

Children Youth and Media Section

Section Objectives

The Children, Youth and Media section serves as the Europe-wide network for researchers and practitioners interested in a broad spectrum of media- and communication- related activities undertaken by, for and about children and young people in a mediated society. In line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, we understand children as individuals below the age of 18.

This section aims to foster multidisciplinary perspectives on a wide range of research topics, addressing children and youth from infancy to young adulthood, whether framed in terms of child and adolescent psychosocial development, critical constructions of 'youth', cultural analyses of childhood in diverse settings, media effects or media design issues. In our discussions and reflections, we consider variables such as age, gender, SES, ethnicity, nationality, cultural and family experiences, media affordances and more. As children's and youths' experiences of media diversify in an increasingly complex media landscape, drawing together diverse research insights and projects becomes all the more important and fascinating. This explains why we create a platform for scholars working within various related field not only limited to media and communication, but also welcoming historians, psychologists, sociologists, anthropologists, political scientists, legal researchers, child-computer interaction designers, literature specialists, educationalists, clinicians and more. The result is a lively set of deliberations over theory and methods, and a sensitivity for the societal implications.

Main objectives of the section:

- To foster research in the field of Children, Youth and Media, i.e. to consolidate existing approaches and methods and to explore new avenues of research in the section areas of research.
- To build a culture of exchanges and collaborations between European, Children Youth and Media researchers, while embracing a global-perspective and a worldwide network.
- To welcome and encourage junior researchers on the field of Children, Youth and Media.
- To cooperate with other relevant ECREA sections and other media and communication research associations, when relevant.
- To communicate existing works from and together with our section members to the academic world and to the public at large whenever possible.

Exemplary topics of interest for the section in the realm of children, youth and media

- Theoretical and methodological reflections and developments
 - E.g. welcoming computational social sciences, digital methods, creative, participatory methods as well as phenomenological, feminist, interpretative, quantitative, (socio) cultural, critical, multimodal, practice-based contributions.
- Ethical considerations when doing research with children
- Media reception and audience research
- Media production research
- Discourses and media analyses
- Persuasive communication (e.g. advertising, marketing), consumer studies
- (Popular) Culture, media effects, media psychology, child history, child development
- (Early) Childhood, (pre)adolescence, teens
- Transcultural perspectives, cultural diversity, European and Global analyses, comparative studies
- Interaction design, child-computer interaction, child-computer communication, participatory design
- Rights in the digital era, law, policy, regulation, policy, media infrastructures
- Wellbeing, child protection, resilience, norms and values, online risks and benefits
- Media education, media pedagogy, learning, literacies, skills, storytelling, creativity, sociotechnical imaginaries
- (Digital) Citizenship, cultural engagement, political participation, computational empowerment
- Identities, (Micro)Celebrities, fandom, diversity, gender, sexuality, intimacy, (visual) culture, journalism
- Data-driven media platforms, AI, Games, mass media, mobile media, media repertoires, cross/trans/converged media
- Minorities, children with special needs, indigenous, immigrant youth, socially disadvantaged children
- Media Socialization, (grand)parent-child interactions, Medialization, Appropriation and Domestication