

Foreword

Media & Glocal Change: Rethinking Communication for Development is the title of a book Nordicom published in collaboration with The Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO) in 2005. Seven years later, we see that this book has spread in large numbers around the world and is still in demand. Since then, Nordicom has published several books on the same subject – particularly within the framework of our International Clearinghouse on Children, Youth and Media – for instance the Yearbook 2009, *Youth Engaging with the World: Media, Communication and Social Change*. We are now particularly glad to present this special issue of *Nordicom Review* on the theme ‘Communication, Media and Development: Problems and Perspectives’. The publication is a result of a collaboration between the journals *Nordicom Review* and *Glocal Times*

Nordicom Review, a peer-reviewed journal, is a major forum for media and communication researchers in the Nordic countries. The semi-annual journal is addressed to the international scholarly community and it has 2.200 subscribers outside the Nordic Region in more than 130 countries all around the world. It publishes the best of media and communication research in the region, as well as theoretical works in all its diversity.

Glocal Times is the webmagazine of the master programme in Communication for Development at Malmö University in Sweden. Since its foundation in 2005 it has become a vivid discussion forum for scholars, students and practitioners in the broad field of communication for development and social change.

‘Mobilizing communication globally: for what and for whom?’ is the question editors Florencia Enghel and Karin Wilkins put to the research community. In our age of digitalization and globalization, this question is more pertinent than ever.

Issues of democracy and development are central, and once again, technological advances are a prime motor force in this connection – not least the questions, how to bridge the knowledge divides in the world, and how to use media and communication both as tools and as a way of articulating processes of development and social change.

And we should not lose sight of the fact that power, identity and inequality are still concepts of vital relevance when discussing the media and communication culture. It is all a question of what kind of society we want, who counts as we – and whose media and freedom we are talking about.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Karin Wilkins, professor at the University of Texas, US, and Florencia Enghel, Ph.D. candidate at Karlstad University, Sweden, for all the energy and commitment they have put into the publication of this special issue of *Nordicom Review*, which I hope will be of value all around the world and stimulate both new research and cooperation across national borders.

Göteborg in September 2012

Ulla Carlsson

Editor of *Nordicom Review*

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