plans for their Municipalities which are characterized with complex multi-national & intra-ethnic relationship;
- Establishment of LED Partnerships in the selected municipalities involving the local authorities, private sector, other public, NGOs and indeed local citizens, as essential in enabling for additional resources, competencies, co-ordination and democratic involvement to public economic and social policies. The partnerships (would) work on development of the LED strategies, Action Plans and resulting priorities actions;
- Involvement of Local Communities in LED strategy;
- Capacity Building for the LED Team;
- Support to a participatory process of preparation of a holistic LED Strategies;
- Support to the preparation of LED Action Plans;

As noted, the conceptualization of scientific knowledge creation goes from objective reality through sensory experiences and opinions. Due to empirical verification obtained results, especially when a bicolour uses qualitative methodology, a reverse path that goes from a thought to objective reality must be done. Such a procedure is called operationalization, and the foreign bicolour has seen the training of local participants as an instrument of this applied program.

Prescribed methodology guides strictly a quantitative based research. However, a "procedure" is important for qualitative research strategies. In this case, it was initially conceptualised and later operationalised in a precise manner under very demanding post-conflict environment where the reconciliation of divided ethnic groups was accelerated by an economical means. In the practical terms, this applied study tries to learn the hermeneutics of the studied entity by the triangulation of strategies and methods, as found in the field.

In the observed region, and under their prevailing cultural paradigm, a post-conflict development might lead, through a non-standard social preference and belief, to a market response and finally to behavioural institutions design that might last, being just mimically changed, for decades as a means of never ending social changes. Market responses might include: behavioural labour economics pathologies like a professionalization of belonging to a specific collectivism, a role of emotions in economic decision-making, etc. Consequently, as one of the outcomes of the training of adult economic decisions makers in such areas, a tendency to live on the past by the professionalization of belonging to own collectivism is discovered within all ethnic groups involved in the bricolage.



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Modelling of a Language Technology System to Support Air Traffic Control Communication

Voice communication is one of the most essential parts of the Air Traffic Control. Many incidents and accidents in civil aviation have been attributed to human factors and the most prominent of these factors is miscommunication. Therefore, it is important to emphasise that communication plays an integral function in air traffic, especially from the perspective of aviation safety. Investigations of several major airline accidents over the last few decades have found that lack of language proficiency by pilots and controllers has been a major causal factor. According to research, on average one miscommunication happens every hour per radio frequency. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) puts great emphasis on improving communication in Air Traffic Control and gives guidelines for setting language requirements for pilots and controllers in the Document 9835.

This paper proposes the idea that with the usage of language technology the communication between air traffic controllers and pilots could be made more reliable and efficient, and in that way would contribute to the improvement of aviation safety. The functionality of this language system will be described using scenarios and sequence diagrams, using Approach Control as an example, and will be demonstrated using the Wizard of Oz usability test. The results will serve as guidelines for designing a fully functional language technology system. The proposed system would only be designed as a support tool by giving warnings when discrepancy or error is found. The system is not meant to make decisions how the air traffic controllers should control the airspace.



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Digital Activism: Facebook and Civic Engagement in Croatia

At the beginning of the 21st century, global community is facing tremendous transitional changes in the field of media and communications. Technological innovations and the development of new media bring about new possibilities for media content providers. The advent of the internet age, Web 2.0 technology, and the ubiquity of cell phones have imparted high expectations that new media technologies will systematically enhance civic engagement and better develop national and global political cultures.

Digital platforms are more and more used for civil society activism in Croatia, especially Facebook - the number one digital tool activists use to spread the information or to invite to an action. It happened first in late April 2008 when third-year high-school students, unified on national level via Facebook, organized protests against the “national school-leaving examination” they had to fulfill year after. Soon after, in October 2008, few NGO activists open a Facebook group linked to the action “Stegnite vi svoj remen bando lopovska”. It was civic initiative against the corruption and political criminal in Croatia, an action for social justice and human rights. In April 2009 the biggest students’ movement happened in Zagreb, when students from the Philosophical Faculty initiated protests against the complete higher educational system in Croatia. The most recent example of Facebook use for civic action is anti-Government protests.

This paper tries to give the answer how citizens in Croatia are taking the opportunities offered by new media for civil and political activism?

The conclusion of this paper is that digital activism in Croatia is not well developed yet.

There is small number of activist who used digital media regularly and strategically for their actions. These digital mobilizations are still interesting only to a smaller, urban minority and do not reach the mainstream society. Usually the same smaller groups support different actions, for different social or political goals.



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Internet and Social Capital: The Power of Virtual Bonds in Social Life

This presentation tries to examine, basically, how new communication paradigm provided by new information and communications technologies, particularly by the Internet, affects social capital. It includes identifying the main characteristics of a new communication paradigm and its influence on the structural changes in modern societies, but main emphasis is on its impact to social capital as a resource which fosters civic engagement, political participation and consequently the democracy. Namely, it is questionable to what extent Internet by itself expanding possibilities for social capital, as early Internet utopians claimed hypothesizing its huge potential for the development of social bonds, which will consequently, encouraged political participation and democracy. Moreover, there are lot of evidence and claims that Internet decreases levels of social capital through the isolating people from each other and serious reduction of interpersonal social contacts. Yet, there is no unambiguous claim in this regard, and it is possible to argue that the Internet has no intrinsic effect on social interaction and civic participation. Under various circumstances different effects are produced, which leads to the differentiation of various profiles of Internet users with different orientations. It is rather, its ability to provide non interested users with different kinds of information that could serve as a fertile ground for stimulating them to become more interested, and eventually involved. Quality of online content and relationships is crucial to evaluating the role, function and impact of Internet, on both social capital and civic participation. Internet is obviously powerful resource and agent, but its impact on social capital, and consequently on civic engagement, participation, and democracy as well, pretty much depends on who and how use it, and for what purpose.



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On-line Community Deliberative Engagement

This paper is a part of a draft desk research of selected new articles about on-line community deliberation with the aim to explore the potential of cyberspace in further development of community deliberative engagement. That is to be the introductory preliminary work for a planned research of exploring possibilities of community deliberative engagement for the debates and decisions dealing with the issues related to climate change.

The project which at this stage involves Australia, US, Canada (where some of the field work is already being done), UK (where the preparations are on the way) and Croatia (where, so far, the general endorsement has been initially stated by the University of Dubrovnik as the partner in the projects) will also include research and in some cases experiments with on-line deliberation in the area of climate change. The general idea is to use comparative case studies and experimental design to determine what would be methods, processes and connections to policy processes, and what type of information are needed in the deliberation process. The underlying driver for this research is the belief of the social scientists involved that well designed citizen’s deliberation can shift the politics of climate change.
