

CALL FOR PAPERS

MEDIA, RELIGION AND THE DIGITAL AGE

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DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING PAPERS: 15 May 2014

This monographic issue will only accept articles in English.

Abstract

The digital environment is changing forms of religiosity and has enhanced the interactivity and creativity of traditional communities on the web. While some authors believe that religion occupies a residual place in the classic mass media, others claim that the 2.0 environment is fertile ground for the consolidation of digital religion with a more widespread leadership and a higher participation of the faithful.

Mobility, lack of hierarchy, multimediality and global dissemination are just some of the dimensions of the network that allow the religious message to be more easily received, widespread and referential in a world of multiple offers.

This issue of Trípodos wants to analyze precisely this digital presence of the religious message on the Internet with particular emphasis on experiences in the world of social networks and applications. We want to provide research papers that analyze the transformation of religion in the digital age, the importance of religion in the media and digital platforms and a reflection on the persistence of religion in the new virtual environment. Also appropriate are experiences that show the change of religious institutions and their adaptation or resistance to the new era.

Introduction

Religions seem to be revived in the face of the challenges of the web 2.0. While the religious reaction seemed muffled with regard to what some authors consider the decline of religion and the devastating secularization that followed 9-11, religion has once more come to occupy a preferential place in the media and its existence is increasingly crucial, either because it is perceived as an element of conflict or a positive factor for social cohesion. The presence of religion is not only a growing dimension of news coverage in the mainstream media, but the articulation of religion with the new virtual horizon has become a major challenge for religious communities that do not want to be left out of the new digital forum.

Since the 90s, Anglo-Saxon authors such as White, Lundby and Hoover have dealt with a new field of specialization they called Media, Religion and Culture. Since then there has been a proliferation of studies and research centers in this field, such as, for example,

The Center for Media, Religion and Culture of the University of Colorado Boulder, directed by professor Stewart M. Hoover; The International Study Commission on Media, Religion, and Culture of the MCR Project; and the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, as well as departments and centers in universities all over the world, such as Ryerson University, the Pontifical Gregorian University, Kent University, the University of Edinburgh and the University of Uppsala.

In addition, publishing houses such as Sage, Routledge, Continuum, Cambridge MA-MIT Press and Oxford University Press, among others, are interested in this interdisciplinary field, as are specific new academic journals, such as the Journal of Media and Religion and Communication Religious Trends.

Objectives

The aim of this monographic issue is to collect into one single publication the most important voices and discourses in the area of media and religion in the digital age.

The volume is intended as a collection of articles that allow the reader to have an up-to-date overview of religion and communication in the contemporary Western context.

In these pages, we want to explore the relationship between digital religion and the offline network of religious communities, and to highlight the key items for a reflection on the triad of media, religion and culture, with particular reference to concepts such as cyber-theology, media coverage, the mainstreaming of religious thought and "networked Religion."

Papers should be sent by **15 May 2014**. In order to submit original papers, authors must be registered with the journal (www.tripodos.com) as authors. Following this step, authors must enter their user name and password, activated in the process of registering, and begin the submission process. In step 1, they must select the section "Monograph".

Rules and instructions regarding the submission of originals can be downloaded at www.tripodos.com. For any queries, please contact the editorial team of the journal at tripodos@blanquerna.url.edu.

Trípodos is a international scholarly journal published by Blanquerna School of Communication at Ramon Llull University. Since 1996, it has provided a forum for debate and critical discussion about the full range of communication disciplines: journalism, film studies, television, radio, advertising, public relations, Internet, etc.

Trípodos:

- Occupies the 5th position in the IN-RECS index (2011 edition)
- Is in category B of the CIRC classification (Integrated Classification of Scientific Journals)
- Is indexed in the ISOC, Dialnet, Ulrich's and DOAJ databases and catalogs, among

others.

- Has an H index of 6 in Google Scholar Metrics. Occupies the 7th position in the Communication category.

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