

Yearly Report to the ECREA board 2011.

Media and Religion TWG

Organization of the chairing committee:

Docent, PhD. Johanna Sumiala University of Helsinki (chair, and programme coordinator)

Professor Mihai Coman University of Bucharest (vice-chair)

Professor Knut Lundby University of Oslo (vice-chair)

Activities:

The Media and Religion TWG management team has spent the first months of the TWG in organizing the TWG, inviting and contacting new members to the TWG as well as planning for future events for the academic year 2012.

The future events for the year 2012 will include the minimum of two chair meetings and three panel/workshops.

The first chair meeting and workshop will take place at the University of Helsinki on Feb 10, 2012. This meeting is organized as part of the one-day workshop hosted by the Finnish Media and Religion research project carried out at the University of Helsinki and University of Tampere. This project is co-directed by Docent Johanna Sumiala (Helsinki Univ.) and Docent Katja Valaskivi (Tampere Univ.). The Finnish project is funded by the Helsingin Sanomat Foundation. Professors Stewart Hoover and Nabil Echchaibi (Boulder University, US) are confirmed speakers for this venue.

As its first public event Media and Religion TWG will organize a panel/workshop in collaboration with the International Society for Media, Religion and Culture (ISMRC) conference to be held at the University of Anadalu, Turkey. The conference theme is: Crossroads of Civilizations: Media, Religion and Culture. The dead line for panel/paper/workshop proposal is Jan 31, 2012. For more information, please visit:

<http://mrc.anadolu.edu.tr/index.html>

Media and Religion TWG will organize a panel for the ECREA 2012 conference to be held at Bilgi University in Istanbul. The workshop title is: "Media and Ritual. Exploring religious implications in mediatized rituals online/offline".

The participants (based on invitation) include:

Mihai Coman (Buckharest University)

Céline Bryon-Portet (Université de Toulouse)

Amanda Lagerkvist (Södertörn University)

Johanna Sumiala (Helsinki University and Tampere University)

Knut Lundby (chair, Oslo University)

Media and Religion TGW will send the workshop description and the individual abstracts for the conference organization in Jan, 2012.