

Network representative Election ECREA EB

Tereza Pavlíčková is a PhD Candidate in Media Studies at Charles University in Prague. She is working on her doctoral research project about audiences' understanding of authors. Her research interests include questions of audiences' reception and interpretation in general, and its relevance for the study of uses of digital media. She works with the theoretical frameworks of philosophical hermeneutics and phenomenology. She has published in international peer reviewed journals such as *New Media and Society* or *Convergence*, among others. She is a member of the *Consortium on Emerging Directions in Audience Research* (CEDAR) research group and a vice-chair of *YECREA*.

Personal statement

My candidacy for the Networks representative on the ECREA Board is on behalf of the Young Scholars Network, yet the aims of all three networks are equally important to me. As a young female scholar from the CEE region – I am in the final year of my PhD project, during which I also embarked on the journey of motherhood - I can strongly relate to the interests for which these three Networks stand for within the organization.

Therefore my main agenda for the position of the Networks representative on the ECREA board is to advocate for the diverse interests of underprivileged scholars within the Board and to work with the Board to further improve their position within the organization and academia in general.

Many young and/or female scholars, including myself, face the constant dilemma of combining their diverse life roles – working towards the completion of the PhD project, being a good parent, while also building up an academic presence through teaching, publishing and contributing to the research community, aspiring to be an accomplished academic. I believe their situation – questions of equal access, working conditions and visibility need to be further promoted and voiced.

These concerns are equally relevant for scholars from the CEE region that still suffers from insufficient recognition and presence on the international academic scene - due to lacking support from, and the confidence of, scholars' home academic communities, as well as the rigidity and prejudices of the international academic environment. Using my experience, as a member of the CEE network and as a transnational researcher, I want to help others in my region understand how valuable our engagement with colleagues elsewhere can be, for ourselves but also for the wider academic community and vice versa, and make sure that our contributions to research are equally recognised among the wider community.

I've attended three ECREA conferences, I participated at the ECREA Summer School, I was involved in the CEE Network's regional conference and in publishing its outputs, I participated at YECREA workshops and I was a member of the Local Organising

Committee of the ECC Prague. The ECREA community has always been very welcoming, supportive and inspiring for me. Now, as vice-chair of YECREA, I also take my candidacy as an opportunity to give back, to take on a more proactive role, to work with the Board and actively contribute to the organisation's efforts to support its diverse members.