

Objectives of The Radio Research Section of ECREA

The oldest and most widely available broadcast medium, radio, has been largely neglected by academics and researchers for many decades. Television, film and latterly internet communication technologies (ICTs) have developed a critical mass of quantitative and qualitative research leading to an extensive literature and theory for each medium. To date, however, radio remains under researched and poorly theorised.

The Radio Research Section will provide opportunities for the international exchange of information and collaboration across disciplines within the field of communication focusing on radio. The section will assist members in developing their work through conferences, publications and by promoting dialogue among members. This level of interaction will assist members in finding partners and in developing international research projects. It will create a radio community and initiate academic dialogue on the future of radio.

The marginalisation of radio within public discourse, within media studies and within communication education is a major concern for members of the Radio Research Section. The foundation of the Radio Research Section of ECREA is one step towards redressing this imbalance and the section will encourage communication scholars to investigate radio as a rich site for research and for building normative theory.

Radio has played an important role in the linguistic and cultural heritage of all European countries. It continues to be ubiquitous, influential and multi-faceted and must be investigated, analysed and theorised. The Radio Research Section of ECREA will foster and promote research into all aspects of radio from programming and production to policy and legislation, from audience consumption to public participation and radio's contribution to the public sphere. Radio as a social institution and as an art will benefit from increased attention being paid to it by the academic sector. The development of a discourse and literature based on research on this medium will profit all parties who have an interest in radio.

In summary, the Radio Research Section

1. promotes and fosters the development of all aspects of research on the medium of radio,
2. supports and assists the work of the International Radio Research Network (IREN),
3. builds communication and collaboration between radio researchers,
4. communicates the existing work of radio researchers to the broader academic world and to the public at ECREA events, at other conferences, through publications and the internet,
5. develops contacts and collaboration with organisations working in the field of radio and radio education.