

Report of the Television Studies Section for 2020

Chair: Juan Francisco Gutiérrez Lozano (University of Malaga, Spain)

Vice-Chairs: Berber Hagedoorn (University of Groningen, Netherlands); Susanne Eichner (University of Aarhus, Denmark)

YECREA Representative: Antonio Cuartero (University of Malaga, Spain)

Activities:

Despite the difficulties caused by the pandemic, 2020 has been an intensive year of exchanges amongst the members of ECREA's Television Studies section. We have maintained several research activities and we also have been working on different collaborations in order to strengthen projects, academic publications and section visibility.

1. Conferences and Research activities

In the first months of the year the most important work was related to the preparation and the academic organization of the scheduled section activities for the ECREA 8th European Communication Conference (ECC) "Communication and trust: building safe, sustainable and promising futures" (Braga, Portugal). Despite the transfer of this conference to 2021, previously the section was able to carry out the evaluation of the papers and panels submitted. For this evaluation we thank the collaboration of some of our members as peer-reviewers.

At the same time, Television Studies section agreed with two other ECREA thematic sections (Communication History; Radio Research) the co-organization of a Braga ECC preconference, entitled "Old media persistence. An ECREA preconference on the relevance and persistence of traditional media".

Of course both activities above had to be postponed, as it happened with other planned collaborations with two other international conferences cancelled ("Broadcasting, Reloaded", Università di Bologna, Italy; "Critical Studies in Television Biennial Conference", Edge Hill University, UK).

In any case, 2020 has been a productive year from the point of view of planning the publication of results from previous activities of the Television Studies section. In this way, finally the publication of an edited volume with a selection of works presented at the Malaga section conference (2017) has been confirmed by a Spanish Publisher (Editorial Comares). This book, with a selection of works about current topics in Europe Television, is planned to be released during 2021.

At the same time, and thanks to the collaboration with CST, during 2020 we have been working also on the edition of two special issues on "The Youthification of Television" that will appear throughout 2021. These issues will include some works of our members that originally were partially presented in our 2019 biennial conference that was held by the University of Groningen (NL).

2. Collaboration with *Critical Studies in Television*

As aforementioned, ECREA Television Studies Section has maintained its close relation with CST journal. Apart from the collaboration of our members in the journal's blogs and activities, it is expected that nearly ten articles will be included in the two special issues on "The Youthification of Television" (summer and autumn 2021).

3. Business Meetings

The management team has maintained several online work meetings in 2020 in order to organize the activities of the section.

4. Social Networks

The Facebook group of the section also continues being the main platform of communication for the members, with actually 309 followers (245 in 2019). The section profile on Twitter, @ecrea_tv (ECREA TV Studies) has also allowed us to spread the activities of the section, with currently 211 followers. We also encourage our members to sign up our section's Forum on the ECREA intranet.

5. Future Activities

In addition of closing works started in 2020, the most relevant activity will be the reorganization of the section activities for next ECREA 8th European Communication Conference (ECC), 6-9 September 2021, Braga, Portugal. It is expected to launch again, in collaboration with two other sections of ECREA (Communication History and Radio Research), the "Old media persistence" CFP as a pre or postconference, in a format -online or hybrid- also to be determined.